



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community First Fund's York Office to Move;
New Location is at 226 East Market Street

York, PA...Community First Fund, a regional non-profit economic development organization, will relocate from its current location at 15 North Cherry Lane to 226 East Market Street, 2nd floor during the last week of April. The new office will be fully operational by May 1st and serves clients in both York and Adams counties.

Community First Fund, which was founded in 1992, provides loans, business training, and one-on-one counseling to entrepreneurs of all sizes, affordable housing and commercial real estate developers, and community groups in under-served communities. Community First Fund's York office was established in 2001; other office locations are in Lancaster, Harrisburg, Reading, and Exton.

Community First Fund's impact can be found throughout the 13 counties in central Pennsylvania that it serves as evidenced by the more than 600 loans that the organization has disbursed since inception, totaling more than \$16 million. In York and Adams counties alone, Community First Fund has made more than 125 loans totaling in excess of \$2.5 million.

Community First Fund's clients' run the gamut, both in terms of the size of their businesses and the types of services and products that they offer. Its' roster of clients includes bakers, retail proprietors, electrical contractors, non-profit organizations, hair stylists, architects, mechanics and photographers to name a few. In York that includes businesses such as First Capital Powder Coating & Fabrication, Inc., Forge Advertising, and Mobilegal Communications. Adams county customers include the Rafael Inn Bed and Breakfast and *Celebrate Gettysburg*.

Community First Fund's loan products and process are innovative, just as clients and their businesses are unique. Community First Fund staff customizes the lending process so as to best meet the needs of clients. For individual business owners that need might be working capital, lines of credit, and/or loans for new equipment and to purchase real estate for expansion. For commercial and affordable housing developers, the needs may include financing for predevelopment costs, acquisition costs, and/or construction or bridge costs.

In considering a loan application, Community First Fund looks at not only the financial picture and projections but also the viability of the business, the borrower's character, and the overall impact that the business will have on the local community. When Community First Fund's clients are successful, entire communities benefit. Each time a loan is made, the result is increased opportunities. And these opportunities ripple throughout an entire community -- creating jobs, generating income, and enabling home-ownership; all of which leads to lasting economic growth and prosperity.

Community First Fund and its staff have been recognized repeatedly for its accomplishments, and is a certified Microlender by the U.S. Small Business Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Additionally, Community First Fund has received accreditation by the Community Development Bank of PA, is a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), and has received a high rating by the CDFI Assessment Rating System (CARS®).

If you are interested in learning more about Community First Fund and its services, please contact any of our offices whose phone numbers and address can be found on our Web site at www.commfirstfund.org

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