

COMMUNITY FIRST FUND OPENS BAKERY AND COFFEE SHOP IN MIDTOWN HARRISBURG

June 7, 2016 (Harrisburg): Community First Fund is pleased to announce the Grand Opening of the Dalicia Bakery and Coffee Shop at 1419 North Third Street in Harrisburg. The combination bakery and coffee shop offers European style breads and pastries in addition to salads, sandwiches and a variety of coffees. Special order cakes for all occasions are a point of differentiation for the bakery.

Owner Samra Alic received a loan from Community First Fund to launch her retail bakery. Mary Kay Eckenrode, Director of Lending, noted that Community First has a mission to support urban based business and woman owned businesses. The loan enabled Samra to realize her dream of opening a retail bakery with distinctly European breads and pastries in the City of Harrisburg.

Samra has extensive professional bakery experience in the US and Germany where she worked for 9 years after leaving Bosnia where she was born. Her husband Mirsad and daughter Ajla also work in the business. Samra was determined to share her passion and open a bakery, stating, "I just never give up." Samra has been welcomed by the Midtown business community and residents, having had a steady stream of customers since she opened quietly the first week of May, including Harrisburg Mayor Papenfuse. She said that the first 2 weeks she opened were "a little crazy."

While all the tasks of opening a new business can seem overwhelming, Samra said that she and her family are starting to settle into a new routine. The shop is open 7 days a week, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Saturday and from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Sundays.