

**For Immediate Release**

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**CEDAC Announces New Staff Additions**

*Shyla Matthews joins as Director of Housing for Central and Western Massachusetts;  
Yesenia Gil named Senior Project Manager for the Children’s Investment Fund*

**BOSTON, MA (March 12, 2024)** -- The [Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation \(CEDAC\)](#) today announced the addition of two new team members. Shyla Matthews has been named the organization’s Director of Housing for Central and Western Massachusetts and Yesenia Gil will be a Senior Project Manager for the Children’s Investment Fund (CIF).

In her role, Matthews will be responsible for the delivery of technical assistance and lending to CEDAC’s non-profit community development partners in the central and western regions of the Commonwealth. As part of this activity, she will manage key relationships with public agencies and lenders who finance projects in the area.

In her role, Gil will focus on facility development for early childhood education and out-of-school time programs across Massachusetts, working with borrowers and grantees to provide financial support and technical assistance, along with facilitating the successful management of all phases of the real estate development process.

“CEDAC is excited to welcome Shyla and Yesenia to the team,” said Roger Herzog, Executive Director of CEDAC. “Shyla’s knowledge of economic development in Central and Western Massachusetts, and Yesenia’s expertise in overseeing community development projects, will be critical as we continue our work to provide lasting affordable housing and early childhood education solutions to communities across the Commonwealth.”

Matthews brings years of experience in community investment, economic development and commercial real estate. Most recently, she served as the Vice President of Community Investment at MassDevelopment for the Central Region of Massachusetts – a role she held since 2006. Matthews has played a pivotal role in enhancing innovation infrastructure and strengthening economic development in Massachusetts communities. Her extensive portfolio includes overseeing initiatives such as the Collaborative Workspace Grant Program, Predevelopment Loans, the Transformative Development Initiative and the administration of the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund. She was also directly involved in the development of

Polar Park and several affordable housing initiatives by CDCpartners. Matthews holds a bachelor's degree from Emory University.

Gil has over 15 years in real estate development and affordable housing initiatives. Prior to joining CIF, she served as the Executive Director at Bread & Roses Housing in Lawrence, where she focused on real estate development. She also brings valuable experience as a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit underwriter for the Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation (MHIC) and served as the Housing Manager for the City of Lawrence Community Development Department. Gil holds a Master of Management from Cambridge College.

Those wishing to learn more about CEDAC and its work can visit the organization's website here: <https://cedac.org/>

### **About CEDAC**

CEDAC is a public-private community development financial institution that provides project financing and technical expertise for community-based and other non-profit organizations engaged in effective community development in Massachusetts. CEDAC's work supports two key building blocks of community development: affordable housing and early care and education. CEDAC is also active in state and national housing preservation policy research and development and is widely recognized as a leader in the non-profit community development industry. For additional information on CEDAC and its current projects, please visit [www.cedac.org](http://www.cedac.org).

### **About the Children's Investment Fund**

Children's Investment Fund is a non-profit organization that believes all children deserve to learn in safe physical environments designed to support their healthy growth and development. For nearly 30 years, the Children's Investment Fund has provided technical expertise and financing to non-profit ECE & OST centers planning to improve or expand their facilities. It offers high-quality training programs, access to professional consultants, and funding to pay for predevelopment expenses, acquisition of property, and permanent loan financing. Visit [www.cedac.org/cif](http://www.cedac.org/cif).

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