IMPACT PERFORMANCE RATING

AAA. A CDFI in this group has clear alignment of mission, strategies, activities, and data that guides its programs and planning. The CDFI presents data that clearly indicate that it is using its resources effectively to benefit disadvantaged people and communities and achieve positive impacts related to its mission. It has processes and systems that track output and outcome data on an ongoing basis, and it can provide data showing positive changes in the communities or populations being served. This CDFI uses its data on an ongoing basis to adjust strategies and activities in line with its desired impact.

Policy plus rating

Policy change is an integral part of this CDFI’s strategies. The CDFI leads initiatives to change government policy to benefit the community development finance industry or disadvantaged people and communities. The CDFI can provide evidence of its leadership role in recent policy changes that produced benefits beyond additional resources for the CDFI itself, and management can clearly articulate the CDFI’s leadership role in current policy activities.

Financial strength and performance rating

2. A CDFI in this group is fundamentally sound. It exhibits solid financial strength, performance, and risk management practices relative to its size, complexity, and risk profile. Challenges are well within the board of directors’ and management’s capabilities and willingness to strengthen. The CDFI is stable and is capable of withstanding fluctuations in its operating environment. Generally, most FSP scores for this CDFI are 2 or better, although it may have received a 3.

For more information

To receive a complementary ratings analysis or additional information about CARS™, the CDFI Assessment and Rating System, e-mail jschwartz@CARSratingsystem.net.