

Northside Ministerial Alliance

Organization Description

The Northside Ministerial Alliance is a faith-based nonprofit, membership organization. It is interdenominational, multicultural, and nonpartisan. Kalamazoo's leading churches started the Alliance in 1997. Today membership includes 30 churches.

Project Description

Faith-based and community-based organizations that offer human services are being overwhelmed by requests for service from current and prospective clients. The Northside Ministerial Alliance has established the Southwest Michigan Faith & Community-Based Training Institute to help increase the number of these organizations and help build capacity of existing agencies.

Geographic Scope of Project

The project will serve FBO/CBOs in six counties of southwest Michigan that cover both urban and rural communities. The specific counties are:

- Kalamazoo
- Calhoun
- Berrien
- St. Joseph
- Cass
- Van Buren

The training institutes work will be concentrated in the three largest urban centers: Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, and Kalamazoo.

Partnering Organizations

The core partners with the Northside Ministerial Alliance include:

- Benton Harbor Street Ministries
- Washington Heights Community Ministries
- Western Michigan University Center for Asset Building
- C.H.A.N.G.E.
- Third Reformed Church
- Organizational Development Solutions
- G.A.C. Consulting Services
- New Genesis Inc.

Sub-Awards

Sub-awards are intended to provide flexible funding that can anticipate and react to immediate community needs or agency needs of FBOs and CBOs. The Institute is providing \$250,000 in sub-awards during the first year. Amounts for each award will generally be between \$15,000 and \$25,000. Four kinds of sub-awards will be issued:

- Start-up grants
- Capacity-building grants
- Expansion grants
- Special opportunity funding

Project Objectives

1. To increase the number of FBO/CBOs serving vulnerable individuals and families.
2. To provide training and technical assistance to small FBO/CBOs annually.
3. To issue sub-awards to eligible FBO/CBOs for start up and to replicate best practices.

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Project Strategies

Core services of the Southwest Michigan Faith & Community-Based

Training Institute include:

- Conducting needs assessment
- Providing orientation and training and Training Assistance to FBO/CBOs
- Issuing sub-awards
- Providing information and referral services

Grant Award Amount

\$1,000,000

