

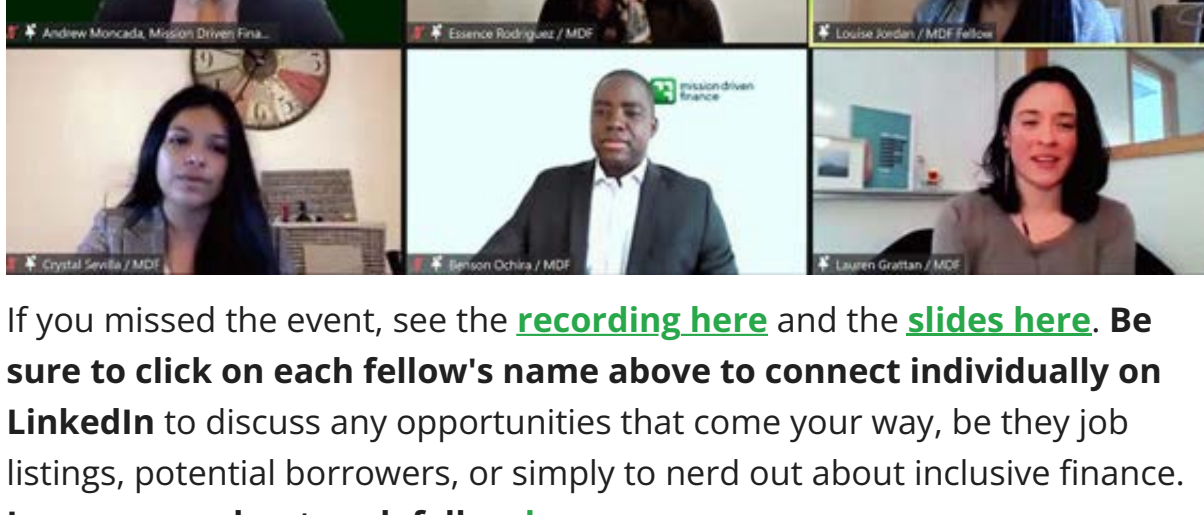
December 2020

## Community Updates



\*|IFNOT:ARCHIVE\_PAGE|\*\*|IF:FNAME|\*Dear \*|FNAME|\*,  
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We bid farewell to 2020 with renewed hope and excitement for a brighter 2021. This is buoyed in no small part by the Community Finance Fellows—[Louise Jordan](#), [Andrew Moncada](#), [Benson Ochira](#), [Essence Rodriguez](#), and [Crystal Sevilla](#)—whom many of you met on Zoom earlier this month at the fellowship showcase. If you joined us then, we're sure you likewise sleep better knowing that our present and future are in their hands.



If you missed the event, see the [recording here](#) and the [slides here](#). **Be sure to click on each fellow's name above to connect individually on LinkedIn** to discuss any opportunities that come your way, be they job listings, potential borrowers, or simply to nerd out about inclusive finance.

**Learn more about each fellow [here](#).**

We have much more to be hopeful and thankful for. **The Freedom100 Fund has now freed fifty-two people** from immigrant prison since launching this summer. This is over half the goal of the fund, and we look forward to supporting the freedom of more individuals in the coming months.

Daniel, seen here with his sister, was bonded out Thanksgiving week with support from the fund.



We also want to celebrate closing the **Homebuilding Investment Fund, the very first custom fund we built** at Mission Driven Finance! Acting like a line of credit, the fund was designed to support San Diego Habitat for Humanity in building more homes more quickly. Thanks to our community of supporters, the fund mobilized **over \$2 million** in investments and grants for San Diego Habitat for Humanity to build an anticipated total of thirty-seven homes for San Diego families. Watch this [heartwarming video](#) of the families who moved into Comm22—a Habitat community in the heart of Logan Heights—just in time for the holidays.

