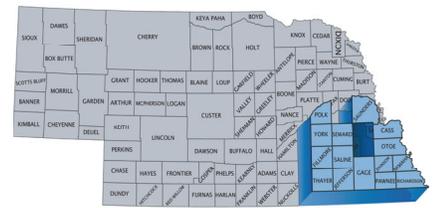


SEND D

Southeast Nebraska Development District



GRANT APPLICATION PLANNING AND PREPARATION

If your town is considering seeking state grant funding for community projects for 2016-17, **now is the time to begin planning** with your SENDD staff members! The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) typically releases its grant program application guidelines in January.

Anticipated Programs and Grant Application Submission Deadline Dates (based on 2015 deadline dates—subject to change by NDED)

-  Nebraska Affordable Housing Trust Fund (NAHTF) - March 2016
-  Planning - March 2016
-  Downtown Revitalization (DTR) - May 2016
-  Owner Occupied Rehabilitation (OOR) - Pre-Application May 2016, Full Application July 2016
-  Water/Wastewater - May 2016
-  Civic and Community Center Financing Fund - Pre-Application May 2016, Full Application June 2016
-  Public Works - June 2016

Nebraska Investment Finance Authority Housing Study Grants

Conducting a community-wide housing study is an important part of many grant applications for housing funds. These studies help determine a community's current housing assets and future housing needs. The Nebraska Investment Finance Authority provides grants up to \$60,000 for communities to prepare a housing study. The next application deadline is November 13, 2015. No deadlines have been announced for 2016. Some of NIFA's grant application requirements include:

Match Requirement - Except as set forth in the following sentence, a cash match of at least fifty percent (50%) is required for all housing studies. If the proposed housing study is part of a "comprehensive plan," the match requirement will be a minimum of seventy percent (70%).

Applicant Eligibility - Eligible applicants include any housing or economic development entity, for-profit or non-profit, without direct access to funds from property tax revenues.

The Housing Study Grant may be used to finance a new study or an update to a study conducted five (5) or more years previously.

Proposed studies must have the support, and preferably partial funding, from the local governing jurisdiction(s).

OCTOBER 2015 NEWSLETTER



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Welcome Judi Meyer as SENDD Programs Manager

Judi Meyer joined SENDD earlier this summer as a Programs Manager. Judi has been in community development for nearly twenty years and has received and administered over \$28 million in state, federal, and private foundation grant awards. She most recently worked at the Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council in Sioux City, Iowa and has also worked for the Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District in Norfolk, Nebraska. Judi attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree. Judi has also completed the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) four-year Economic Developers Institute (EDI) and is certified in CDBG grant administration.

From 2002-09, Ms. Meyer implemented the development of the Ho-Chunk Village in Winnebago, NE, a multi-million dollar nationally recognized mixed use subdivision. The subdivision was designed to encourage healthy lifestyles through pedestrian friendly access and neighborhood interaction that integrates traditional Native American concepts and cultural traditions. Development included five commercial buildings, one warehouse, seven single-family homes, one six-unit and two ten-unit apartment complexes, and a cultural sculpture garden and plaza.

Judi has three really wonderful children—two sons, both following in her footsteps and attending UNL, and one daughter who is a senior at Lincoln East. All are avid Husker fans!

SENDD Housing Programs Seek Contractors

The SENDD housing department administers programs year round, including owner-occupied rehabilitation and homebuyer downpayment assistance with rehabilitation. In order to keep up with the growing demand for affordable housing and for maintaining and improving these older homes throughout Southeast Nebraska, SENDD needs to have approved, quality contractors to complete repairs. As contractors retire, the number of contractors we have available has decreased and we would like to add contractors located throughout our SENDD service area to our program. Please help us recruit contractors by giving them our website - <http://sendd.org/affordable-housing/contractors/> or email addresses: jwarrelmann@sendd.org or mchampion@sendd.org. They can also call Judi Meyer to request a contractor application packet.



Rural Futures Conference

2021 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, NE. Complete conference details, including a full agenda, registration information,



speaker biographies, poster session guidelines and more, are available at <http://rfc.nebraska.edu>.



Microloans Now Available

Southeast Nebraska Development, Inc. (SEND, Inc.) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation that is staffed and administered by SENDD. SEND, Inc. was recently awarded loan funding from the USDA -RD Rural Microentrepreneurship Assistance Program (RMAP). This funding has created a revolving loan fund pool that is now available to new and existing small businesses.

Loans are specifically targeted toward small micro-businesses (less than 10 employees) that need loan capital for working capital, equipment, inventory, furniture/fixtures, and real estate acquisition. The total maximum loan amount to any individual borrower is \$50,000. The loans will be for terms of 10 years or less, at reasonable fixed interest rates. Please contact Craig Eberle for information at ceberle@sendd.org or 402-736-4417.

"SEND, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer"

LEP Requirements

The Limited English Proficiency (LEP) is a new requirement established by NDED as part of every grant award contract. What is LEP? Persons who, as a result of national origin, do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to speak, read, write, or understand may have Limited English Proficiency. Such persons may be entitled to language assistance with respect to a particular service, benefit, or encounter.

The regulation includes creation of a Language Assistance Plan. SENDD staff is available to create this plan for no additional fee on behalf of grant awardees who have a grant administration contract with SENDD. More information about this new regulation is available at: www.neded.org/files/crd/training/2015/LEP_Training_PowerPoint.pdf.