



HBCU CENTRAL

Building Partnerships To Revitalize America's Neighborhoods

HBCUs Continue to Revitalize Their Communities in Partnership With HUD

This year the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through its Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) is awarding approximately \$10 million to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to help them meet their local communities' development needs more effectively. These HBCU Program awards are the latest chapter in a story of successful partnership between HBCUs and HUD in rebuilding America's neighborhoods that goes back to 1980.

Each year the HBCU Program invites eligible colleges and universities to compete for funds that enable them to assist in revitalization efforts. In fiscal year 2001, new grantees were awarded up to \$300,000, and previously funded grantees were awarded up to \$500,000 each for a period of 2 years (see examples of proposed activities for new grantees in this newsletter). Grantees carry out projects to benefit low- and moderate-income residents, help prevent or eliminate slums

For well over one hundred years, historically black colleges and universities—with deep cultural, spiritual, and intellectual roots in America—have helped millions of young people build successful lives and careers. Their enthusiastic partnerships with local communities brings that same strength to neighborhood revitalization.

—Secretary Mel Martinez

or blight, or meet urgent community development needs in their localities. In pursuing these kinds of projects, grantees provide a range of community services—such as a continuum of care for the homeless, adult basic education, job counseling, social and medical services, and fair housing.

Colleges and universities that meet the HBCU Program's requirements—

Eligible Activities

Each activity proposed for funding must meet at least one of the three CDBG national objectives:

- It must benefit low- or moderate-income persons.
- It must aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight.
- It must meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health and welfare of the community and other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

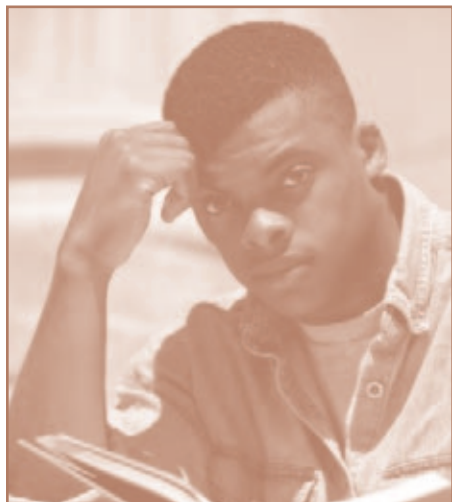
In addition to meeting the national objectives, eligible activities under the HBCU Program are the same as those under the CDBG Program and include, but are not limited to:

- Acquisition of real property.
- Clearance and demolition.
- Homeownership assistance to low- and moderate-income persons.
- Special economic development activities.
- Eligible public service activities.
- Rehabilitation of residential structures to increase housing opportunities and rehabilitation of commercial or industrial buildings to correct code violations.
- Establishment of a community development corporation to undertake eligible activities.

HBCU Central is a free publication prepared by the University Partnerships Clearinghouse, the information service sponsored by HUD's Office of University Partnerships (OUP). *HBCU Central* highlights the contributions of HBCUs to local community efforts. You may contact the University Partnerships Clearinghouse at P.O. Box 6091, Rockville, MD 20849-6091, (800) 245-2691 (phone), (301) 519-5767 (fax). See the Office of University Partnerships on the World Wide Web at <http://www.oup.org>.

BLACK COLLEGES, from page 1

as determined by the U.S. Department of Education in 34 CFR 608.2 under Executive Order 12876—are eligible to apply. All activities proposed for funding under the program must meet both a national objective and eligibility requirements for the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). In June 2001 management of the HBCU program was transferred from the Community Planning and Development Division of HUD to the Office of University Partnerships (OUP), part of the Office of Policy Development and Research. The HBCU Program is now part of the portfolio of university grant programs administered by OUP. Since OUP was established in 1994, it has been a catalyst in helping colleges and universities join with their communities in a shared search for answers to pressing urban problems. OUP administers grant programs designed to contribute to the revitalization of communities in neighborhoods across the country. These programs target low-income persons through colleges and university ties to Hispanic, Native American, Alaskan Native, and Native Hawaiian communities. ♦



HBCU Program Grants Facilitate a Wide Range of Activities

The 22 colleges and universities that received HBCU Program grants this year are pursuing various kinds of community development efforts—from housing to training to service provision. The following descriptions summarize the types of activities grantees are undertaking. Because grantees engage in numerous activities and the categories below are not all inclusive, each grantee is listed under the category that accounts for a significant portion of its efforts.