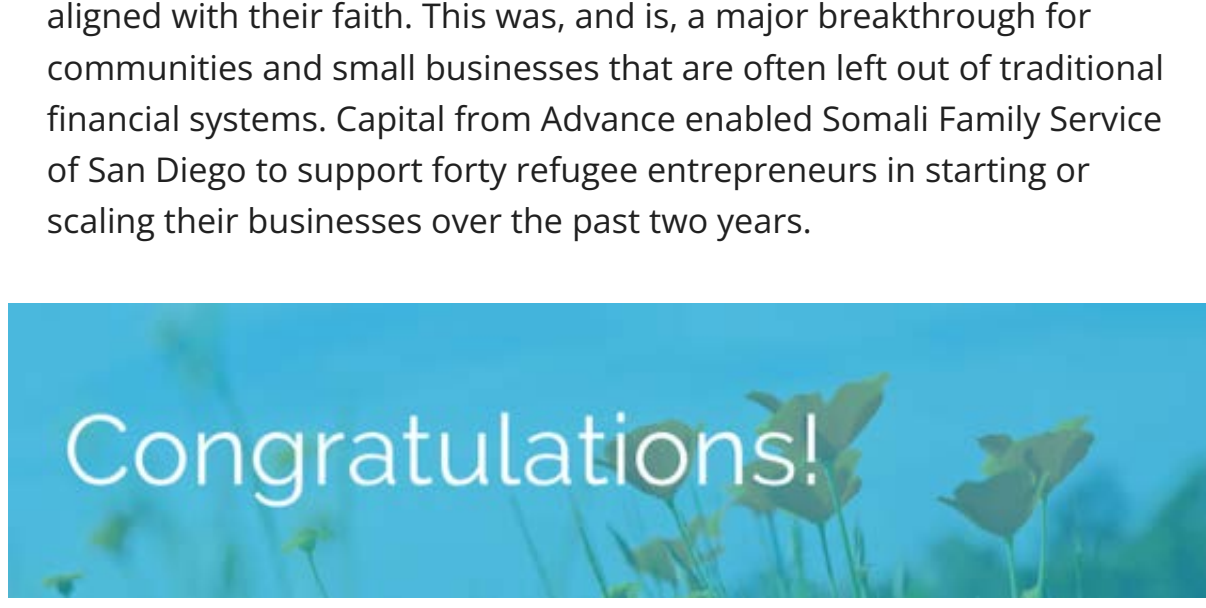
We are also hopeful that CARES Act tax incentives mean NOW is a great time for charitable giving or to try **philanthropic investing**. We are always looking for ways to make it easier to invest in communities you care about and our new [partnership with Realize Impact](#) does just that, supporting donors in turning any grant into an impact investment. We look forward to working alongside donors, private foundations, and donor-advised funds of all kinds to unlock grant capital as a tool for impact investing. [Share this blog post](#) with those you think would like to learn more.

As we wrap up 2020, on behalf of the Mission Driven Finance team, I wish you a safe and happy new year.

Lauren Grattan  
Co-Founder & Chief Community Officer



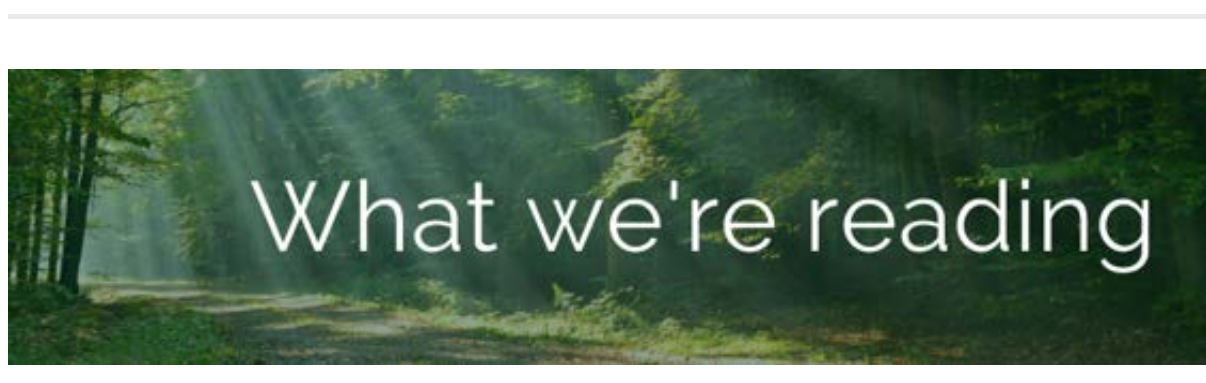
In addition to the above, we are celebrating a successful—and pretty incredible—**Advance portfolio exit**. Each portfolio company has a special place in our hearts, but [Somali Family Service of San Diego](#), a beloved nonprofit organization serving East African immigrants and refugees, marked **our first Islamic-compliant investment** so that they could grow their refugee entrepreneurship programs with capital aligned with their faith. This was, and is, a major breakthrough for communities and small businesses that are often left out of traditional financial systems. Capital from Advance enabled Somali Family Service of San Diego to support forty refugee entrepreneurs in starting or scaling their businesses over the past two years.



