



OACAA Benefits

Did You Know Your OACAA Membership Includes Membership in the Ohio CDC Association?



As a member of the Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies, you receive complimentary membership in the Ohio CDC Association. The Ohio CDC Association is a statewide membership organization of Community Development Corporations (CDC) that engages in capacity-building, advocacy and public policy development that fosters socially and economically healthy communities.

Community Development Corporations are typically neighborhood-based non-profit corporations, with a board composed of at least one-third community residents, that promote the improvement of the physical and social infrastructures in neighborhoods with populations significantly below the area median income. As such, CAAs are also CDCs. “OCDCA appreciates the reciprocal membership partnership with OACAA and their member agencies,” said Nate Coffman, executive director of OCDCA. “As the nature of our movement evolves one sees growing commonalities between traditional community action and community development. OCDCA offers a variety of programs and services to build capacity and compliment community action.”

Some of the programs that the Ohio CDC Association offers include:

- **Assets Ohio:** Assets Ohio provides funding for Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), which provide an incentive to low-income families to save money by providing a match for dollars saved.
- **BAFF:** Building Assets for Fathers and Families in Ohio (BAFF OHIO) is a partnership between the Ohio CDC Association and its members, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, county child support enforcement agencies, and the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood. The program encourages non-custodial fathers in the child support enforcement system to enroll in and complete a series of financial education sessions, with the goal of strengthening the father’s ability to pay his child support, provide for his children, and take an active role in fatherhood.
- **Microenterprise Business Development Program:** The Microenterprise Business Development program provides funding to further develop a local environment that encourages microenterprise, and to provide low- to moderate-income persons with access to capital for business development and self-employment.
- **AmeriCorps VISTA Project:** The Ohio CDC Association VISTA project places AmeriCorps VISTA members in communities throughout Ohio to create a community development environment that comprehensively improves the life opportunities for Ohio residents.

The Ohio CDC Association is also a qualified provider of technical assistance services through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s One CPD program where they provide technical assistance to HUD’s Community Planning and Development grantees. OCDCA also advocates on behalf of CDCs and their communities to create public policy and a regulatory environment that will assist CDCs to be successful in their mission of revitalizing and strengthening communities. They focus particularly on housing, community economic development and microenterprise. Currently, OCDCA is partnering

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with other organizations to introduce legislation that would provide tax credits to for-profit corporations that invest in place-based catalytic neighborhood projects with non-profit organizations across Ohio.

Be sure to take advantage of these wonderful benefits from the Ohio CDC Association that your OACAA membership gives you! For more information, visit the OCDCA website at www.ohiocdc.org or contact them at 614-461-1011.