Housing Rehabilitation

Alabama State University in Montgomery is using its grant of \$499,917 to continue to improve the lives of the residents of the Centennial Hill Historic District. The university is making 64 homes suitable for low- and moderate-income families. The work ranges from minor home repair to major rehabilitation. The school, in partnership with various city departments, is conducting seminars on topics of interest to the community. Seminar topics include crime prevention, drug awareness, recycling and community cleanup, code violations, and business development.

Jackson State University in Mississippi is using its \$500,000 grant to increase homeownership in the neighborhood surrounding the campus, which is known as Washington Addition. The university is buying and rehabilitating six vacant properties, which will be sold to low- and moderate-income families that have successfully completed a homeownership education program. Proceeds from the sales will finance a revolving fund to continue the project after the grant has ended, thus adding to the community's supply of affordable housing while helping eliminate blight and reverse the community's decline.

Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama, is using its \$409,960 grant to provide assistance to the Terry Heights/Hillandale communities. Oakwood College is working with the Huntsville Housing Authority to

rehabilitate 20 substandard owner-occupied homes. The school will also work with Alabama State Employment Services, Huntsville City Schools, and many community-based organizations to expand the range of adult education courses available to residents, create a second adult learning center, provide job training and business development services, and expand an afterschool tutorial program for at least 100 children in grades K–5.

Neighborhood Revitalization

The grant of \$500,000 to the **University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff** enables it to help improve the North Pine Bluff community in which it is located. The university is pursuing activities that will encourage the long-term revitalization of the community—acquiring and developing retail and commercial space, providing technical assistance to community development organizations, tutoring kindergarten and young elementary students in the University Park neighborhood, and making a subgrant to ensure the continued viability of the Family Community Development Corporation.

Economic Development

Barber-Scotia College in Concord, North Carolina, is using its \$402,937 grant to promote community economic development in Carrabus County. The college is establishing an Individual Development Account program for the creation and expansion of microbusiness enterprises and creating a \$1.4 million revolving loan pool. The pool will be used for the acquisition of vacant land and the acquisition and rehabilitation of existing housing to increase the availability of decent, affordable housing. The college also will provide direct homeownership assistance in the form of downpayment assistance as well as housing counseling services. The grant's goal is to help families purchase homes and become economically self-sufficient.

Florida A&M University in Tallahassee is using its \$500,000 grant to expand economic development opportunities for the Bond-Southside and Greater Frenchtown

neighborhoods. The work is being performed by the Big Bend Faith-Based Coalition, of which the university is a member. The coalition is undertaking job training and referral services; homeownership counseling; microenterprise development; and comprehensive social, health, and educational services delivery. The overall goal of the project is to address the economic, social, housing, and educational needs of these communities while advancing the university's education, service, and research missions.

Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina, is using its \$495,998 grant to provide community development services to the 12 neighborhoods in the city's Northwest Corridor. The university is funding an affordable construction and rehabilitation program aimed at households with incomes between 50 and 80 percent of the area's median income; a homeownership training and counseling program to increase homeownership among area residents; a \$2.5 million loan program for working capital, equipment and machinery, renovations and repairs, and property acquisition to stimulate economic growth and job opportunities for local businesses; a strategic plan for the area; and operational support for the Northwest Corridor Community Development Corporation.

Voorhees College in Denmark, South Carolina, is using its \$500,000 grant to continue to address the housing and economic development needs of the city's census tract 9601. The college is rehabilitating an apartment complex, providing job training and microbusiness enterprise assistance, operating a Twenty/20 Education Community Center, and sustaining the Voorhees-Denmark Community Development Corporation.

