



NATURAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND

May 5, 2016

NCIF receives \$1.6 Million Wells Fargo Award to Expand Lending to Diverse Communities

The Wells Fargo logo, consisting of the words "WELLS" and "FARGO" in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font, is set against a red rectangular background.

NCIF is proud to announce its \$1.6 M award from Wells Fargo as part of its Diverse Community Capital (DCC) program. We were one of 15 Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) selected to receive funds for the first round of this program.

NCIF will use the \$600,000 operating grant and \$1 million low interest loan from the Wells Fargo DCC Program to expand its lending and assistance to minority farmers and small business owners, primarily in Eastern North Carolina.

“The Wells Fargo DCC Program will help NCIF take its commitment to serve diverse communities to the next level,” said Marten Jenkins, President and CEO of NCIF. “Social equity and positive environmental outcomes are two legs of our ‘triple bottom line’ approach, so we’re grateful to Wells Fargo for the opportunity to expand such an essential component of our work.”

The Wells Fargo DCC program is a three-year, \$75 million program that will distribute \$50 million in debt (lending) capital and \$25 million in grant capital to CDFIs. These funds are intended to be utilized by CDFIs to lend to diverse business owners, support initiatives (such as technical assistance, marketing, outreach) that increase access to capital, and help more diverse business owners get the coaching and education resources they may need. The program also has a social capital component, focused on activities to build effective support networks and social infrastructure among CDFIs for the purpose of increasing lending to diverse small businesses.



“Wells Fargo is proud to support NCIF and the work they are doing,” said Jack Clayton, Piedmont East Regional President for Wells Fargo. “Investing in our communities is one of the most important things we can do as a company and directly connects with our vision and values. At Wells Fargo, we believe that we’re

responsible for promoting the long-term economic prosperity and quality of life for everyone in our communities. If they prosper, so do we.”

Learn more

[Click here](#) for more information about NCIF’s support for farmers of color, please visit

For more information about the Wells Fargo Diverse Community Capital program, please [visit the program’s website](#).

We’d love to hear from you about projects that need funding or opportunities to collaborate. Feel free to call Marten Jenkins at 304-870-2207 or Anna Tefft, NCIF’s Director of Lending, at 336-734-6902.