



**Government of the District of Columbia
D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development**

Neighborhood Based Activities

FACT SHEET

The Neighborhood Based Activities program area provides local and Federal grant funding for housing and neighborhood revitalization activities to community based non-profit organizations through three programs: (1) Housing Services (2) Small Business Assistance, and (3) Façade Storefront Improvement. The three programs are outlined as follows:

Housing Services: Grantee organizations provide counseling services and training to potential homeowners, current homeowners, and tenants, focusing on low- and moderate-income clientele and neighborhoods. Their counseling efforts provide support to DHCD programs such as HPAP, EAHP, NEAHP, NSP, 203K, Single Family Residential Rehabilitation Program, Lead Safe Washington, PADD, Affordable Dwelling Units, Inclusionary Zoning, First Right Purchase Program, and HRA. Other specific counseling services include foreclosure prevention or mitigation, credit counseling, home/budget management, homebuyers clubs, and relocation counseling. Services are provided to assist tenants in understanding their rights and responsibilities, including issues such as potential displacement, rental/eviction counseling, apartment locating, and ongoing apartment management.

Housing services grantees are also expected to conduct significant marketing and outreach in their respective communities. This includes providing information about DHCD programs and services, as well as non-governmental housing programs and opportunities. As a part of this effort, grantees maintain working relationships with community residents, businesses, schools, libraries, churches, and other neighborhood organizations and institutions.

Small Business Assistance: Grantee organizations provide technical assistance, support and training to small and retail businesses focusing on neglected commercial corridors in low- and moderate-income areas in the District of Columbia. The program does not provide grants, loans, or direct subsidies to businesses. The neighborhood areas where grantees currently operate include, but are not limited to: Anacostia, Congress Heights, Columbia Heights, Adams Morgan, Mount Pleasant, Georgia Avenue, Petworth, Rhode Island Avenue, NE, and Deanwood/Marshall Heights. Grantee organizations are also involved in business attraction and retention. Assistance provided includes micro-loan packaging, business planning, entrepreneurial training, one-on-one business technical assistance, tax preparation assistance, accounting assistance, or legal assistance. Grantee organizations also provide collective business support activities, such as the formation of business alliances, business corridor promotion, mass marketing, volume discount efforts, and collective space management. Through these organizations, DHCD is also heavily involved in neighborhood revitalization efforts in these areas, including major commercial project planning and interagency business development coordination.

Façade Storefront Improvement: Grantee organizations develop storefront improvement projects, which include contiguous commercial properties in CDBG-eligible corridors of the District. These projects improve the function and appearance of individual building facades, and spur new private investment in commercial properties in the same location and in adjacent commercial districts. The grantee organizations market the projects to the individual businesses in the selected commercial corridors. They also coordinate the project design and manage construction through a single General Contractor. Current façade improvement projects are located on the following commercial corridors or neighborhood areas: (1) Georgia Avenue, (2) Capitol Hill/H Street/Shaw, and (3) Martin Luther King, Jr, Avenue/Good Hope Road, SE. Individual storefront improvement grants are provided to business and property owners on commercial corridors on a matching-grant basis. Assistance includes façade design; general repairs and maintenance; and the installation of replacement doors, windows, signs, storefront systems, awnings, and lighting.

Applications are generally processed on a "first-come first served basis". Please contact one of the following community-based organizations for additional assistance:

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Anacostia Economic Development Corporation	202-889-5100
ARCH Development Corporation	202-365-5586
Congress Heights Training & Development Center	202-563-5201
DC Chamber of Commerce Foundation	202-638-7336
Development Corporation of Columbia Heights	202-483-4982
Emory Beacon Of Light, Inc.	202-829-5732
Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	202-728-0352
Latino Economic Development Corporation	202-540-7408
Washington Area Community Investment Fund	202-529-5505
DC Fashion Foundation	202-355-3929

HOUSING SERVICES

Central American Resource Center	202-328-9799
Housing Counseling Services, Inc.	202-667-7006
Latino Economic Development Corporation	202-540-7408
Lydia's House, Inc.	202-373-1050
Manna, Inc.	202-832-1495
Marshall Heights Community Dev. Organization	202-396-1200
University Legal Services, Inc.	202-547-4747
AARP Legal Clinic for the Elderly	202-434-2171

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT

Barracks Row Mainstreets, Inc.	202-544-3188
Anacostia Economic Development Corporation	202-889-5100
ARCH Development Corporation	202-365-5586
Congress Heights Training & Development Center	202-563-5201
Development Corporation of Columbia Heights	202-483-4986
Emory Beacon Of Light, Inc.	202-829-5732
Deanwood Heights Main Streets, Inc.	202-621-2288

In accordance with the D.C. Human Rights Act of 1977, as amended, D.C. Official Code, Section 2-1401.01 et seq., (Act) the District of Columbia does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, personal appearance, sexual orientation, familial status, family responsibilities, matriculation, political affiliation, disability, source of income, or place of residence or business.

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Government of the District of Columbia
Vincent C. Gray, Mayor

