National Development Council New York, New York



National Development Council (NDC) was founded as a national nonprofit in 1969 and has worked for 50 years fulfilling its mission to increase the flow of capital for investment in low-income communities. NDC directs capital to support the development and preservation of affordable housing, the creation of jobs through training and small business lending, and the advancement of livable communities through investment and social infrastructure. Since 2014, CDFI Fund awards have helped to expand NDC's operation and services to better serve the country's most in need neighborhoods. NDC's financial products include the Grow America Fund (GAF) and the Community Impact Loan Fund (CILF).

GAF operates in over 37 of the country's most distressed neighborhoods. GAF seeks to fuel economic growth by supporting eligible small businesses that have needs beyond a conventional lender's profile. GAF is the nation's only SBA licensed small business lending company dedicated solely to community development, and the only one owned by a nonprofit with a clear and unmitigated mission of promoting community development.

CILF was established to meet the needs of the local neighborhood small business by providing non-SBA character loans. As a mission-driven lender focused on building wealth in minority communities, CILF's Capital Access Fund program provides business owners with the support and capital they need to sustain and grow their business.

Organization Highlights

- Timeframe/years for the organization highlights: January 1992 – August 2018
- Jobs created or retained: 14,741
- Businesses assisted: 643
- Individuals provided with financial counseling and literacy training: +40
- Community revitalization projects (schools, social services, or health facilities) assisted: +21
- Total dollar amount loaned: \$243,660,706

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Taylor's Tots Preschool in Florida



When she was a young girl, Lawanda Henderson loved babysitting. Now, at age 45, Lawanda has made caregiving her career. A former school administrative assistant and track-and-field coach, she owns Taylor's Tots Preschool, a child development center in a working-class neighborhood just outside of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Lawanda had wanted to run her own child learning center since the early 1990s, but couldn't focus on it because she had children and needed to provide a steady income. As the years passed, she built up her administrative and business skills, learning to budget, run accounting systems, and deal with staff.

In 2017, her opportunity arrived when she learned the owner of Taylor's Tots Preschool wanted to retire and sell the business. Lawanda began volunteering there and eventually she purchased the center. Everything was set for Lawanda to takeover except for the extra financing needed to run the center.

One morning, while visiting the Urban League of Broward County to learn about the entrepreneurship center's workshops, Lawanda found out about NDC's Capital Access Fund. She had several meetings with

the Urban League staff, took classes, and before long was approved for a \$54,000 loan.

"I was new at business and it would have been impossible to get that kind of money from a regular bank," Lawanda said.

The loan enabled her to pay down her debts, make the renovations to the center, and begin thinking about bigger plans: opening another child development center in the area.

"It's been my mission in life to give children in my community a great place to learn, be safe and get prepared for the world to come."

Project Highlights

- Median Income Compared to Area Median Income (AMI): 60.2%
- Unemployment Rate: 9.2%
- Poverty Rate: 20.6%
- Federally Declared Disaster Zone
- Jobs created or retained: Created
 1, Retained 4