



# DONNELLY COLLEGE

EST. 1949

## Help-KC: Housing and Entrepreneurial Support For Low-Income Persons in Kansas City

This grant is a partnership between Donnelly College, Community Housing of Wyandotte County, and the Hispanic Economic Development Corporation.

The grant is comprised of three activities:

- Housing Education: “Pathways to Successful Home Ownership”
- Entrepreneurial Education: FastTrac and Small Business Technical Assistance
- Community Programming: Donnelly College Space Rehabilitation

In the housing education component, Community Housing of Wyandotte County (CHWC) will provide monthly Homebuyer Education/Financial Literacy classes on the Donnelly College campus. 60 participants will be served each year. Additionally, successful completers who establish concrete financial plans and are recommended by CHWC will be provided with Affordability Assistance grants of up to \$2000 toward closing costs.

The entrepreneurial education will be provided by the Hispanic Economic Development Corporation (HEDC). They will offer two FastTrac sessions each year on the Donnelly College campus. FastTrac is a 36-hour business training course, designed by the Kauffman Foundation, for aspiring and existing entrepreneurs who have limited business experience. Over the course of the 12-week program, students complete a feasibility plan for their business concept. They also receive technical assistance one-on-one and in small group workshops. Fifty-nine individuals will participate in workshops each year, and an additional 23 individuals will receive one-on-one technical assistance only. Finally, individuals completing the program, establishing approved business plans, and being recommended by HEDC will be awarded micro-grants of up to \$1700.

The third activity is the rehabilitation of 3024 sq. feet of space on the Donnelly College campus for public community event space. This dilapidated, vacant building formerly housed a childcare facility, and prior to that was the laundry when the College’s main building was a hospital. The newly rehabilitated space will have open event space as well as a small kitchenette and restrooms to support events. In addition to the activities offered through HELP-KC, this space will provide a venue for 25 additional community education programs beginning in Year 3 of the grant.