

MASSACHUSETTS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

# Mass Workforce Issuance

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**100 DCS 25.148**

☐ Policy

☒ Information

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**To:** Chief Elected Officials  
Workforce Development Board Chairs  
Workforce Development Board Directors  
Title I Administrators  
Career Center Directors  
Title I Fiscal Officers  
DCS Operations Managers

**cc:** WIOA State Partners

**From:** Alice Sweeney, Director  
Department of Career Services

**Date:** June 13, 2017

**Subject:** **Community Economic Development Projects – Funding Opportunity**

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**Purpose:** To notify Local Workforce Development Boards, One-Stop Career Center Operators and other local workforce development partners of Funding Opportunity HHS-2017-ACF-OCS-EE-1213 through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS) as announced on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) June 12, 2017.

**Background:** The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS) will award approximately \$17.2 million in Community Economic Development (CED) discretionary grant funds to Community Development Corporations (CDC) for well-planned, financially viable, and innovative projects to enhance job creation and business development for individuals with low income. CED grants will be made as part of a broader strategy to address objectives such as decreasing dependency on federal programs, chronic unemployment, and community deterioration in urban and rural areas. CED projects are expected to actively recruit individuals with low income to fill the positions created by CED-funded development activities, to assist those individuals to successfully hold those jobs and to ensure that the businesses and jobs created remain viable for at least one year after the end of the grant period. CED-funded projects can be non-construction or construction projects; however,

short-term construction jobs associated with preparing for business startup or expansion are not counted when determining the number of jobs created under the CED program as they are designed to be temporary in nature. OCS is encouraging applications from CDCs to target rural areas and underserved areas in states without current projects. Furthermore, OCS is encouraging projects that align with the Promise Zones Initiative or Choice Neighborhoods Program.

<b>Funding Opportunity Number:</b>	HHS-2017-ACF-OCS-EE-1213
<b>Closing date:</b>	July 24, 2017
<b>Estimated Total Funding:</b>	\$17,200,000
<b>Award Ceiling:</b>	\$800,000
<b>Expected Number of Awards:</b>	22
<b>Eligible Applicants:</b>	Applicants <b>must</b> meet three conditions: <b>1.</b> Must be a private, nonprofit CDC with 501(c)(3) status, <b>2.</b> Must have articles of incorporation or bylaws demonstrating that the CDC has as a principal purpose the planning, developing, or managing of low-income housing or community economic development activities, and <b>3.</b> Board of Directors must have representation from community residents, business leaders, and civic leaders.

**Action**

**Requested:** Please share with managers, staff and partners as appropriate.