Community Economic Development FY25 New Grant Awards

What is the Community Economic Development (CED) Program?

The Community Economic Development (CED) program is a federal grant program within the Office of Community Services (OCS) that supports economic growth in communities with high rates of unemployment and poverty. The CED program:

- Supports the creation and development of sustainable businesses
- Creates employment opportunities
- Attracts economic investment in communities with low incomes

To support self-sufficiency, CED grant recipients connect employees to critical support services that remove barriers to employment and allow individuals to maintain long-term employment. These include financial literacy assistance, housing counseling, substance use disorder treatment, workforce development training, child-care services, and transportation.

Who are CED Grant Recipients?

The CED program funds private, nonprofit community development corporations (CDCs) that plan, develop, or manage community development projects.

CED Projects and Outcomes

CED projects utilize multiple strategies to support economic development, including providing start-up capital, loans, equity investments, and funding for construction. Projects create and expand businesses across multiple industries, including retail, manufacturing, child-care, agriculture, health and wellness, restaurants, shipping and distribution, cosmetics, and grocery. Some projects include revitalization of entire retail centers or commercial hubs.

To ensure CED funds are used responsibly and effectively to create jobs, each project must generate at least one new job for every $27,000 in funding, or $32,000 if the project involves construction. Collectively, CED grants completed between 2019 and 2024 **created more than twice the required number of jobs at an average cost of just $13,804 per job**.

CED recipients secure significant additional investment for their projects. For every $1 of CED grant funding for grants completed between 2019 and 2024, **$8.40 in funds from other sources were invested into the economic development projects**.

Learn more about the CED program and view project success stories.

CED Grant Awards

In Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25), OCS awarded over **$18.5 million in new grants** to support **24 new CED projects**. These projects will create economic development opportunities and support economic growth for the individuals and communities served by:

- Creating or expanding **107 businesses**
- Creating **661 new, full-time jobs, 505 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes**
- Leveraging an additional **$52.5 million in funds** from other sources

Of the 24 new CED projects, 18 will be located in a rural location or persistent-poverty county. Additionally, three projects will support domestic energy resources to enhance energy security while supporting economic growth, and 17 projects will partner with public or private workforce development or job creation programs, such as Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs, to build upon existing efforts and increase coordination among workforce development programs.

For more information about the **Community Economic Development program** and OCS's anti-poverty programs, visit the OCS website.

CED Project Summaries

The following pages feature summaries of the CED grants awarded in FY25.

View all previously funded active CED projects.

Arizona

Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. will use $800,000 in CED funds to expand operations at Friedman Recycling Company, a local waste management and recycling business in Phoenix, Arizona, via a loan to support operational capital. This project will create 30 new jobs, 23 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: AZ-02*
- *County Poverty Rate: 10.9%*

California

The **Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD)** will use $800,000 in CED funds to expand its social enterprise and subsidiary, CRCD Enterprises, to create full-time jobs in the lead abatement and construction industries in South Los Angeles, California. This project will create 29 new jobs, 22 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: CA-37*
- *County Poverty Rate: 13.3%*

Main Street Launch will use $800,000 in CED funds to expand its San Francisco Business Resilience Loan Fund, an existing fund providing low-interest loans and technical assistance to local restaurants in San Francisco, California. This project will create 30 new jobs, 23 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: CA-12*
- *County Poverty Rate: 11.3%*

Connecticut

Community Capital New York will use $800,000 in CED funds to establish a revolving loan fund to create or expand local businesses in and around Elmsford, New York, including one based in Danbury, Connecticut. This revolving loan fund will be accessible to communities across the New York Metropolitan service area, including Bronx, Kings, Queens, and Westchester counties in New York, and Fairfield County in Connecticut. This project will create 29 new jobs, 22 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.[1]

- *Supports Congressional District: CT-05*
- *County Poverty Rates:*
  - *Bronx: 27.9%*
  - *Kings: 19%*
  - *Queens: 13.7%*
  - *Westchester: 9.2%*
  - *Fairfield: 4.7%*

