

CDFI Fund Advocacy Alert

What is Happening?
What Can We Do?

Time for Action is Now!

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What Happened in the Last 3 Days?

Avoiding Government Shutdown

- Congress passed continuing resolution funding 2024 at near 2024 levels Friday March 15
- CDFI fully funded for FY 2025

Hit by Executive Order

- 7 agencies listed to be eliminated (including CDFI Fund, Voice of America)
- Minimum presence required by law

CU Strategic Planning Statement:

CU Strategic Planning and Callahan and Associates strongly objects to this directive to shut down the CDFI Fund following Congressional approval of continued full funding (FY 2025) by Congress and the President to invest in the CDFI Fund, credit union CDFIs and millions of consumers and small businesses benefitting by access to affordable loans.

White House Executive Order

Key language pertaining to entities including CDFI Fund:

"the non-statutory components and functions of the following governmental entities shall be eliminated to the maximum extent consistent with applicable law, and such entities shall reduce the performance of their statutory functions and associated personnel to the minimum presence and function required by law:"



Facts Related to Executive Order

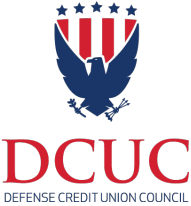
- 1) The "applicable law" establishing the CDFI Fund is the **Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994**.
- 2) The President just signed the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025, a law directing a **continuation of the FY24 level of \$324 million in appropriations for the CDFI Fund and \$500 million in CDFI Bond Guarantee Authority for FY 2025**. FA/TA 2025 Round Closing March 21.
- 3) **The New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) was reauthorized through 2025 on December 27, 2020**, when President Trump signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 into law (P.L. 166-260). An NMTC round is currently pending.
- 4) At their confirmation hearings this winter, the **Treasury Secretary and Deputy Treasury Secretary designate testified their support for the CDFI Fund**.

There is a clear statutory basis for all the programs of the CDFI Fund.

Action: CDFI Movement Coming Together



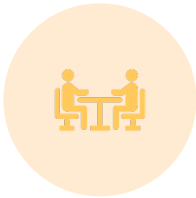
America's Credit Unions sent a strong letter to Treasury on Sunday supporting CDFI Fund



DCUC is actively lobbying on behalf of CDFI CUs.



CDFI Coalition is actively lobbying the issue - issued press release



Many CU Leagues are engaging credit unions - working over the weekend



Inclusiv is encouraging members to contact their legislators



Native CDFI Network is encouraging members to contact their legislators



CU Strategic Planning is opening dialogs with all parties, CDFI credit unions, this webinar!



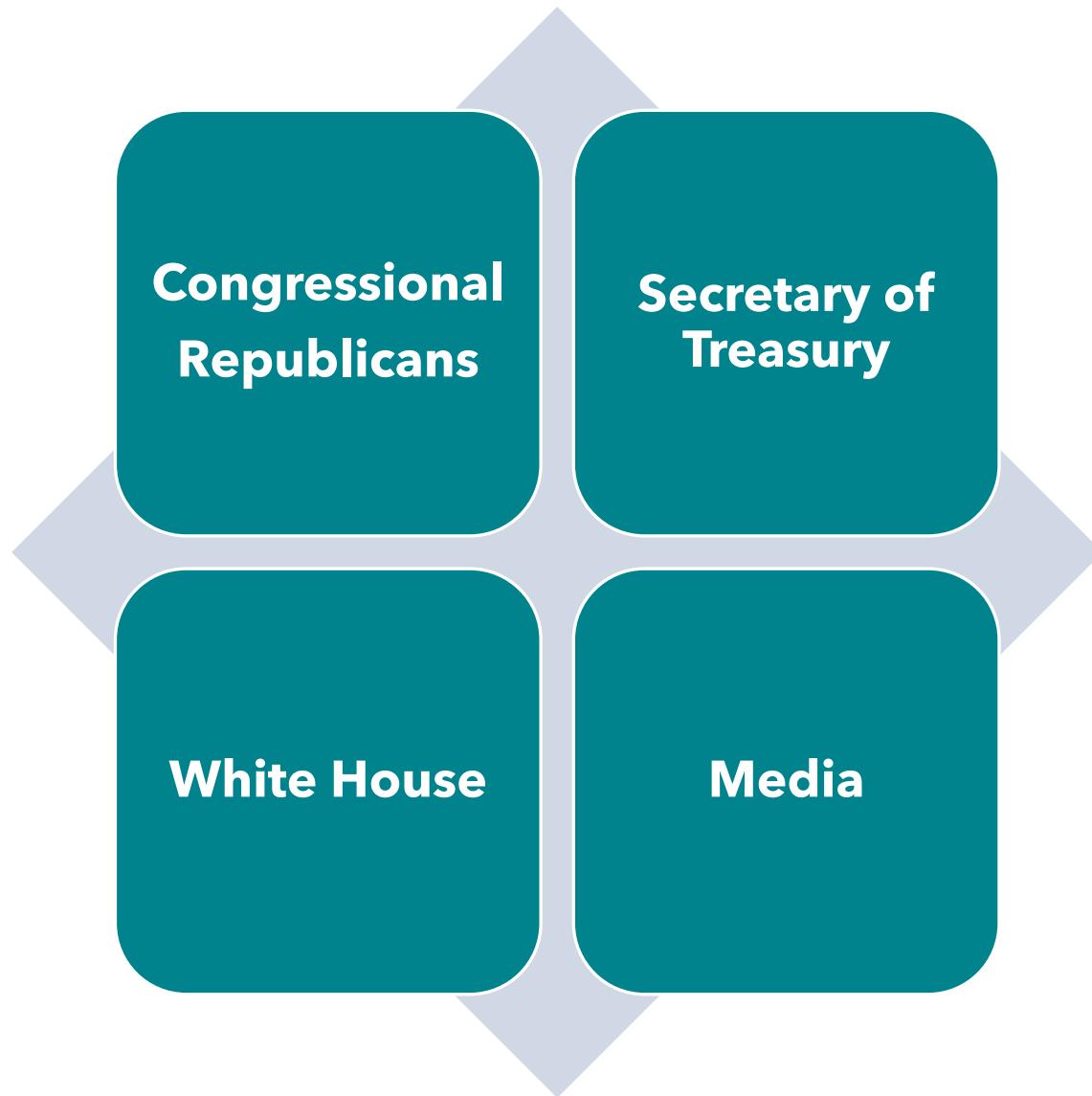
How Do CDFIs Make a Difference?

