

My name is Chuck Wall, and I have the privilege of serving as the Chief Financial Officer for Renaissance Community Loan Fund (RCLF), where I have worked for the past 13 years. With over 40 years of experience in banking, private equity, accounting, and auditing, I possess a broad perspective on my work. I am licensed as a CPA in both Illinois and Mississippi and hold an MBA in Finance.

I grew up on a farm in rural Illinois and was the first in my family to graduate from college, an achievement that shaped my values of perseverance and hard work. My career has taken me from the boardrooms of Chicago, where I spent 18 years at a major bank and a decade at a private equity firm, to communities across the globe where I witnessed poverty in many forms. Today, I call Mississippi home, the poorest and one of the most rural states in our country. These life and career experiences fuel my passion for creating opportunities in underserved places.

At RCLF, I have helped lead our transformation from a small, grant-funded nonprofit with limited earning assets into a strong CDFI with over 91% earning assets today. That journey was not easy, especially in a state where large bank partners are scarce. Our first lending relationship began through OFN in 2013, and we have continued to build on that foundation. We now have relationships with multiple large banks. In 2024, we proudly became the smallest CDFI and the first in Mississippi to participate in the CDFI Bond Guarantee Program, part of OFN's largest-ever bond issuance. That same year, after years of persistence, RCLF was also designated as a NeighborWorks Organization.

If there is a theme to my work, it is this: persistence. At RCLF, we have been told “no” many times—by banks, by programs, and even in my first campaign for an OFN board seat in 2019. But I have learned that every “no” is just an opportunity to keep pushing until it becomes a “yes.” That persistence has allowed us to expand lending, strengthen partnerships, and help communities thrive.

Beyond my work at RCLF, I have been deeply engaged in advancing the CDFI field. I have worked with peers to strengthen relationships with FHLB Banks, participated in a national FHFA symposium, met with congressional leaders to advocate for the CDFI Fund and NeighborWorks America, and collaborated on liquidity solutions for CDFIs in single-family lending.

If elected to the OFN Board, I will bring this same commitment to advocacy, relationship-building, and turning barriers into opportunities. I believe in the power of CDFIs to change lives, and I am dedicated to ensuring every member has access to the resources and partnerships they need to succeed.

Thank you for your consideration and support. I look forward to connecting with you at the 2025 OFN Conference and working together to strengthen the CDFI movement.