District of Columbia

Melwood Community Development Corporation will use $270,293 in CED funds to extend a loan to Enabled Intelligence to grow their business in the artificial intelligence arena and create new jobs in the Washington, D.C. metro area. This project will create 10 new jobs, eight of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.[2]

- Supports Congressional Districts:
  - Grant Recipient Location: MD-05
  - Project Service Areas:
    - DC At-Large Congressional District
    - MD-05
    - VA-08
- County Poverty Rates:
  - Washington D.C.: 14%
  - Prince George's County, MD: 11%
  - Fairfax County, VA: 6%

Florida

The **Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa, Inc.** will use $800,000 in CED funds to support construction of the Fast Lane Business Center, a commercial facility located in a community redevelopment area in Tampa, Florida. This project will create 25 new jobs, 19 of which will

[1] Since this project will serve both CT and NY, it is listed under both states.

[2] Since this project will serve DC, VA, and MD, it is listed both under the district and under the two states.

be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: FL-14*
- *County Poverty Rate: 22.7%*

Jericho Road Ministries, Inc. will use $800,000 in CED funds to expand its thrift store operations in Brooksville, Florida by opening two new retail locations and enhancing its supply chain department. This project will create 30 new jobs, 23 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: FL-12*
- *County Poverty Rate: 9.6%*

Georgia

Albany Community Together will use $800,000 in CED funds to provide a below-market-rate loan to the Harlem Legacy Wellness Center, a newly created "one-stop" health and wellness center that will house a health care clinic, dental clinic, physical therapy and chiropractic center, and mental health clinic in Albany, Georgia. This project will create 29 jobs, 22 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: GA-02*
- *County Poverty Rate: 29.3%*

Kansas

Stafford County Economic Development will use $800,000 in CED funds to expand the impact of the Port Authority of Stafford County to create sustainable economic opportunities that will strengthen the local economy and build assets for local, rural residents in St. John, Kansas. The project will create 26 new jobs, 20 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: KS-04*
- *County Poverty Rate: 12.5%*

Kentucky

Kentucky Highlands Community Development Corporation will use $800,000 in CED funds to provide a below-market-rate working capital loan to expand Renfro Supply Company, a century-old wholesale distribution business in Williamsburg, Kentucky. This project will create 30 new jobs, 23 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: KY-05*
- *County Poverty Rate: 25.3%*

Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission (NKCAC) will use $796,400 in CED funds in partnership with Aviatra Accelerators to implement the Ready to Hire (R2H) initiative, a program designed to create or expand at least ten businesses in Covington and throughout Northern Kentucky. This project will create 29 new, full-time jobs, 22 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: KY-04*
- *NKCAC's CED project will serve eight counties across Northern Kentucky with poverty rates ranging from 7.7% to 18.9%.*

Maryland

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- Supports Congressional Districts:
  - Grant Recipient Location: MD-05
  - Project Service Areas:
    - DC At-Large Congressional District
    - MD-05
    - VA-08
- County Poverty Rates:
  - Washington D.C.: 14%
  - Prince George's County, MD: 11%
  - Fairfax County, VA: 6%

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Massachusetts

Lawrence CommunityWorks (LCW) will use $800,000 in CED funds to complete the Dye Works Project, part of LCW's Union Crossing initiative, to transform an abandoned industrial site into a thriving commercial hub in Lawrence, Massachusetts. This project will create 25 new jobs, 19 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: MA-03*
- *County Poverty Rate: 9.4%*

Michigan

Mel Trotter Ministries will use $800,000 in CED funds to expand Chop Tree Service, LLC (Chop), in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Chop is a vegetation management company specializing in utility line clearing, tree trimming, tree removal, and tree health. This project will create 30 new jobs, 23 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: MI-03*
- *County Poverty Rate: 10.3%*