With institutional impacts:

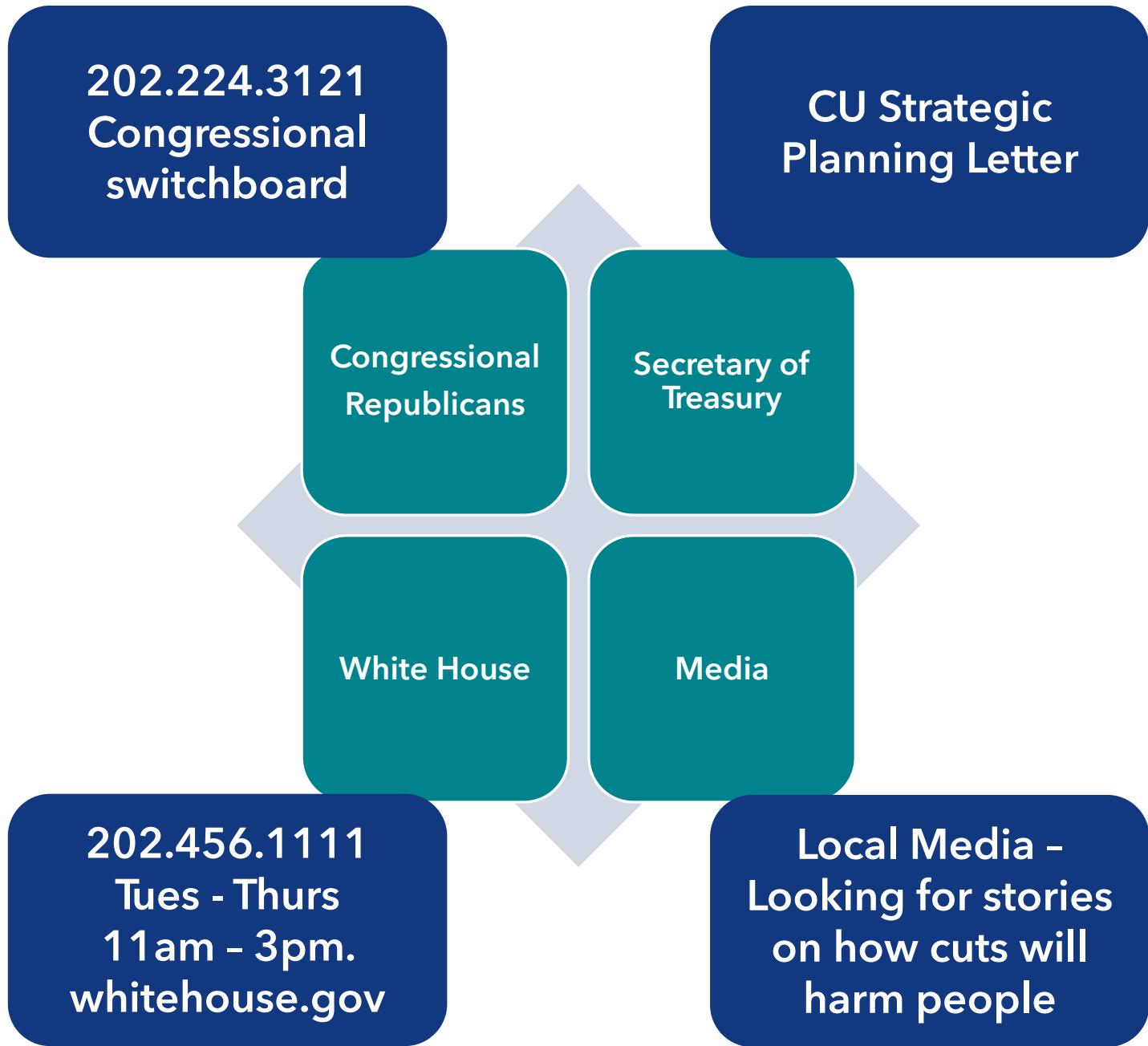
- Southwest Louisiana CU added a branch in a community health center to address financial health and accessibility issues.
- American 1 CU has partnered with a local homeless shelter and developed a dedicated Financial Wellness team that works with residents.
- The New Orleans Firemen's FCU has partnered with Catholic Charities to develop the Faith Fund, focused on access to small dollar loans.
- Democracy FCU has a complete mobile branch in an RV that it uses at community events and partner locations, to reach the community where they are.

And direct impacts for members:

- Guardians CU's nonprofit partner referred a new member about to lose her apartment due to high car payments from a BHPH dealer and a payday loan from an online lender. The credit union immediately saved her \$489 with a payday alternative loan and new car loan. In six months, they reduced her interest on the loans even further.
- Centric FCU provided a loan to help a couple grow their small business providing nonemergent medical transportation in northeast Louisiana, allowing them to help more people in their community, bridging the gap in healthcare accessibility and creating new jobs.



**Who do we
want to impact
this week?**



How can we do that?

- A Discussion
- Tools You Need
- Responses

Next Steps

