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**Senator Susan Collins (ME) Receives “Congressional Champion”
Award from National Community Development Association**

Award was presented at the National Community Development Association’s Winter Meeting for Senator Collins’ strong advocacy for community development programs.

Washington, D.C. – Today, the [National Community Development Association \(NCDA\)](#) recognized Senator Susan Collins with their “Congressional Champion” award for her commitment to community development programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2024.

“Over the past 50 years, the Community Development Block Grant program has helped communities throughout Maine and across the country offer affordable housing, improve their infrastructure, and recover from natural disasters. It is a tremendously flexible and versatile program, allowing communities to tailor local initiatives to teach community’s unique needs,” said **Senator Collins**. “I am so grateful to receive this award from the National Community Development Association, and I look forward to working together to ensure that the CDBG program continues to deliver for communities in the years to come.”

Enacted by Congress in 1974 under the Housing and Community Development Act, the primary goal of the CDBG program is simple yet profound: to empower local communities, providing them with the resources and tools necessary to enhance the quality of life for all residents. Over 1,250 state and local governments receive CDBG allocations to support housing rehabilitation programs, public infrastructure projects, small business assistance, emergency housing assistance, and a broad range of public service programming.

“The NCDA would like to thank Senator Collins for her tireless advocacy for community development initiatives like the Community Development Block Grant program. Her passion and commitment has had a tangible impact on the lives of thousands of people, both in her home state of Maine and across America,” said **Vicki Watson, Executive**

Director of NCDA. “We are tremendously grateful to have a champion like Senator Collins in the Senate, and we look forward to continuing our partnership so that the CDBG program can continue to deliver for the American people.

About the National Community Development Association

The National Community Development Association (NCDA) is a non-partisan national nonprofit association comprised of more than 500 local governments across the country that administer federally – supported community development, affordable housing, and economic development programs through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). NCDA members administer HUD Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs – CDBG, HOME, Homeless Assistance Grants, and HOPWA. Since 1969, NCDA has been at the forefront in securing federal resources and designing effective and responsive housing and community development programs for local governments.