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Why an Aeris Rating?

More than 100 community investment funds—primarily CDFIs—have received a rating from Aeris since 2004. Here are some of the reasons that funds choose to become Aeris-rated.

A Strengthened Investment Proposition. Aeris ratings are the gold standard for transparency and accountability, and a demonstration of both financial and impact performance. More than 100 investors use Aeris to support their investment due diligence and monitoring, and CDFIs in the Aeris network benefit from strengthened and streamlined investor interactions.

New Capital Opportunities. Aeris is the first point of contact for investors seeking heavily-vetted investments. Increasingly, those in the emerging field of impact investing are looking to Aeris ratings to satisfy due diligence requirements for clients and regulators. In Q1-Q3 2016, 10,000 people visited the Aeris website, which lists rated and reporting CDFIs.

A Stronger Organization. Ratings can uncover potential improvements through a rigorous, third-party analysis. 80% of rated CDFIs say that the Aeris rating helped them look at their CDFI in new ways. All Aeris-rated and reporting institutions receive access to longitudinal analytics, enabling them to track performance over time—and relative to industry peers—against key indicators.

"While our S&P rating assists in understanding through comparison, it is our Aeris rating which facilitates understanding while also educating investors with substantive detail on our firm and the context of our operating environment."

Don Hinkle-Brown, President and CEO,
Reinvestment Fund

A Trusted Brand

In a sign of the growing acceptance of and trust in Aeris ratings, in 2016 the U.S. federal government identified Aeris ratings as a qualifier for two distinct loan and guarantee programs at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"NeighborWorks Capital values the third party business analysis and evaluation that Aeris brings to our organization's management team."

Jim Ferris, Executive Director,
NeighborWorks Capital

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