Mississippi

Jackson Resource Center will use $800,000 in CED funds to create two multipurpose community business hubs, establishing five new businesses and supporting one existing business across the food service, child-care, design, technology, and creative industries in Hinds County, Mississippi. This project will create at least 25 new jobs, 19 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: MS-02*
- *County Poverty Rate: 21.6%*

Montana

Montana Community Development Corporation will use $800,000 in CED funds to extend a loan to Nomad Global Communication Solutions, a growing manufacturing business, in Libby, Montana. This project will create 30 new jobs, 23 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: MT-01*
- *County Poverty Rate: 8.6%*

New Mexico

Yes Housing, Inc. will use $800,000 in CED funds to extend a loan to the Agri-Cultura Cooperative Network to develop the Aldea del Rio Food Hub in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This project will create 29 new jobs, 22 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional Districts: NM-01; NM-02*
- *County Poverty Rate: 13.9%*

New York

Community Capital New York will use $800,000 in CED funds to establish a revolving loan fund to create or expand local businesses in and around Elmsford, New York, including one based in Danbury, Connecticut. This revolving loan fund will be accessible to communities across the New York Metropolitan service area, including Bronx, Kings, Queens, and Westchester counties in New York, and Fairfield County in Connecticut. This project will create 29 new jobs, 22 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.[4]

- *Supports Congressional District: CT-05*
- *County Poverty Rates:*
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  - *Kings: 19%*
  - *Queens: 13.7%*
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  - *Fairfield: 4.65%*

Ohio

Economic and Community Development Institute, Inc. will use $800,000 in CED funds to help Dos Hermanos, a successful local Mexican restaurant in Columbus, Ohio, expand into the consumer packaged goods market by scaling its jarred salsas, guacamole, and sauce production for wholesale and retail distribution. This project will create 25 new jobs, 19 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: OH-03;*

[4] Since this project will serve both CT and NY, it is listed under both states.

OH-15
- *County Poverty Rate: 15%*

Pennsylvania

Fayette County Community Action Agency, Inc. will use $800,000 in CED funds to implement a commercial kitchen incubator to provide affordable space, equipment, and services to entrepreneurs with low incomes in the food space in Republic, Pennsylvania. This project will create 30 jobs, 23 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: PA-14*
- *County Poverty Rate: 19.8%*

Tennessee

Mid-Cumberland Community Action Agency will use $800,000 in CED funds to establish and expand affordable, high-quality child-care centers in Sumner and Trousdale counties, Tennessee. The project will address the child-care shortage in these counties while also creating job opportunities at the centers for residents. This project will create at least 30 full-time jobs, 23 of which will be reserved for individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: TN-05*
- *County Poverty Rates:*
  - *Sumner: 9%*
  - *Trousdale: 10.3%*

Texas

San Antonio for Growth on the Eastside will use $800,000 in CED funds to establish the Eastside Revolving Loan Fund to expand small businesses and create jobs in San Antonio, Texas. The project will create 30 new jobs, 23 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: TX-28*
- *County Poverty Rate: 15.2%*

Utah

The **Southeastern Community Action Partnership** will use $800,000 in CED funds to establish the Entrepreneurship Loan Fund for small businesses in the southeastern region of Utah. This project will create 30 new jobs, 23 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: UT-03*
- *County Poverty Rates:*
  - *Carbon: 16.8%*
  - *Emery: 11.3%*
  - *Grand: 17%*
  - *San Juan: 18.4%*

Virginia

Melwood Community Development Corporation will use $270,293 in CED funds to extend a loan to Enabled Intelligence to grow their business in the artificial intelligence arena and create new jobs in the Washington, D.C. metro area. This project will create 10 new jobs, eight of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.[5]

