

FY15 Promise Zone Benefits from Partnering Agencies

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families

Programs with PZ Benefits:
Community Economic Development Program

Community Economic Development Program

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

Benefit Type: Grant Competition

Eligible Communities: Urban, Rural, Tribal.

Application Deadline: April 24, 2015; March 4, 2016.

Eligible Applicants: Private, non-profit Community Development Corporations (CDCs) with experience in managing economic development projects. This would also include Tribal CDCs with an IRS non-profit status. CDCs must: Be governed by a tripartite board of directors that consists of residents of the community served, local businesses, and civic leaders; and have planning, developing, or managing low-income housing or community development projects as their principal purpose.

Program Description: The Office of Community Services (OCS) will award up to \$17.9 million in Community Economic Development (CED) discretionary grant funds (\$800,000 maximum per project) to Community Development Corporations (CDCs) for well-planned, financially viable, and innovative projects to enhance job creation and business development for low-income individuals. CED grants will be made as part of a broader strategy to address objectives such as decreasing dependency on federal programs, chronic unemployment, and community deterioration in urban and rural areas. CED projects are expected to actively recruit low-income individuals to fill the positions created by CED-funded development activities, and to assist those individuals to successfully hold those jobs and ensure that the businesses and jobs created remain viable for at least one year after the end of the grant period. CED-funded projects can be non-construction or construction projects. The grant period for non-construction projects is 3 years; for construction projects, the grant period is 5 years. The CED program permits facility construction as needed to support business creation, business expansion, and/or job creation.

OCS is encouraging applications from CDCs that target rural areas and underserved areas, and from 20 states and territories that do not have active CED projects.

Benefits to Promise Zone: CED applicants involved in the Promise Zone initiative, the applicant can receive bonus points provided that the application demonstrates that the proposed project is located in the shared designated target areas that align with the Promise Zones Initiative or Choice Neighborhoods Program. The applicant must provide a signed letter and complete the OMB form documenting the extent of involvement/collaboration with these initiatives, and clearly outline roles and responsibilities and any support and/or resources provided as a result of this partnership.

Webinar Series: View recordings of OCS hosted webinar series for prospective applicants at: <http://ocscommunitydevelopment.org/index.php/resource-library-3/2015-CED-CED-HFFI-funding-opportunity-Announcement?id=72>

Funding Opportunities: For updates on funding, please visit: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/index.cfm?switch=searchresult&type=office¶m=OCS&page=OCS>.