Neighborhood Assistance Program

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development has opened the window for new applications and released updated guidelines for tax credits through the state’s Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP), Neighborhood Partnership Program (NPP), Special Program Priorities (SPP), and Charitable Food Program (CFP). This program is very competitive and applications will be due by September 16th, 2016. DCED released new guidelines for the NAP on July 14th. The Single Application can be accessed here.

PACDC is hosting a briefing with DCED for PACDC members and their current/potential state NAP tax credit partners on Tuesday, July 26th at 10:30 a.m. click here for additional info and to register.

Eligible neighborhood non-profits can apply for tax credits to partner with for-profit companies who have committed to making contributions to support programs that will improve distressed areas, including: Affordable Housing, Community Economic Development, Community Services, Education, Neighborhood Assistance, Neighborhood Conservation, Crime Prevention or Job Training. New this year is eligibility for "Affordable Housing and Supportive Services for At-Risk Populations" under the Special Program Priorities Area.

$32 million in requests for $18 million in available tax credits were received by DCED in 2015. Having up-front commitments from corporate partners at the time of application is one key to success.

For additional information, contact:
Aliyah Furman
Director, Southeast Regional Office
PA Department of Community & Economic Development
alifurman@pa.gov
215-560-5830
Housing For Everyone Grant Competition

A total of $2.5 million will be awarded this year to 25 local non-profit organizations that make a meaningful difference in meeting the affordable housing needs in communities served by TD Bank, America’s Most Convenient Bank®.

The theme of this year’s competition is Affordable Housing for Single Parent Families; which will seek the creation of safe, clean, physically accessible housing for families headed by a single individual (may be parent, grandparent or guardian). Access to clean, safe affordable housing throughout the TD Bank footprint affects thousands of these low- and moderate-income families who cannot afford a place to live.

There is not a single county in the country where a minimum wage worker can afford a one bedroom apartment at the local fair market rent without working more than 40 hours per week. Efforts to house and support a family on such wages are next to impossible and perpetuate inequalities in educational, healthcare, and employment opportunities. Housing insecurity presents a huge issue for single parent families with children and particularly in the case where generational gaps exist in families. More and more grandparents are caring for grandchildren on fixed and limited incomes in communities where the growth in market rents has far outstripped income growth. One in seven low-income families’ pays over 50% of its income for housing, well above the affordability standard and in most areas, housing costs have risen significantly more than incomes over the past ten years. Supply of rental units in many markets is thin with rental availability tighter than any point in time in the past 20 years; resulting in rent increases on average of 3.2% which is twice the overall inflation rate.

Applications for funding must focus one or more of the following

- **Preservation/Rehabilitation/Expansion of viable existing affordable housing properties**: This may include the redesign, reconfiguration and or re-use of existing space in affordable housing properties to create increased quality and quantity of affordable housing units for single parent families and over). Upgrades to systems, structure and efficiency of properties to preserve and prolong their use will be considered.

- **Focus on needs of the families**: Housing programs and services that address the unique needs of Single Parent Families with children in urban, suburban, and rural communities will be viewed favorably. This may include but is not limited to proximity to educational opportunities, access to healthcare and medical services, employment opportunities, shopping, community and transportation services, recreational facilities as well on site services (daycare, before and/or afterschool programs, community rooms, etc.) that would be attractive and supportive to the needs of families.

- **Utilization of abandoned properties to create new units of affordable housing**: In urban, suburban and rural areas, the utilization of underused or abandoned properties to provide permanent or interim housing for low- and moderate-income families provides a tremendous opportunity to reverse neighborhood and community decline.

Special consideration will also be given to those initiatives that focus on energy efficiencies to be realized through foundation funding.

Applications will only be accepted through the [TD Charitable Foundation’s online application system](#) and should be submitted by **4:00 p.m. (EST) on September 2, 2016**. Paper applications will not be accepted.
Champion in Action Program

Applications are now being accepted for Citizens Bank’s 2017 Champions in Action award in the category of *Addiction Prevention and Treatment Services*. Eligible organizations must be a 501c3 located in Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Delaware or Chester counties and have a budget of $5M or less. **The deadline for applying is July 29, 2016 by 5:00PM EST.**

Find more information [here](#).

Enter your zip code if/when prompted.

