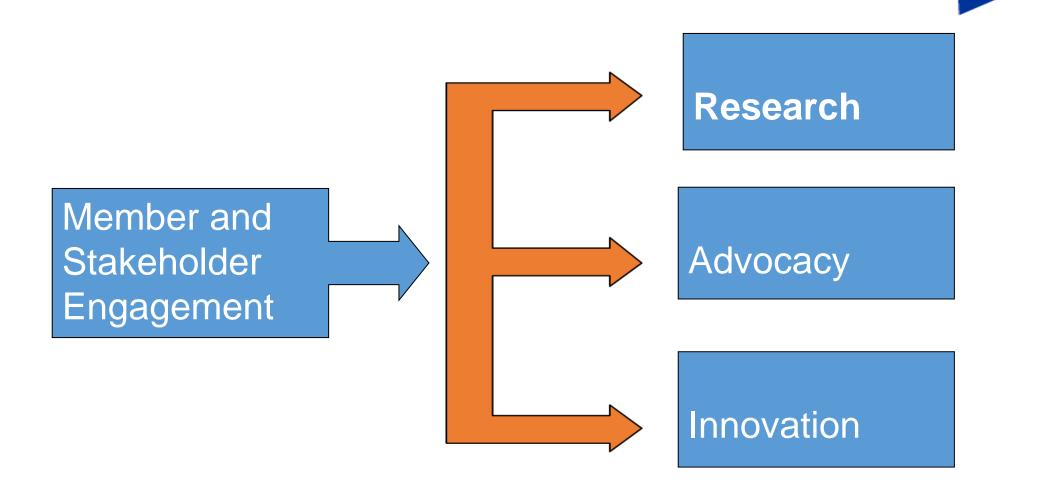
## **Access to Capital**

#### Connie E. Evans, President/CEO

#### IEDC 2017 Federal Economic Development Forum



## AEO: What We Do





## Problem AEO is Addressing: Credit Gap

# (\$52,000,000,000)

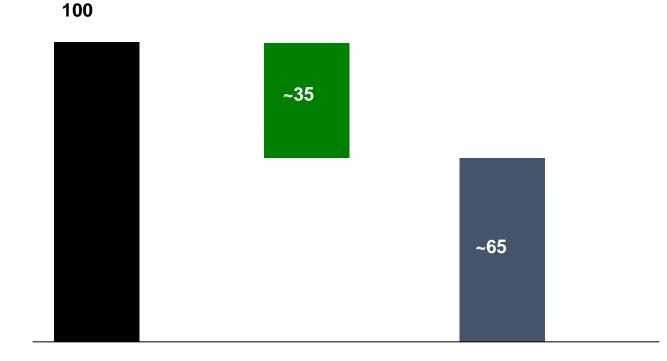
8000 11M+ ~2.2M small businesses small businesses

loan applications rejected every business day small businesses generating <\$1M in low-income communities small businesses in low-income communities seek financing per year  $\sim 98\%$ 

businesses seeking loans not receiving financing from CDFIs



#### Business Owners Need Support on the Path to Capital



Applicants unable to secure bank finance

Credit-ready

Support required to qualify for capital



#### AEO Innovation(s): Changing the Way Capital and Services Flow

- **Project CUE**: Scalable, compliant customer referral program for financial institutions that serves as a source of qualified customer leads for CDFIs and providers of "path to capital" products/services
- **DreamFund**: Source of expanded product set for CDFIs that also serves as an efficient and effective investment vehicle for CRA & mission-motivated capital
- **Re-Imagine Technical Assistance**: Research initiative and series of product/service pilots to move business owners along a path to capital
- TILT Forward Network: Largest and most diverse network of CDFIs and non-profits committed to innovation and testing. Network serves as "skunk-works" and knowledge-sharing network

#### **CDFI Fund Innovation Challenge 2015**



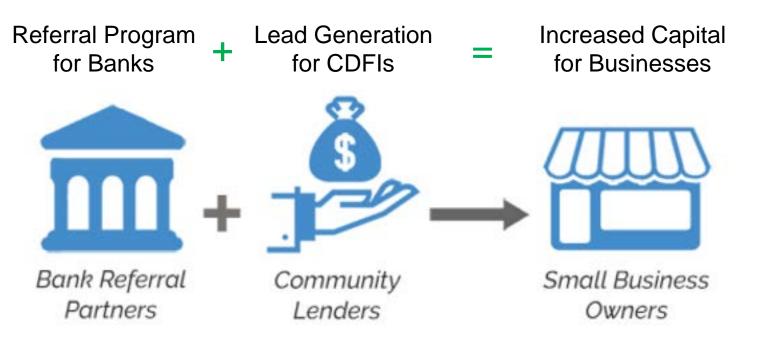
CDFI Fund Innovation Challenge WINNER 2015





## Project CUE is a "Referral Marketplace"

#### <u>Connecting</u> <u>Underserved</u> <u>Entrepreneurs</u>





## **Project CUE: Value Proposition**

#### Referrers get...

- Scalable, compliant referral system
- Network of vetted community lenders observing minimum Service Level Agreements
- Referral monitoring & reporting

#### Receivers get...

- Leads qualified against target profiles
- Warm handoff
- API integration option
- Portal / Reporting
- Referral Partner engagement & "training"
- Portal / Reporting
  - Activity Monitoring
  - Notifications

## Business owners get...

- Choices
- Guidance
- Opportunities



#### Collaborative Multi-Stakeholder Problem-Solving





Access to Capital for Entrepreneurs









## Bank Commitments to Date



- Commitment to send customer referrals
- Diligence complete
- Legal agreements executed
- Soft launch: March 2017

#### JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.

• Followed seed money from US Treasury with additional \$1.7M for development of additional functionality & security

- Target: At least 3 banks committed to refer by end of 2017
- End state vision: Industry shared utility



## **Business Owner Experience**



About Us

How It Works

Partner with Us

#### Welcome to a new way to credit!

Having trouble funding your business dream? We can help. Our lenders want to know your story, not just your credit score.

Enter your Referral ID to get started

Ex: ABCD1234...

Next!

I don't have a Referral ID

#### Join Us









@aeoworks

Connie E. Evans President & CEO <u>cevans@aeoworks.org</u> (202) 650-5580