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  - Grant Recipient Location: MD-05
  - Project Service Areas:
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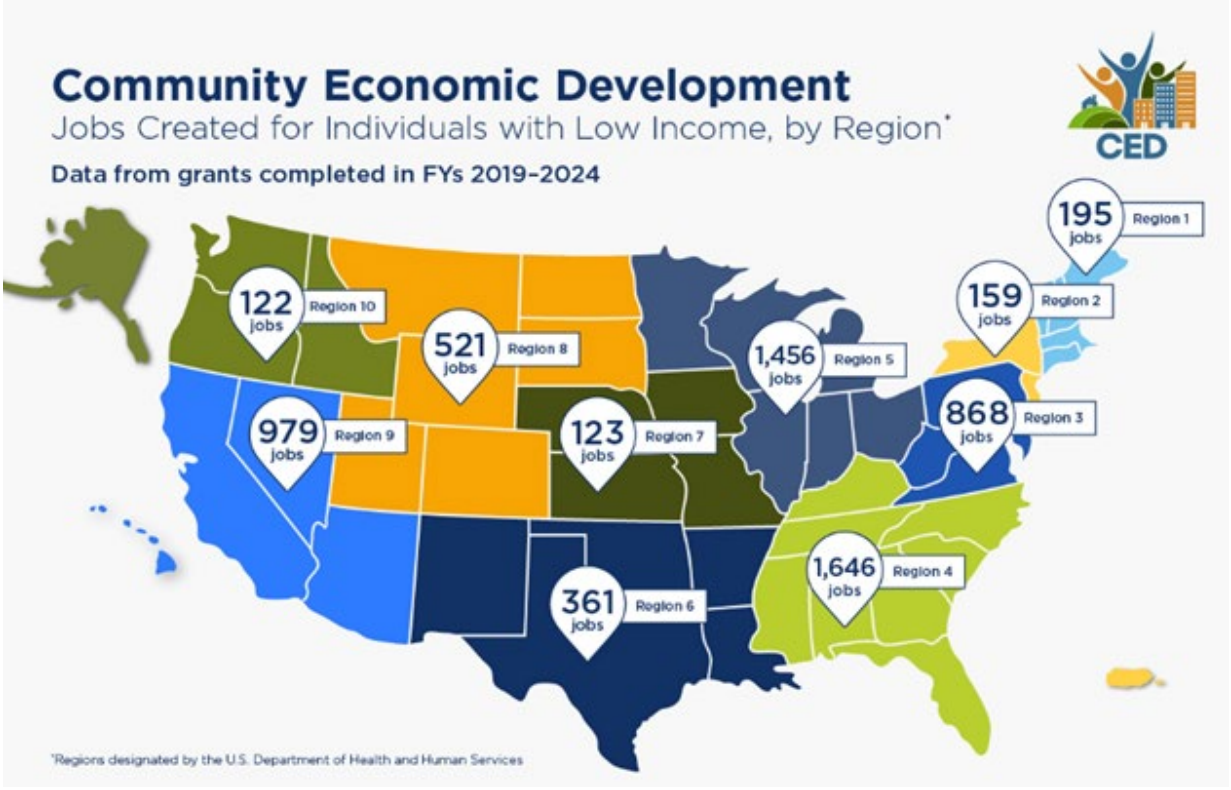
  - Fairfax County, VA: 6%

Wisconsin

ADVOCAP Inc. will use $704,000 in CED funds to construct a child care incubator facility at a formerly vacant site in Oshkosh, Wisconsin to provide accessible child-care to residents in surrounding Fond du Lac, Green Lake, and Winnebago counties. This project will create 22 new jobs, 17 of which will be filled by individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: WI-06*
- *County Poverty Rates:*
  - *Fond du Lac: 9.6%*
  - *Green Lake: 13.3%*
  - *Winnebago: 10.8%*

[5] Since this project will serve DC, VA, and MD, it is listed both under the district and under the two states.

Northwest Side Community Development Corporation will use $800,000 in CED funds to provide a loan to GigaCrete Midwest, a manufacturer of modular home systems, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This project will create 29 jobs, 22 of which will be filled with individuals with low incomes.

- *Supports Congressional District: WI-04*
- *County Poverty Rate: 17%*