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Deaconess Provides \$250,000 Loan to IFF for Projects Serving Families
Foundation Leverages Resources in Mission-Related Investment

St. Louis, MO—Deaconess Foundation continued its practice of supporting St. Louis area community development financial institutions today, announcing a \$250,000 loan to IFF, a nonprofit lender, real estate consultant, and developer in the region.

The loan aligns with the Foundation’s vision of a community that gives priority attention to its most vulnerable children. IFF plans to use the loan for projects helping local low-income children and families.

“We believe our investment with IFF will strengthen the region’s infrastructure to achieve better outcomes for children,” said the Rev. Starsky D. Wilson, Deaconess Foundation president and chief executive officer. “The loan utilizes another Foundation asset—in this case a portion of our investment portfolio—to improve the health and well-being of young people and their families.”

The loan is an example of how Deaconess Foundation is leveraging its financial assets—in excess of \$55 million—to improve community health. Since 1998, the Foundation has given more than \$74 million to strengthen the region’s capacity to care for children through diverse organizations and programs. Other significant investments have included deep engagement in organizational capacity building, multi-year grants to local children’s hospitals, and support for nonprofit advocacy and community organizing for youth.

From making its first loan in the early 1990s to opening a local office in 2008, IFF has helped nonprofits in the St. Louis region thrive through flexible financing tools and expertise. Since 1991, IFF has financed \$64 million to St. Louis area providers of child care, health care, healthy foods, and youth services.

“We are happy to further contribute to the improved health and well-being of the St. Louis area community with \$250,000 in financing from Deaconess Foundation,” IFF CEO Joe Neri said. “Our partnership with the Foundation reflects our longstanding presence in the region, as well as our growing diversity of investors.”

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About Deaconess Foundation

Celebrating 125 years in 2014, Deaconess Foundation continues the mission established in St. Louis in 1889. As a ministry of the United Church of Christ, the foundation has invested more than \$72 million to improve the health of the St. Louis region since 1998. The Foundation

believes healthy, hope-filled futures for children benefit us all. The Foundation invests in endeavors that improve the well-being of children, engages our region around the plight of youth, and advocates for change. For more information about Deaconess Foundation, visit our website, www.deaconess.org. Follow us on [Twitter @DeaconessFound](#) and Like us on [Facebook](#).

About IFF

IFF is a mission-driven lender, real estate consultant, and developer that helps communities thrive by creating opportunities for low-income and special needs populations. From child care to senior housing, IFF works closely with clients from every sector, offering affordable, flexible financing; full-scale real estate consulting; and community development services. Since 1988, we have made over \$506 million in loans, leveraged \$1.6 billion in community investments, and grown our total managed assets to \$300 million. For more information about IFF, please visit www.iff.org.