

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Rainier Valley Community Development Fund names new Executive Director.**

The Board of Directors of the Rainier Valley Community Development Fund (CDF) has named Martina Guilfoil as its new Executive Director. Guilfoil will assume her duties in January 2008.

"After an extensive search, we have found the new leader for the CDF", said Robert Mohn, president of the CDF's Board of Directors. "We are confident Martina has the experience and strategic acumen to move the CDF into its next phase of program operations that focuses on deploying loan capital in the Rainier Valley and assuming a broader community development role."

Guilfoil is an experienced community development professional having worked in the field for over 21 years. She created and implemented a broad array of community development strategies in both California and Florida including setting corporate strategic direction, developing new loan programs, raising millions of dollars in loan capital, managing a loan portfolio, and operating youth employment training, housing preservation, first time home buyer, land trust, and financial education programs. She also successfully created and operated a growing community development financial institution, like the CDF. On the national level, Guilfoil has worked on public policy and programs for both affordable housing and neighborhood revitalization. Guilfoil brings a demonstrated ability to work with and build partnerships among diverse constituencies, having worked for 20 years in Inglewood, CA, an African-American and Latino low-income community. According to Priya Singh, chair of the search committee, "It was this breadth of experience, from grass-roots organizing to advocacy of community development policies at the national level, that convinced the search committee that Martina Guilfoil is extremely well-prepared to help the residents and businesses of Rainier Valley make the best possible use of their community development fund".

Guilfoil said, "I am honored that I have been selected to lead the CDF at this point in its history. The CDF has a strong and successful record of meeting the needs of the Rainier Valley, and I look forward to growing and sustaining the loan fund so that the CDF can increase its impact in the community." Guilfoil is returning to Seattle where she lived for many years.

Guilfoil replaces Jaime Garcia who directed the organization for the past 3-1/2 years and is credited with deftly managing the organization through its formative years and successfully delivering the CDF's supplemental mitigation and workforce training programs.

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**About the Community Development Fund**

The CDF is a self-sustaining, community-controlled, non-profit financial institution that preserves and strengthens cultural diversity, long-term livability, and economic opportunity for Rainier Valley residents, businesses and institutions. Since 2003 the CDF has provided over \$11 million in supplemental mitigation grants to 165 Rainier Valley businesses impacted by light rail construction, and placed 135 Rainier Valley residents in construction-related jobs through the CDF's pre-apprenticeship training program. The supplemental mitigation program is scheduled to wrap up in 2008. For further information about the CDF, contact Robert Mohn, or email at [mohnrobert@comcast.net](mailto:mohnrobert@comcast.net) or visit [www.rvcdf.org](http://www.rvcdf.org)

The CDF Board was aided in its search by executive search firm Hagel & Company, and by an 8-person search committee comprised of CDF board members, members of the community, and other stakeholders. Search Committee members were: Priya Singh, board member and committee chair; Patricia Paschal, board member; Jeffrey Taylor, board member; Josh Williams, board member; Jean VelDyke, owner VelDyke Realty; Gregory Davis, Rainier Beach Community Empowerment Coalition; Tony To, HomeSight; and Susan Shannon, Seattle Office of Economic Development.