



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**OBLATE INTERNATIONAL PASTORAL INVESTMENT TRUST INVESTS IN  
LIFTFUND**

**SAN ANTONIO** – The Oblate International Pastoral (OIP) Investment Trust made a socially responsible investment to LiftFund.

“There’s a growing interest in socially responsible investing, and investing in LiftFund provides an opportunity to do so in the communities we serve,” said Janie Barrera, LiftFund President and CEO. “Investments made to LiftFund not only create economic opportunities for small business owners but they also create jobs and contribute to the economic revitalization of communities.”

Investments to LiftFund become part of the pool of loan capital made available to entrepreneurs who are unable to obtain a loan through traditional sources. On average, this revolving loan fund helps about 1,000 entrepreneurs who want to start a new business or are seeking to expand their operations each year. In addition to the social benefits of an impact investment, investors also get a favorable and competitive return on their capital. Banks, foundations, religious and other non-profit organizations as well as individuals make an impact by investing in LiftFund.

“We invest to get back more than just a monetary return on our investment, it is part of our work to make a positive impact in our community and around the world,” said Marc Dessureault, OMI, Chief Executive Officer of the OIP. “By investing in organizations like LiftFund we generate social and environmental returns as well as a financial return to support our own mission.”

The OIP Investment Trust ([www.oiptrust.org](http://www.oiptrust.org)) offers a globally diversified portfolio that reflects the mission of the organization and of the participating Roman Catholic organizations. The investment portfolio also includes targeted impact investments and socially responsible investments. The OIP Investment Trust screens the portfolio, performs global advocacy work, invests proactively, engages corporations, and votes proxies in accordance with the mission.

Other religious organizations that have made recent impact investments to LiftFund include the Adorers of the Blood of Christ, Adrian Dominican Generalate, The Basilian Fathers of Toronto, The Congregation of the Sisters of C.I.W./HO, The Society of Divine

Word, Heartspring Methodist Foundation, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Sisters of St. Dominic, and the Sisters of the I.W.B.S/CC.

**About LiftFund**

Established in 1994 in San Antonio, Texas, LiftFund is a financial and business-support service organization that helps entrepreneurs strengthen their businesses, stabilize and increase their incomes, create employment and contribute to the economic revitalization of their communities. LiftFund has the nation's largest microlender portfolio and is committed to providing capital to entrepreneurs who do not have access to loans from commercial sources. Since its inception, LiftFund has made over 17,000 loans totaling more than \$200 million.