Wednesday, July 24, 2019
The William J. Clinton Presidential Center – Great Hall
1200 President Clinton Avenue
Little Rock, Arkansas
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Community Reinvestment Initiatives Team

• The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis’ Community Reinvestment Initiatives team is a partnership between the Bank’s Community Development (CD) department and Consumer Affairs examination function. Our cross-functional team seeks out information related to how banks respond to the credit and financial services needs of low- and moderate-income (LMI) communities in the Eighth District under the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA).

• For more information about the team, please visit: https://www.stlouisfed.org/community-development/cra
Investment Connection Objectives

• Investment Connection is an innovative approach to sharing information about CRA-related CD needs in all parts of the Eighth Federal Reserve District.

• The goal of Investment Connection is to act as a catalyst that facilitates increased CD investments (equity investments, grants, loans, or services) in LMI communities from financial institutions, philanthropic and government organizations, and other funders.

• The approach includes a series of activities that culminate in an event that provides community and economic development organizations the opportunity to present their projects and connect with financial institutions and other stakeholders seeking to be responsive to those needs in one setting.
  – The Investment Connection is not a grant-making program.
United Way of Northeast Arkansas
Imagination Library for Osceola, Arkansas

- **Type funding/support requested:** Grant
- **CRA-eligible activity addressed by the project:** Community facilities/services
- **Brief project description:** Expansion of an existing Imagination Library Program into Osceola, AR (New book is mailed each month to enrolled children)
- **Population served:** 338 children under the age of 5, including LMI population; 100% of the kids in Osceola qualify for free or reduced lunch (Pre-K – 12th grade)
- **Project duration:** 01/01/20 – 12/31/20
- **Expected outcomes:** Enroll every child in Osceola in Imagination Library; enrolled children begin kindergarten better prepared and ready to learn; and children previously enrolled in Imagination Library continue to progress through school w/higher scores in reading development including vocabulary and reading comprehension
- **Funding request:** $20,000
The Renewal Ranch
2020 Restoration Center Admissions, Administration and Counseling Addition

- **Type of funding/support requested:** Grant, Loan, Investment or combination
- **CRA-eligible activity addressed by the project:** Community Facilities/Services
- **Brief project description:** New project to add a 3,125 sf Admissions, Administration and Counseling wing to the Renewal Ranch Restoration Center
- **Population served:** Rehabilitate 112 Central Arkansas LMI men, ages 26-67 annually from their drug or alcohol addictions
- **Project duration:** January 1- December 31, 2020 or construction, then Continuing or Permanent as the access portal to Renewal Ranch
- **Expected outcomes:** Relocate functions to Renewal Ranch campus for increased access, effectiveness, efficiency and confidentiality
- **Funding request:** $249,000
Winrock International

*Momentum: A Minority Women-Owned Business Accelerator*

- **Type of funding/support requested:** Grant
- **CRA-eligible activity addressed by the project:** Economic Development
- **Brief project description:** Five-week small business accelerator for 10 startup or early-stage minority woman-owned businesses. Participants receive knowledge-based training, peer-to-peer engagement, and $500 in technical assistance. Momentum can be offered in any Arkansas county to fit funder needs. Fully-developed, easy to deploy, and customizable
- **Population served:** Low-to-moderate income (LMI) minority women who aspire to start their own businesses and meet SBA small business qualifications
- **Project duration:** Five months (including recruitment, implementation and reporting)
- **Expected outcomes:** Ten new minority woman-owned Arkansas businesses (at least 70% LMI), lowered barriers to technical assistance and knowledge-based training for minority women entrepreneurs, ongoing access to support through a peer-to-peer network and demonstrate measurable growth through trackable action items and participant deliverables
- **Funding request:** $30,000
Legal Aid of Arkansas, Inc.
Fresh Start for Community Development

- **Type of funding/support requested:** Grant
- **CRA-eligible activity addressed by the project:** Community Facilities/Services
- **Brief project description:** Provide free legal services to seal clients’ criminal records, removing a significant barrier for low-income families thereby allowing them to secure financial stability and independence
- **Population served:** Low-income Arkansans with sealable criminal record(s) and Arkansans impacted by the Opioid Crisis and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- **Project duration:** 10/1/2019 – 9/30/2021
- **Expected outcomes:** 750 new clients served, impacting 17,015 household members and $4.8 mil ROI
- **Funding request:** $303,646.49
Our House, Inc.
*Improving Intake and Community Coordination to Address Homelessness in Central Arkansas*

- **Type of funding/support requested:** Grant
- **CRA-eligible activity addressed by the project:** Community facilities/services
- **Brief project description:** This project seeks to improve Our House’s intake and community outreach systems for program delivery and coordination through the hiring of new personnel, development of improved intake and referral procedures, and the advancement of client outcome tracking systems.
- **Population served:** The population primarily served by this proposed project are homeless or low-income individuals and families, and it is estimated that up to 100% of those served by Our House are LMI.
- **Project duration:** Implementation – one year; Program - Ongoing
- **Expected outcomes:** Improving Our House’s systems for intake and community coordination to accommodate a 20% increase in total clients served, to more than 3,000 per year, while increasing efficiency and effectiveness and maintaining high levels of measurable success in housing, employment, and financial empowerment.
- **Funding request:** $100,000
Thank you for your interest in Investment Connection!