

CCM's \$100 Million COVID-19 Relief Initiative

The spread of COVID-19 continues to impact communities nationwide. We expect tremendous social and economic strains for society as a result of this crisis and its repercussions. Underserved communities and individuals are certain to be the hardest hit. The impact of COVID-19 has spotlighted pre-existing financial and economic disparities faced by low-income communities, particularly communities of color. Our mandate from clients to provide needed capital to low- and moderate-income communities and families is more vital than ever. In light of these developments, CCM is launching a \$100 million initiative to invest in COVID-19 relief. The initiative offers investors the opportunity to provide capital to underserved people and neighborhoods, economic recovery programs, and small businesses.

Catalytic Investments

CCM has over 20 years of experience managing impact and ESG investments. With approximately \$3 billion in assets under management, our willingness to invest in COVID-19 relief continues to signal to the capital markets the demand for private sector support at this critical moment. We have already seen some examples of market-rate investments supporting relief efforts and we hope to see many more. All of us have a role to play in the recovery following this widespread health emergency.

Why Invest

For organizations that wish to contribute to the long-term recovery efforts of COVID-19, this initiative offers an opportunity to complement their philanthropic and volunteer efforts through a seasoned fixed income strategy designed to provide high current income consistent with the preservation of capital. Banks that invest may earn Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) credit for their investments under new rules and guidance.

Impact Investments

Our flagship core fixed income strategy looks to invest in high-quality, well-researched bonds that have positive societal impacts, requiring transparency into the use of proceeds and measurement of their anticipated corresponding impact. The use of proceeds for every bond purchased must positively impact a community and align with one or more of our [18 impact themes](#). For this initiative, we anticipate that many of our existing impact themes will correspondingly align including disaster recovery, resilience, and remediation; affordable health and rehab care; and enterprise development and jobs, among others.



As a result of COVID-19 and the investments highlighted in this piece, we have expanded our existing theme of Disaster Recovery, Resilience, and Remediation to include investments benefiting widespread health emergencies.

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CCM's 18 Impact Themes

Affordable Health and Rehab Care



Government Supported Communities



Affordable Housing



Healthy Communities



Arts and Culture



Human Empowerment



Disaster Recovery, Resilience, and Remediation



Minority Advancement



Economic Inclusion



Neighborhood Revitalization



Education and Childcare



Rural Community Development



Enterprise Development and Jobs



Seniors and the Disabled



Environmental Sustainability



Sustainable Agriculture



Gender Lens



Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)



We continue to expand our opportunity set of liquid and high-quality investments as securities are issued to support COVID-19 relief. For example, Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) are entities that we have supported and we expect to be active participants in the recovery efforts. We also will look to incorporate new areas of focus, such as neighborhoods hardest hit by COVID-19 job losses. Consistent with our 20-year history of impact reporting, we will report to clients on the expected positive outcomes from our COVID-19 relief investments.

● Last year, we published a report, [CDFI Investing for the Impact Investor](#), that takes a closer look at their history, offerings available for impact investors, and case studies of how CCM has invested in CDFIs.

Case Studies: Impact Investments in CCM's COVID-19 Relief Initiative

Sector: Corporate Bonds

A recent corporate bond offering is financing environmental and/or social benefits including affordable housing, clean transportation, renewable energy, and COVID-19 relief. The COVID-19 relief includes monies to alleviate financial burdens including mortgage payment deferral and waivers of deductibles and co-payments related to testing for or treatment of illnesses related to COVID-19, among others.

Sector: Agency CMBS

A recent agency CMBS is financing an affordable housing property in Indiana that is currently a drive-up site for the county's grab-and-go remote lunch program. The program is being initiated through the local school district in an effort to get food to as many families as possible during the pandemic.

Investments in the initiative can include:

- Agency mortgage-backed securities (MBS) financing loans to low- and moderate-income (LMI) borrowers
- Agency CMBS financing affordable rental housing properties, many of which are helping with COVID-19 relief efforts
- Taxable municipal bonds financing economic development initiatives, primarily in LMI communities
- Corporate bonds financing COVID-19 relief efforts
- Asset-backed securities (ABS) financing small businesses, job creation, and economic inclusion opportunities

How to Invest

Institutional investors can invest in a separate account or through CCM's Community Impact Bond* (f/k/a CRA Qualified Investment Fund) Institutional Shares (ticker: CRANX) or CRA Shares (ticker: CRAIX). The Fund is available on many investment platforms and in various impact investing models. For more information, please contact David Sand, chief impact strategist, at dsand@ccminvests.com.

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**Effective March 1, 2021 the Fund's name changed from CRA Qualified Investment Fund to CCM Community Impact Bond Fund.*

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