

For Immediate Release
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State Approves Funding for Community Development and Housing Projects

COLUMBUS – Today, the State Controlling Board approved funding for the Housing Assistance Grant Program, the Housing Stability Program, and the Ohio Community Development Finance Fund. The funds are administered by the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Community Development.

"Safe, stable, and affordable housing are critical components for thriving families and communities," said Christiane Schmenk, Director of the Ohio Department of Development. "Through these programs, we can create strong communities that will enable economic development in Ohio."

The **Housing Assistance Grant Program** received \$5 million of Ohio Housing Trust Fund dollars to support 23 nonprofit organizations, eight located in the HOME Investment Partnerships Program participating jurisdictions or urban areas and 15 located in rural areas. The eligible nonprofit organizations may apply for funds to assist with emergency home repair or handicapped accessibility modifications for low-income households or individuals. Organizations also may use the funds to provide down payment assistance or homebuyer counseling to low-income households or individuals.

The **Housing Stability Program** received \$3.5 million in Ohio Housing Trust Fund dollars to assist with homeless prevention and rapid re-housing for individuals and families who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness. These funds will ensure the continued funding of activities previously supported by the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), which ends this year. The Office of Community Development designed the Housing Stability Program to fund these activities beginning January 1, 2013.

The **Ohio Community Development Finance Fund** received more than \$1.9 million of Ohio Housing Trust Fund dollars to support three core programs: the Linked Deposit Program, the Pre-Development Grant Program, and the Economic Development Grant Program. These three programs support housing and economic development projects that are targeted for low- and moderate-income individuals and households. The programs will benefit more than 600 low- and moderate-income Ohioans, as well as assist with the start-up of 10 businesses.

*The **Office of Community Development**, located within the Ohio Department of Development's Community Services Division, provides financial and technical assistance to units of local government and nonprofit organizations in Ohio for project activities that benefit low- and moderate-income citizens.*

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to accelerate and support the teamwork that is absolutely necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio's future.*

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