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**Letter From Ken Wade
CEO, NeighborWorks America**

To: The Board, Staff, Friends and Supporters of the
National Congress for Community Economic Development (NCCED)

I want to extend my sincere thanks to the board and staff of NCCED (and indeed to *all of* the board members, staff, friends and supporters of NCCED over the years) for its ground-breaking work and countless contributions to the fields of community development and community economic development over the past 35 year history.

Clearly, NCCED has served as a trail-blazer in the continually evolving field of community economic development, and the nation's communities (although still facing significant challenges) have truly benefited from the ground-breaking work and tireless advocacy and educational efforts of NCCED over the years.

There is of course a real feeling of sadness to hear of the dissolution of an organization of NCCED's caliber and history. NCCED leaves, however, a significant record of accomplishment and a rich and inspiring legacy for others to continue – and to build on.

I want you to know that NeighborWorks America is fully committed to work with the Legacy Committee established by NCCED, and with other interested parties to explore ways in which NeighborWorks America and others can help fill the significant void that will be created by NCCED's dissolution.

As a first step in this commitment, NeighborWorks America has agreed to host NCCED's website (www.ncced.org) and we encourage you to continue to use this resource in the months ahead. I also invite you to avail yourself of the resources posted on NeighborWorks America's website (www.nw.org).

I look forward to working with many of you in the months ahead to determine ways in which NeighborWorks America can extend its services to further support NCCED's members -- and help continue the vision and mission of NCCED.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth D. Wade". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kenneth D. Wade
Chief Executive Officer
NeighborWorks America