

Growing Communities Initiative

Citizens Bank and LISC are committed to supporting the communities 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 building stronger and more stable households and vibrant neighborhoods, Citizens Bank will support the *Growing Communities Initiative* in partnership with Rhode Island LISC in this new phase of the initiative.

The Citizens Bank *Growing Communities Initiative* will support community development efforts in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. Citizens Bank and Rhode Island LISC will award funding for projects that foster neighborhood revitalization, support local economic activity and create or 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 Woonsocket.
- 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 eklinkenberg@lisc.org
2. The deadline for applications is **December 15, 2020**
3. Site visits may be conducted.
4. All applicants will receive written notification of the outcome of their requests by January 15, 2021.
5. Award recipients will be required to submit a final report by August 31, 2021.

For more information contact Liz Klinkenberg at 401.391.4365.

2021 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 three 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 (please include quantitative information) .

- A detailed project budget including income and expenses.

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

eklinkenberg @lisc.org