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CDFI FUND GRANTS FIRST SOUTHWEST BANK MORE THAN \$180,000 THROUGH BANK ENTERPRISE AWARD

ALAMOSA, COLO. (Dec. 30, 2015) - The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institution Fund (CDFI Fund) recently granted First Southwest Bank more than \$180,000 in Bank Enterprise Awards (BEA) according to Kent Curtis, CEO of First Southwest Bank. In making its award, representatives from the CDFI Fund commended the work being done by the selected organizations to increase lending and provide vital financial services to economically distressed communities.

"First Southwest Bank has a long history of serving communities in need," Curtis noted. "This award allows us to further enhance the work we do and make an even bigger impact."

The CDFI Fund granted First Southwest an award of \$181,829, which will be reinvested into the communities it serves. The award is one of 83 presented to CDFI banks across the nation. BEA program award recipients were selected following a comprehensive review of more than 100 applications, one of the largest applicant pools in more than a decade.

First Southwest will commit the majority of the funds received to its newly established non-profit, First Southwest Community Fund. By doing so, the bank will be able to leverage the award to its fullest extent, multiplying the impact of public and private dollars while supporting various community-building initiatives.

First Southwest Bank has been serving the San Luis Valley and Southern Colorado for more than 100 years. With seven branches in the area, the bank offers personal and business banking with an emphasis on businesses supporting rural communities. First Southwest Bank is active in the communities it serves aiding more than 40 local organizations. More information about the bank is available at www.fswb.com.

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