



News Release

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MUTUAL FUND OFFERS WAY TO INVEST IN ONE OF THE MOST ADVANCED LIVING FACILITIES IN THE CHICAGO AREA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Groundbreaking Facility Supported by CRA Qualified Investment Fund Promotes Affordable Housing, Independent Lifestyle for Older Individuals With Disabilities.

CHICAGO, IL – December 8, 2005/PRNewswire/ – Mutual fund investors in the Chicago area and the rest of the United States who want to support affordable quality housing and independent living for senior citizens with disabilities now have an opportunity to do so in an unusual way: through the CRA Qualified Investment Fund (CRAIX) mutual fund. The CRA Fund purchased the entirety of a \$6.57 million Federal Housing Administration project loan supporting Silent Cooperative Apartments, an assisted-living facility dedicated to providing affordable housing that meets the needs of senior citizens with disabilities. More than 100 Chicago area residents live in the 99-unit complex, which is considered to be one of the leading facilities of its kind in the U.S.

Barbara VanScoy, portfolio manager of the CRA Qualified Investment Fund, said: "Affordable housing and independence are keys to quality living for seniors with disabilities. The Silent Cooperative Apartments is an outstanding assisted living facility in the Chicago area devoted entirely to individuals facing the challenges of both old age and disabilities, including such impairments such as physical or developmental disabilities, chronic mental illnesses or blindness. This is an excellent example of how community investing through CRA Fund gives investors a chance to see how they can make an important difference in the lives of real people."

One of the institutions participating in the Silent Cooperative Apartments through the CRA Qualified Investment Fund is State Bank of Countryside in Countryside, IL. President and CEO Thomas P. Boyle said: "The State Bank of Countryside takes a very serious view of our duties under the Community Reinvestment Act. This institution wants to make a real difference in the lives of people close to home and, thanks to the CRA Fund, that kind of nearby focus was made possible for us in the Silent Cooperative Apartments. This is the kind of meaningful impact that we can explain to our customers in terms that they will understand and appreciate."

As many assisted living facilities in the North Center area in Chicago disappear from the landscape due to rising property values and health care costs, community investing in Silent Cooperative Apartments is one way to ensure that affordable housing is still available for residents with physical impairments and other seniors who simply can't afford to pay fast-rising rents or to live completely on their own.

The CRA Qualified Investment Fund has invested more than \$650 million nationwide since 1999 in affordable housing residences including assisted living facilities and/or services to senior citizens (including those with disabilities). Statewide in Illinois, the Fund has invested \$90 million in community and economic development projects, including a total of 98 projects involving nearly 9,000 affordable housing units.



ABOUT CRA QUALIFIED INVESTMENT FUND

Founded by CRAFund Advisors in 1999, the CRA Qualified Investment Fund is a high-credit quality, fixed income mutual fund that aims to deliver competitive financial performance while supporting community and economic development in neighborhoods across the country. With \$650 million under management representing 300 institutional shareholders with combined assets of \$2.0 trillion, the Fund has purchased \$1.4 billion in securities that have advanced community development activities -- including housing, healthcare, and job creation projects -- in all 50 states. (Impact data is through September 30, 2005)

As of September 30, 2005, the CRA Qualified Investment Fund was recognized as a Lipper Leader for consistent returns in the U.S. Mortgage category. CRAIX has delivered 2.31 percent (one-year return); 5.82 percent (five-year annualized return); and 5.76 percent (annualized return since inception on August 30, 1999).

Past performance does not guarantee future results. Performance quoted represents past performance. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that shares when redeemed may be worth more or less than original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For the month-end performance information, please call 877-272-1977. Performance figures reflect fee waiver and expense limitations in effect. In their absence, performance would be reduced.

"Lipper Leader" status is as of September 30, 2005. Consistent Return ratings reflect funds' historical risk-adjusted returns, adjusted for volatility, relative to peers. The ratings are subject to change every month and are based on an equal weighted average of percentile rankings over the three-, five- and 10-year periods (if applicable). The top 20 percent of funds in each peer group are named Lipper Leaders; the next 20 percent receive a score of 2 and so on. The CRA Qualified Investment Fund was rated among 69, 59 and 59 Funds for three-year, five-year and overall periods, respectively, for Consistent Return. Lipper ratings are not intended to predict future results; Lipper does not guarantee the accuracy of this information.

Mutual funds are not FDIC insured and involve risk, including the loss of principal. Carefully consider the risks, investment objectives, charges and expenses of the Fund before investing. The prospectus contains this and other important information. Call 877-272-1977 for a prospectus. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.

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For more information about the CRA Qualified Investment Fund, visit <http://www.crafund.com>, or call CRAFund Advisors at (877) 272-1977.

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