



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Colorado Lending Source Reaccredited by the International Economic Development Council**

[Washington, DC] – The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) has once again recognized Colorado Lending Source as one of 60 economic development organizations as an Accredited Economic Development Organization (AEDO). Originally accredited in 2015, the organization was reaccredited by IEDC following three successful years of activity.

The AEDO program is a comprehensive peer review process that measures economic development organizations against commonly held standards in the profession. Acceptance into the program consists of a two-phase evaluation: a documentation review and an onsite visit. Each phase is designed to evaluate information about the structure, organization, funding, program, and staff of the candidate economic development organization. IEDC President and CEO Jeff Finkle acknowledged, “Colorado Lending Source displays the professionalism, commitment, and technical expertise that is deserving of this honor.”

Colorado Lending Source is the only AEDO member that works to increase economic activity statewide as opposed to focusing on one particular community, municipality or region. Out of the 60 members, Colorado Lending Source is one of three Certified Development Companies with this recognition.

Earning the AEDO accreditation tells the community and prospects that Colorado Lending Source attained a measure of excellence assuring that their trust is well placed and their business is in good hands. Executive Director, Mike O’Donnell stated:

“There are many entities charged with assisting a community, region or state to grow economically but only one body certifies whether such an entity is competent and effective. The rigorous recent audit of Colorado Lending Source by IEDC and our reaccreditation as an AEDO, is testament to the exceptional work the staff and Board of Colorado Lending Source does on a daily basis. The fact that we are one of 60 AEDO organizations in the world is pretty impressive too.”

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The International Economic Development Council is the largest membership association serving economic and community development professionals in the world. With over 5,000 members nationwide and abroad, IEDC offers the economic development profession one source for information and professional development, one voice for the profession and one force for advocacy. For more information on IEDC or the AEDO program, please contact AEDO Program Manager Dana Crater at 910-833-7020 or [dcrater@iedconline.org](mailto:dcrater@iedconline.org), or visit IEDC's website at <http://www.iedconline.org/AEDO>.

Colorado Lending Source cares about small business, about creating long-term alliances with our lending partners and borrowers, about being a resource to empower entrepreneurs and about making Colorado the best state in the nation to start and grow a business. We partner with local lenders, government agencies and resource partners to make access to capital more attainable for small businesses. In 2017 Colorado Lending Source approved a total of 266 loans to help create 1,693 jobs and injected \$415,215,741.04 into the economy. As a mission-based lender and small business-financing expert, we are committed to fostering the economic growth of diverse small businesses within their communities. More information can be found at [www.coloradolendingsource.org](http://www.coloradolendingsource.org).