

Growing Communities Initiative Phase 5

Citizens Bank and LISC are committed to supporting the communities that we serve. This commitment is demonstrated in part by our history of supporting programs in communities that encourage economic development and neighborhood revitalization. To continue its mission of contributing to stronger and more stable households and neighborhoods, Citizens Bank will support the *Growing Communities Initiative* in partnership with Rhode Island LISC in a 5th phase of the initiative

The Citizens Bank *Growing Communities Initiative* will support community development efforts in Central Falls and Pawtucket, Rhode Island once again in phase 5. Citizens Bank and Rhode Island LISC will award funding for projects that foster neighborhood revitalization in these cities, support local economic activity and create/sustain jobs. Successful applicants will incorporate collaborative partnerships that have a strong impact on the neighborhood, spur additional investment and demonstrate measurable outcomes.

Funding/Projects ranging in size from \$2,000 - \$10,000 will be awarded from Citizens Bank and Rhode Island LISC to qualified organizations.

Eligible community development activities include:

- Job creation/sustainability
- Workforce development activities
- Small business development
- Neighborhood revitalization
- Activities to encourage patronage of local businesses
- Activities that promote livability

Eligibility

Projects eligible for the *Growing Communities Initiative* must meet the following criteria:

- Project must be focused on improving the quality of neighborhoods in Central Falls or Pawtucket
- Proposed activity must establish clear goals that will demonstrate measurable outcomes

Priority Considerations

The *Growing Communities Initiative* may give priority consideration to projects that:

- Serve low-or moderate income individuals/census tract areas
- Present strong impact in a community with a significant degree of need/opportunity
- Foster collaboration with clearly defined roles for each partner

- Demonstrate a plan for long-term sustainability

Application Process

1. Applicants must submit a *Growing Communities* application narrative (see below) and email it to PBellavance@lisc.org
2. The deadline for applications is **October 27, 2017**
3. Site visits may be conducted.
4. All applicants will receive written notification of the outcome of their requests by November 10, 2017.
Award period is November 30, 2017 – October 31, 2018.
5. Award recipients will be required to submit a six-month impact report and a final report at the end of the award period.

For more information contact Pauline Bellavance at 401.519.5608.

2017 Growing Communities Application Narrative

- Please clearly identify the following information:
 - Agency/organization/business name
 - Contact name
 - Project name
 - Contact's phone number
 - Contact's email address

- A narrative (no more than five pages) about the project that addresses the following:
 1. Describe the conditions in the program area neighborhood. Identify both the challenges and opportunities for economic development in the community. Include demographic information that demonstrates the need for support as well as factors such as access to resources and assets in the neighborhood.
 2. How will this project address the problems or improve conditions identified in question one?
 3. Does this project address community development priorities identified by the municipality (i.e. city's master plan, Economic Revitalization Zone)?
 4. Identify the organizations that are collaborating on this project and explain each of their roles.
 5. Describe the project's proposed timeline/milestones.
 6. Provide specific outcomes expected by this program within the next 6 months and 12 months (please include quantitative information).

- A detailed project budget including income and expenses.

The *Growing Communities* application information must be emailed to the following address:

PBellavance@lisc.org