If you are not redirected to the grant opportunity page, go back and enter zip code 19146.

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Affordable Housing Program Grants

Affordable Housing Program (AHP) grants help FHLBank members partner with community developers and public agencies to develop affordable housing in local communities. Each year, FHLBank Pittsburgh sets aside approximately 10 percent of its net income to fund AHP.

AHP benefits to FHLBank members:

- Helps establish and expand community relationships
- Can capitalize on spin-off investment and related business opportunities
- Qualifies for CRA credit
- Generates community goodwill
- Provides public recognition for community investments

**Grants are awarded to the highest scoring projects -- up to $650,000 per project --** in one funding round each year until funds are exhausted. Housing developers team up with FHLBank member financial institutions to submit applications during the funding round.

**What qualifies for AHP funding?**

AHP grants and loans can be used for:

- Single- and multi-family housing
- New construction and rehabilitation
- Rental and owner-occupied homes
• Scattered-site housing development projects
• Transitional and single-room-occupancy housing

AHP grants and loans can be used to support the development of housing targeted to underserved populations – including but not limited to very low-income households, individuals with special needs, the homeless and veterans. Typically these targeted projects are “service enriched” and the sponsors are able to offer a menu of support services such as counseling, vocational and educational services, medical support, and other forms of assistance funded through other complementary sources. **This year’s funding round closes August 11, 2016.**

[Click here to read further grant guidelines and to apply.](#)

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**Philadelphia Land Bank Issues Workforce Housing RFP: Vacant Properties in Francisville to Become Homes for Middle-Income Families**

The Philadelphia Land Bank today issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to develop workforce housing on eight vacant properties in Francisville. The first of several workforce housing RFPs to be issued this year, the goal is to preserve affordable housing options in a rapidly appreciating neighborhood. The Land Bank will sell the vacant lots to developers who will build homes and sell them for no more than $230,000. The average cost of a home in Francisville is more than $325,000. The publicly owned land, provided at either no or reduced cost, will be the only subsidy for the developer. Homebuyers are limited to households earning 120 percent of area median income, which is $96,360 for a family of four.

The RFP and all attachments are on the Land Bank [website](#). **Proposals are due on July 20. RFPs later in the year will target neighborhoods such as South Kensington, Point Breeze, Ludlow, Pennsport and Poplar.**

[Learn more and apply here](#)

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**Philadelphia Commerce Department Capital Consortium**

Commerce has partnered with a group of nonprofit and for-profit lenders to create the Capital Consortium. The goal of the Consortium is to improve access to capital for small businesses throughout Philadelphia. Consortium members provide loans and technical assistance to small businesses in order to help them start and grow.

Together, Commerce and the Consortium created a Business Information Form which enables a small business to submit one form outlining its capital needs, email or fax it to the Commerce Department, and
have it sent to all of the Consortium members. The Consortium member would contact the business directly if they are interested in working with them. This model proved effective when it was adopted by the SBA for SBA lenders the Consortium uses a similar tool but is working with local lenders.

Apply here

TD Bank Non-Profit Training Resource Fund

Grants of up to $1,000 will be awarded by the TD Charitable Foundation to eligible community-based organizations for employees to attend approved classes/courses that will enhance their job performance, as outlined below.

Applications (complete with all required attachments) are accepted on a rolling basis, and the TD Charitable Foundation reviews requests monthly. Notification and payout of awards are usually made in the fourth week of each month. Applicants will be notified of donation status between two to six weeks from their donation application submission.

Apply and learn more here

Groundbreaker Award

Nominate a project for a Groundbreaker Award! Project nominations should emphasize innovation and leadership in green design and construction, a commitment to sustainability, and demonstrate transformative impact. Deadline for nominations is July 22nd. See here for more details and to submit a nomination.

Early bird tickets are now on sale through the end of July! For event information, to purchase tickets, or to see sponsorship opportunities, please go here.

If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Salamon at 215-399-5799 or msalamon@dvgbc.org.
The 2016 Storefront Challenge online nomination form is live. The Philadelphia Commerce Department and the Community Design Collaborative have opened a form for you to nominate facade improvement projects, especially those in neighborhood commercial corridors.

Nominations must be submitted by September 15, 2016.

