Consent Form:Linking CDC Capacity to Performance Outcomes

The subjects for this research are to consist of executive directors of CDCs operating nationwide, as identified based on a search of CDCs involved in the production or rehabilitation of affordable housing using the website Guidestar.com. In this regard, approximately 100 individuals will be contacted and asked to participate in an internet-based survey that requests information related to their CDC. The individuals comprising the study sample are expected to reflect the demographic variation currently evident within the leadership ranks of non-profit housing organizations across the United States. The purpose of the study is to examine the links between organizational capacity (turnover, intermediary ties, etc.) and the attainment of certain performance outcomes relevant to the non-profit affordable housing industry. The study is to be carried out by Ryan Lawhon, a graduate student at Texas State University currently enrolled in the Master’s of Public Administration program. He can be contacted via phone at 512-789-1326, or through email at the following address: [rl1235@txstate.edu](mailto:rl1235@txstate.edu). In addition to the data obtained from the individuals surveyed, additional information concerning demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the local regions served by each CDC will be obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau.

The individuals to be surveyed will be selected based on purposive sampling of the executive directors of all CDCs involved in the production or rehabilitation of affordable housing as determined through a review of the mission statement of each. Thus, they will be asked to participate as the leaders of non-profit organizations engaged in providing affordable housing options for their communities. As such, they are well-positioned to answer several basic questions relating to organizational capacity and progress toward performance outcomes.

The survey instrument itself consists of seventeen questions, and should take no more than fifteen to twenty minutes to complete. It does not ask for any personally identifiable information that could jeopardize the privacy of any participating individual, nor does it involve the risk of any physical or psychological harm to those taking part in the study. However, because the researcher will be asking for the name of the organization surveyed, it will be possible to match each individual to the survey submitted. This information will remain confidential and available only to the researcher for study purposes, and the responses provided will not be linked in published form. Also, the data will be kept by the researcher only until the study is complete, whereupon it will be permanently deleted from all records. Participants may request access to a summary of the study results upon completion, and thus may benefit from the conclusions reached as they relate to the optimal operation of CDCs. These requests should be made through email at [rl1235@txstate.edu](mailto:rl1235@txstate.edu). No other benefits will be offered to those participating, and any responding to the survey do so at their own will and may withdraw from the study at any time and for any reason. Furthermore, they may elect not to answer any of the survey questions if they so choose.

In accordance with established regulations, any questions regarding this research, the rights of those participating, and possible injuries to participants as a result of this study may be

sent to Dr. John Lasser at 512-245-3413 or via email at [lasser@txstate.edu](mailto:lasser@txstate.edu). Questions may also be referred to Ms. Becky Northcut at 512-245-2102. As a participant in this research study, please print a copy of this consent form and keep it for your records.