Wednesday, July 25, 2018
William J. Clinton Presidential Center — Great Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas
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Better Community Development (BCD), Inc.

Lee Theater Renaissance Project

• **Funding request:** $150,000

• **Type of funding/support request:** Grant

• **CRA-eligible activities addressed:** Neighborhood revitalization and stabilization

• **Description of project:** Phase 1 – Reconstruction of collapsed roof

• **Population served:** Midtown Little Rock – 100% below poverty level (83.2% African American)

• **Project duration:** 2 years (secure investment; hire architect and construction crews; obtain permits; revitalization and stabilization of theater); Proposed completion 2021

• **Expected outcomes:** Phase 1 – Stabilization of the Lee Theater; renovation of community theater; reuse of building; place theater on National Register for eligibility for tax credits
Renewal Ranch
Renewal Ranch Restoration Center

• **Funding request:** $200,000
• **Type of funding/support request:** Grant
• **CRA-eligible activities addressed:** Affordable housing
• **Description of project:** New construction providing additional bed space for nondenominational faith-based rehabilitation center serving adult men
• **Population served:** Low- and moderate-income in a low-income area
• **Project duration:** Construction – 6 months; Program – Ongoing
• **Expected outcomes:** Help men with addictions develop a personal love relationship with Christ and return to society as productive citizens
Houseaboutit Community and Economic Development Agency

Senior, Adults, and Youth Healthy Resource Center (SAY Center)

- **Funding request**: $150,000
- **Type of funding/support request**: Grant, Investment, and Loan
- **CRA-eligible activities addressed**: Affordable housing, Community facilities/services, Economic/Workforce development
- **Description of project**: Senior, Adults, and Youth Healthy Resource Center (SAY Center) is a new project that will encompass a senior day care (seniors will be fed/offered two meals a day with a snack, have an activity room, rest area and leisure room, a Workforce and Career Center where adult classes will be offered and job fairs will be held); and youth component (afterschool programs and youth activities). There will be a community garden and education classes geared toward health and wellness.
- **Population served**: Low- and moderate-income; 80% of area median income and middle income in distressed, under-resourced and underserved areas
- **Project duration**: 120 days
- **Expected outcomes**: A new business community – SAY Center – that will be utilized to spark economic development in the area and improve the quality of life of the targeted population.
United Way of Central Arkansas

Financial Opportunity Center

• Funding request: $15,000
• Type of funding/support request: Grant
• CRA-eligible activities addressed: Financial access, capability and empowerment
• Description of project: This new project would provide clients with services and resources to increase their monthly net income. We would help these families and individuals access income-boosting programs like SNAP, utility and rent assistance, job retention training, access to insurance and banking products, as well as tools to improve their credit scores. This would improve financial stability for the clients and the communities we serve. We will encourage establishment of checking and savings accounts for those who do not have them by working with the BankOnAR coalition. We will recruit volunteers to counsel clients through our relationships with the three colleges in town and other financial corporate relationships that we have developed through our VITA and BankOn work.

• Population served: All low- and moderate-income individuals residing in Faulkner, Perry and Van Buren counties; we will be connected to these individuals and households through our community partners and our Charity Tracker software
• Project duration: Ongoing
• Expected outcomes: Provide access to employment services, financial coaching and income supports. We will interview clients about their financial situation and assist them in developing a plan to identify gaps in their ability to create a stable monthly cash flow. Then we will connect clients to the services and programs that fit their personal needs and will allow them to attain their financial goals. Additionally, the unbanked and underbanked will become more fully banked through the ability to open and maintain checking and savings accounts and loans and to increase savings and investments.