

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

## ShoreBank Enterprise Cleveland Certified as Community Development Finance Institution

On August 28, 2008 the United States Department of the Treasury, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund certified ShoreBank Enterprise Cleveland as a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). According to the Department of Treasury, the CDFI Fund's mission is to expand the capacity of financial institutions to provide credit, capital, and financial services to underserved populations and communities in the United States. The CDFI Fund was created for the purpose of promoting economic revitalization and community development through investment in and assistance to community development financial institutions (CDFIs). The CDFI Fund achieves its purpose by promoting access to capital and local economic growth.

SEC was eager to obtain the certification from the Department of the Treasury because it permits the organization to seek additional funding through the program. The Department of Treasury assists certified organizations by directly investing in, supporting and training certified CDFIs that provide loans, investments, financial services and technical assistance to underserved populations and communities, such as SEC.

Since its creation, the CDFI Fund has awarded \$864 million to community development organizations and financial institutions; it has awarded allocations of New Markets Tax Credits which will attract private-sector investments totaling \$16 billion, including \$1 billion of special allocation authority to be used for the recovery and redevelopment of the Gulf Opportunity Zone.

SEC is currently in the process of preparing its first application to the CDFI Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance. If awarded FA and TA funds, SEC will match the initial investment made by The Cleveland Foundation in the Evergreen Cooperative Development Fund. See details on page 4 for more information on the new cooperative fund.

