

Mennonite Economic Development Associates

Organization Description

MEDA is an association of persons committed to integrating their faith and business principles. For nearly 50 years MEDA has addressed pressing human needs through economic development programs in 38 countries around the world. MEDA has also been working as an intermediary in the US for the past 10 years helping communities establish business development programs.

Project Description

MEDA's North American Services unit will work with local communities, including faith-based groups, in 6 locations to build capacity of organizations providing entrepreneurial training and support, job skills development, or other community-based economic development services. MEDA will provide TA, training, and sub-awards.

Geographic Scope of Project

MEDA will work with organizations in six locations:

- Chicago, IL
- Peoria, IL
- Indianapolis, IN
- Pittsburgh, PA
- Miami, FL
- Los Angeles, CA

Partnering Organizations

MEDA intends to partner with local organizations in each location. They will also work with network organizations such as the Community Action Association of Pennsylvania and Mennonite Central Committee.

Sub-Awards

MEDA will issue \$330,000 in sub-awards to up to 25 FBOs and CBOs for capacity building.

Project Objectives

MEDA will help local organizations identify opportunities for growth and develop action plans for moving forward. Specific objectives are:

1. To help build capacity and knowledge among FBO/CBOs.
2. To encourage the replication of effective approaches and programs to better meet the needs of poor and low-income individuals and families.

Project Strategies

- Develop stakeholder networks in each location.
- Design training based on local needs.
- Conduct training in resource development, expanding outreach and organizational issues.
- Introduce best practices and effective program models.
- Work intensively with selected organizations, providing customized technical assistance.
- Provide capacity building grants through competitive process.

Grant Award Amount

\$1,000,000

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