Nominate a project here

Emerging Leader Fellowship

The Stoneleigh Foundation is currently seeking applications from local nonprofits, academic institutions and government entities interested in hosting an Emerging Leader Fellow from September 2017 - 2019.

The Emerging Leader Fellowship is designed to provide a project-based experience for young professionals to hone their skills in policy analysis, research and advocacy. Fellows work collaboratively with host organizations to execute projects that advance the organizations' missions and allow the Fellows to gain new skills. Stoneleigh supports projects that:

Take a systems approach to improving outcomes for young people involved in - or at significant risk of becoming involved in - the juvenile justice and child welfare systems.

Involve improving coordination among systems that serve these vulnerable youth (such as education, housing, health and behavioral health). Take a public health approach to reducing youth violence. Note: Starting this cycle, all Emerging Leader Fellowships will last for two years.

Register for the Emerging Leader Fellowship information session on August 4th.

Learn about the Emerging Leader Fellowship application timeline.
Fall Grant Opportunities

The next grant deadline for The Merchants Fund is Thursday, September 15, 2016 (postmarked or completed online). We have created an online application. We prefer this format but we have kept the PDF so you can print it to see what is required. We are committed to open access so we will accept paper applications as well. Grants are competitive and there is no guarantee of funding. TMF has two core grant making areas for businesses that have been legally established for at least three years in Philadelphia:

- **Business Stabilization** grants up to $10,000 to help small businesses remain stable, viable and grow in the face of economic challenges or to respond to opportunities. We do not make grants for working capital. Grants must be spent by December 31, 2016. [Find everything you need for this application here.](#)
- **Business Loan Match** grants up to $20,000 to match accredited government programs or bank loans at least dollar for dollar ($20,000 minimum loan matched by a $20,000 grant). TMF does not make loans. Grants must be spent by August 31, 2016. [Find everything you need for this application here.](#)

Please contact us at [info@merchantsfund.org](mailto:info@merchantsfund.org) or call 215-399-1339 if you have any questions.

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Philadelphia: Using Technology to Create a Smart City

**The Challenge:** The City of Philadelphia spends significant funds every year to lease and maintain 25 cell towers with fiber connection that sit idle. The City is seeking products and technologies that could use these assets as a platform to improve public safety, public infrastructure maintenance, energy efficiency, public space management, public Wi-Fi access, transportation and quality of life for the residents and businesses of Philadelphia.

**The Opportunity:** The challenge consists of two stages. The first stage is a Request for Information (RFI) during which the City is looking for information on products, technologies, services and other creative cost reduction strategies. This is designed to provide the City with industry insight, experience and understanding of the solutions available on the market. Responses to this RFI will inform a future Request for Proposals (RFP) to implement the solution.

**Who can participate:** The opportunity is open to anyone with a solution to the Challenge. The City welcomes ideas from technologists, telecommunications specialists, advertising agencies, social entrepreneurs, engineers, architects, designers, NGOs, and general city enthusiasts working locally or internationally.
To apply, please download the RFI using the button below, and submit your proposal no later than 5:00 p.m. EST on August 12, 2016. Please send your response as one electronic copy in machine-readable format (MS Word format or PDF). Emails should be addressed to Andrew Buss and Ellen Hwang with the subject line “Smart City Submission– First Name, Last Name” at andrew.buss@phila.gov and ellen.hwang@phila.gov

Apply and learn more here.

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Training Program

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses is a program for small businesses that links learning to action. Through the program, participants will gain practical skills in topics such as negotiation, marketing and employee management that can immediately be put into action. In addition, they will receive the tools and professional support to develop a strategic and customized growth plan that will take their business to the next level.

Across the U.S., 10,000 Small Businesses graduates are increasing their revenues and creating new jobs in their communities: 60.9% reported creating new jobs, 81.9% reported an increase in revenue, 85% are doing business with each other and the program also has a 99% completion rate.

Selected applicants will gain access to a world-class business education and connections to a professional support network at no cost. If you're a small business owner interested in taking your business to the next level, apply now.

NFL Foundation Grassroots Program

The NFL Foundation Grassroots Program is a partnership of the National Football League Foundation, which provides funding for the Program, and the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), which provides technical assistance and manages the Program. The goal of the Program is to provide non-profit, neighborhood-based organizations with financial and technical assistance to improve the quality, safety, and accessibility of local football fields. The NFL Foundation Grassroots Program provides grants of up to $250,000 for capital improvement projects.

