

Office of Community Services
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



**The Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development Rural
Gateway**

**Community Economic Development and Community Action Efforts
in Rural America: A Discussion of Best Practices**

March 28, 2013

Community Economic Development Program (CED)

Purpose

To support employment and business development projects designed to provide economic self-sufficiency for low-income residents and their communities.

Projects create jobs and business development and job opportunities for low-income individuals.



CED–HFFI Projects Address the Elimination of Food Deserts

- ▶ Beginning in 2011, the CED program partnered with U.S. Departments of Agriculture (USDA) and Treasury in the Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI). The goal of HFFI is to expand the availability of nutritious food, including developing and equipping grocery stores, small retailers, corner stores, and farmers markets selling healthy food.
- ▶ In 2012, CED awarded 13 grants to projects that were focused around HFFI. Grants have a maximum grant award level of \$800,000 and funds may cover project costs for business start-up or expansion and the development of new products and services.
- ▶ Addressed the lack of access to healthy, nutritious food options, identifies the community as a food desert, and the needs of the community, including how to provide the goods and services.
- ▶ Indicated patterns of non-healthy food consumption in the community and provided data indicating residents suffer from poor health due to the lack of healthy foods.
- ▶ Provided indicators of high concentrations of persons participating in food assistance programs.



CED-HFFI Addresses the Financing of Healthy Food Retail Projects

- ▶ Brings healthy food choices to communities that are in food deserts through the establishment of new healthy food retail outlets
- ▶ Supports the financing of grocery stores, farmers markets, and other sources of fresh nutritious food
- ▶ Indicates the purpose and process of facilitating access to healthy food options while creating jobs and business development in low-income communities



Eligible Applicants

Community Development Corporations (CDC)

- ▶ Primary purpose: planning, developing or managing low-income housing or community development activities experienced in planning, developing, or managing low-income housing or community development activities
- ▶ Private non-profit 501(C)(3) organizations
- ▶ Have a board membership inclusive of community residents, business or civic leaders



Target Population

- ▶ Funded projects must create employment for low-income individuals
 - Income level does not exceed 125 percent of the Federal poverty level (<http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty>)
 - Target population: TANF recipients, non-custodial parents, residents of public housing, formerly incarcerated individuals, homeless, other low-income disadvantaged individuals



Funding Uses

▶ Eligible Uses

- Equity investments or low interest rate loans as capital for a new business or business expansion
 - Start Up Capital
 - Operating expenses
 - Hard costs of a commercial development
 - Capital costs related to acquisition, construction or renovation
 - Soft costs of a commercial development
 - Appraisals, environmental studies, and architectural and engineering services
 - Construction and non-construction projects
- Note: Program income generated must be re-invested into the project



Project Types

- ▶ Examples of CED projects:
 - Childcare Centers
 - Shopping Centers
 - Manufacturing Businesses
 - Restaurants
 - Business Incubators
 - Grocery Stores
 - Agricultural Initiatives

- ▶ Current Grantee Abstracts:
 - www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/ced/grantee_summaries.html



Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Funding

- ▶ FY 2013 funds available for awards:
\$26 million– **Proposed**
Up to \$10 million for healthy food projects
- ▶ Maximum award level: \$800,000
- ▶ Length of project or project period:
 - Non-Construction: 36 months
 - Construction: 60 months
- ▶ Bonus Points awarded for rural projects
- ▶ Expected number of awards this year: 35–38
(13–16 HFFI)



Previous Years Annual Budget

- ▶ In FY 2011, \$16 million (\$10 million HFFI)
25 grants awarded (13 HFFI)
- ▶ In FY 2012, \$27 million (\$10 million HFFI)
38 grants awarded (16 HFFI)



Application Timeline

- ▶ Funding Announcement: anticipated launch early April 2013
- ▶ Applications due: 60 days (June/July of 2013)
- ▶ Awards: September 30, 2013

Additional information:

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/ced/index.html>



How to Submit an Application

- ▶ All organizations must have a valid DUNS number
- ▶ Applications must be submitted electronically through the Internet Web portal at: www.grants.gov – Register Early
- ▶ **Paper Application Exemption:** Applicants may submit hard copy applications only after receiving an exemption from ACF.

Upcoming related OCS Spring Webinars

- ▶ Should I apply for CED Grant? April 2, 2013
- ▶ I Want to Apply for a CED Grant: What Now? April 9, 2013

Registration required:

ocsregistar@icfi.com



Applicant Resources

- ▶ Visit the ACF OCS CED program website for additional information

www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/ced/index.html

Community Action Partnership – Community Economic Development

<http://www.partnershipced.org/community-action-partnership.html>

