

Community Vitality Center

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Program Title: 2011 CVC Mini-grant Demonstration Projects
Submission Date: December 15, 2010

Program Description:

The mission of the Iowa Community Vitality Center (CVC) is to serve as a catalyst for innovative projects and initiatives designed to improve the vitality of Iowa communities. The CVC mission is to facilitate networking among small and medium size rural communities, sponsor policy analyses that lead to potential innovative economic development strategies, engages communities to take a next step, and fosters dialogue among rural and urban interests.

For 2011, CVC has organized committees to evaluate proposals in the following three areas:

1. Strategic Collaboration and Leveraging opportunities.
2. Support for Network Development in Philanthropy Capacity and/or Entrepreneurship
3. Innovation Demonstration and Dissemination Oriented Opportunities

Themes of particular interest in 2011 are (a) Community Energy Efficiency Projects, (b) Regional Collaboration in Local Food System Development, (c) Equity Tools for Entrepreneurs, (d) Philanthropy Capacity to Tap the Transfer of Wealth for Community Endowments, and (e) Development of Microenterprise Network affiliations with the Iowa Foundation for Microenterprise and Community Vitality.

The Community Vitality Center Board has approved several programs that provide matching funds typically up to \$10,000 for community demonstration projects that:

1. Involve implementation of innovative concepts for generating community vitality
2. Help to extend the lessons learned from existing innovative models to other communities.

Eligibility:

Proposals are to develop innovative demonstrations that lead to enhancing the vitality of a nonmetro community, rural area, or region. Projects are typically selected to provide geographic diversity and a wide variety of collaboration and institutional circumstances to enhance dialogue, discovery, analysis, and lessons learned from the proposals submitted. Government units, regional groups, foundations, economic development organizations, extension, and other public or nonprofit entities are eligible to submit proposals.

Submission:

Contact for more information & questions:

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Submit the completed grant proposal form to cvc@iastate.edu by 5PM December 15, 2010. Proposals must be submitted electronically.