As noted above, grants are given only for capital expenditures. Applicants may request a maximum of $250,000 from the NFL Foundation Grassroots Program to be used for capital improvements. Please see
“Availability of Funding” for stipulations involved with a $250,000 maximum grant request. **Proposals are due on August 15, 2016. Please read the complete RFP before submitting a proposal.** Proposals MUST BE MAILED.

Learn more about the opportunity here and access the RFP.

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Kaboom! Play Everywhere Challenge

Science and common sense agree: Kids need play to grow up healthy, resilient and ready for life. But across the U.S. – especially in cities – too many children miss out on the chance to play because of where they live, where they come from or how much their families earn. Play is just too important to a healthy childhood for any kid to be left out.

That's why we’re hosting the Play Everywhere Challenge: to help cities create the spaces and opportunities for kids to play as they grow. The Play Everywhere Challenge is a $1 million, national competition that will award innovative, replicable ideas that make play easy, available and fun for kids and families. We're looking for creative solutions to make play a way of life in everyday and unexpected places – sidewalks, vacant lots, bus stops, open streets and beyond.

[Click here to learn more and to apply.](#)

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**TOSHIBA**

**Toshiba America Foundation Funding K-12 Science Programming**

The Toshiba America Foundation is dedicated to promoting quality science and mathematics education in our nation’s K-12 schools. The Foundation provides grants through the following two initiatives: The Grants Program for K-5 Science and Math Education provides grants of up to $1,000 to teachers in public or private schools to help them bring innovative hands-on projects into their classrooms. The application deadline is October 1, annually. The Grants Program for 6-12 Science and Math Education provides small grants of up to $5,000 and large grants of over $5,000 to teachers who are passionate about making science and mathematics more engaging for their students. Applications for small grants may be submitted throughout the year. The annual application deadlines for large grants are February 1 and August 1, annually.

Visit the Foundation’s [website](#) for details about each of the grant programs.
CSX Community Investment Program

The CSX Community Investment Program supports nonprofit organizations that serve the communities where the company is located, primarily in the Eastern, Southern, and Upper Midwest areas of the United States. The program provides assistance to nonprofit organizations that address one of the following categories: Safety, with a focus on railway, public, and personal safety; Environment, with a focus on land, water, and air preservation and restoration; Wellness, with a focus on healthy lifestyles and wellness education; and Community, with a focus on community leadership and service. Preference is given to organizations that have a broad base of funding and CSX employee involvement. Cash grants ($2,500 to $5,000), sponsorships, volunteer support, and in-kind transportation services are provided. Online applications may be submitted from January 1 through December 15 of each year. Visit the CSX website to download the Giving Guidelines.

Cisco Global Impact Cash Grants

Cisco Global Impact Cash Grants support nonprofit organizations in the U.S. and worldwide that provide assistance to underserved populations and leverage Internet and network solutions to improve the reach, efficiency, and impact of services. In the Education category, Cisco supports technology-based solutions and education delivery models that improve student performance and engagement in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). The Economic Empowerment category focuses on programs that encourage employment success, entrepreneurship, and long-term self-sufficiency by providing access to skills, knowledge, and financial products and services via technology-based solutions. Through the Critical Human Needs category, Cisco grants help overcome the cycle of poverty and dependence by supporting organizations that address the basic needs of underserved communities, with a focus on clean water, food, and shelter. Organizations can begin the application process at any time.

Visit the Cisco website to learn more about the grantmaking criteria and to take the Eligibility Quiz.
Google Ad Grants: In-Kind Advertising Support for U.S. and International Nonprofits

The Google Ad Grants program supports nonprofit organizations in the U.S. and overseas that help to make the world a better place. Google Ad Grants is a unique in-kind advertising program that harnesses the power of the company's flagship advertising product, Google AdWords. Through the program, selected organizations receive $10,000 per month in in-kind AdWords advertising to promote their missions and initiatives on Google.com. The program has awarded AdWords advertising to a wide range of nonprofit organizations whose missions range from animal welfare to literacy, and from supporting homeless children to promoting HIV education. **Online applications may be submitted at any time.** Visit the Google website for program details.