In these challenging times, the work of nonprofits is more critical than ever. We're proud to help nonprofits continue serving their communities in our role as a deployment partner of [The San Diego County COVID-19 Small Business & Nonprofit Loan Program](#). Congratulations to the latest nonprofit recipients!

- [Gold Youth Arts Organization](#)
- [Harmonium](#)
- [Mainly Mozart](#)
- [Multicultural Health Foundation](#)
- [San Diego River Park Foundation](#)
- [Tree San Diego](#)
- [The Water Conservation Garden](#)

**The loan program is still accepting applications from nonprofits.** Please share with leaders you know!



### Updates from our portfolio:

- [WATCH] [Comm22 Home for the Holidays](#) [San Diego Habitat for Humanity]
- [Commentary: Teen vaping is down during the pandemic. Here's how to keep it that way](#) [The San Diego Union-Tribune]
- ['Leave No Trace' in the Anza-Borrego Desert](#) [The San Diego Union-Tribune]
- [Notable Performances and Recordings of 2020](#) [The New Yorker]
- [Share the Spirit: Fred Finch therapists find new ways to reach socially-distanced clients](#) [The Mercury News]
- [Margaret's story](#) [San Diego Habitat for Humanity]
- [Local women launch La Jolla nonprofit to help struggling artists get paid for their creativity](#) [La Jolla Light]
- Aquacycl included in [San Diego's Cleantech Industries](#) [San Diego Regional EDC]

### What else we're reading:

- [Now Is The Time To Try Philanthropic Investing](#) [Mission Driven Finance]
- [California Relief Grant — How to Apply \(On-Demand\)](#) [San Diego & Imperial SBDC Network]
- [San Diego's Barrio Logan Bounces Back, But Recovery Is Fragile](#) [Bloomberg]
- [How Three Beloved Convey Street Restaurants Have Navigated the Pandemic](#) [San Diego Magazine]
- [WATCH] [3rd Inclusive Capital Showcase](#) [Zebras Unite]
- [Business Survival in a Pandemic: The Importance of Local Ecosystems of Support](#) [Nonprofit Quarterly]
- [Business Women of the Year](#) [San Diego Business Journal]
- [New Partnership Launched to Amplify the Awareness of Employee Ownership as a Cost-Effective Recovery Strategy for Small Businesses](#) [PR Web]
- [4 ways to maximize CARES Act charitable giving deductions in 2020](#) [The San Diego Foundation]
- [Inclusive Action for the City Discusses Lending in a Pandemic](#) [Inclusive Action / WES Mariam Assefa Fund]
- [Odd Fundraising Environment Brings LISC Record \\$2B in Corporate Donations](#) [Nonprofit Quarterly]
- [How Venture Capitalists Are Deforming Capitalism](#) [The New Yorker]
- [The Rich Kids Who Want to Tear Down Capitalism](#) [The New York Times]
- [Big companies join Vatican-affiliated council pledging inclusive capitalism](#) [Fortune]
- [Moderate Ideas Won't Solve the Crisis in our Communities: An Agenda for a New President](#) [Inclusive Action]
- [US child care crisis weakens economy](#) [LinkedIn News]

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