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For immediate Release: March 13, 2017

Cleveland Neighborhood Progress Announces Strategic Investment Initiative Grantees

\$4.2 Million of operating support to be divided among 12 community development corporations during 2017-2020 funding cycle

CLEVELAND, OH – The Board of Directors for Cleveland Neighborhood Progress has announced the funding decision for the Strategic Investment Initiative (SII) during the 2017 -2020 funding cycle. Over the next three years, and beginning in July, the organization will invest a total of \$4.2 Million in twelve community development corporations (CDCs) in the city. A total of nine awards were granted, as collaborative efforts are associated with three of the awards. These grants will directly impact 16 Cleveland neighborhoods.

The Cleveland Neighborhood Progress Strategic Investment Initiative provides important operating support to community development corporations in the city of Cleveland. In just the past 10 years, more than \$15 Million has been committed to Cleveland CDCs by Neighborhood Progress through this program. Funding for the SII program comes from the Cleveland Foundation, the George Gund Foundation, the Jack, Joseph & Morton Mandel Foundation, and Enterprise Community Partners.

"The Cleveland Neighborhood Progress SII Advisory Committee was extremely impressed by the quality of proposals received for this round of funding," said Joel Ratner, President & CEO. "These critical investments will help improve neighborhoods across the city. We look forward to working with our grantees as they develop work plans and implement the strategies they presented to the committee."

The following CDCs are recipients of SII funding for 2017 – 2020. Dollar amounts listed will be administered annually:

- Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization & Metro West Community Development Corporation (\$220,000)
- Ohio City, Inc. & Tremont West Development Corporation (\$215,000)
- Famicos Foundation (\$200,000)
- Burten Bell Carr Development (\$200,000)
- Northeast Shores Development Corporation (\$140,000)

- Slavic Village Development (\$125,000)
- St. Clair Superior Development Corporation & Collinwood Nottingham Villages Development Corporation (\$100,000)
- Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation (\$100,00)
- Lee-Harvard Community Collaborative (\$100,000)

"These selected CDCs will be taking on important work city-wide and we look forward to working with them as they implement community development strategies in their neighborhoods," said Colleen Gilson, Vice President of CDC Advancement for Cleveland Neighborhood Progress. "We are also excited to invest in neighborhoods on the southeast side of Cleveland through our new capacity investment in the Lee-Harvard Community Partnership. This partnership is the result of a visioning and planning process supported by City of Cleveland Councilman Terrell Pruitt that will bring a dedicated community development entity into the neighborhood."

A total of 14 proposals, from a combined 23 CDCs, were received by Cleveland Neighborhood Progress for this competitive funding program. Senior staff reviewed proposals and recommended finalists to the organization's SII Advisory Committee to consider. In February of this year, the SII Advisory Committee hosted two days of presentations during which the finalists highlighted the comprehensive community development goals and strategies they will employ during the 2017-2020 program cycle. The Cleveland Neighborhood Progress Board of Directors' final decision on funding was informed by the scoring process performed by the SII Advisory Committee.

Cleveland Neighborhood Progress is a local community development funding intermediary with nearly thirty years of experience investing in community revitalization work in the city of Cleveland. It serves a unique function as the only local intermediary in the region and is proud to be nationally highlighted as a leader for engaging in best practices in various facets of nonprofit programming. The Board and staff strive to lead industry partners on new and existing initiatives to improve the quality of Cleveland's neighborhoods and the quality of life for Cleveland's residents.

For more information on Cleveland Neighborhood Progress, please visit www.clevelandnp.org.

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