Capacity Building

Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina, is using its grant of \$500,000 to expand the capacities and activities of the Benedict-Allen Community Development Corporation. The corporation is rehabilitating 2 duplexes into 4 rental housing units for low-income families, providing training in affordable housing construction for 10 youths through HUD's Youth-Build program, creating a microenterprise



loan pool to help construction trainees purchase tools and equipment, and hiring staff to oversee construction activities and provide outreach for a wide range of housing services.

The C.A. Fredd Campus, Shelton Community College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, is using its \$300,000 grant for capacity-building activities. The college is working with the residents of Union, a rural town that has very little community-based infrastructure. In cooperation with Union's mayor and volunteer fire department, Fredd is establishing a community resource center, creating a public service program on home safety, organizing the community to develop a strategic plan, and developing job training programs. The hub for these activities is the Union Fire Station. This is the college's first HBCU grant.

The grant of \$500,000 to **LeMoyne-Owen College** in Memphis, Tennessee, is helping the college's community development corporation become a catalyst for the comprehensive revitalization of the surrounding neighborhood. The corporation is pursuing three activities. First, it is seeking to attract new minority businesses to the area. Second, it is renovating and building new residential and commercial structures. Third, it is working to build its own capacity to address the needs of the community and the city of Memphis.

Bowie State University in Maryland is using its \$500,000 grant to implement a

community enhancement project in several Prince George's County communities: Bladensburg, Bowie, Fairmont Heights, Hyattsville, Laurel, Oxon Hill, Seat Pleasant, and Suitland. The project builds on the already existing assets and strengths of these communities by pursuing four activities. A revolving loan fund for community housing development organizations and community development corporations is being increased to make possible the renovation of substandard properties for affordable housing. The Glenarden Health Center is being expanded to provide clinical services for women and preschool-aged children who reside in the Glenarden Apartment Complex. Small business assistance centers are being established in several county libraries. The university is cosponsoring community issue forums on housing, health, economic development, and public safety.

Training

Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina is using its \$500,000 grant to address community needs exacerbated since Hurricane Floyd in 1999. It is rehabilitating 15 substandard homes occupied by low-income households, of which one-third are without plumbing and indoor toilet facilities; providing homeownership counseling to prospective low- and moderate-income homebuyers; offering preemployment counseling and job training for 20 low-skilled and disadvantaged workers, including current welfare recipients; renovating a facility

for local youth; and expanding technology training and educational activities at several existing Neighborhood Networks centers.

The \$492,723 grant to **Coahoma Community College** in Clarksdale, Mississippi, is enabling it to create affordable housing opportunities in Coahoma and Quitman counties. The college, in partnership with the two county governments and the cities of Clarksdale and Marks, is rehabilitating five low-income owner-occupied homes. In addition to upgrading existing housing, it is also helping YouthBuild participants gain construction skills and examining the feasibility of creating a community development corporation to continue similar activities.

Saint Philip's College in San Antonio, Texas, is using its grant of \$500,000 to renovate a structure that will house job and technology training programs. The building, the historic Brackenridge School, is owned by Saint Paul's United Methodist Church, the city's oldest African American church. The facility will house one of the Alamo Community College District's Colleges in the Community, an educational outreach effort for undertrained and undereducated adult residents. The college will occupy one-half of the space, and Saint Paul's will use the rest for community programming for local youth, adults, seniors, and the homeless families that are served by a nearby Salvation Army facility.

Texas Southern University in Houston is using its \$500,000 grant to provide skills training to the unskilled and technical assistance for the creation or expansion of microbusiness enterprises. The university is enrolling up to 100 unskilled participants and 100 existing and new business owners in specially designed training programs. It is also helping Neighborhood Networks create and expand its learning centers.

The **University of the Virgin Islands** in Saint Thomas is using its \$300,000 grant to develop workforce training programs and outreach activities to improve the long-term economic self-sufficiency of low- and moderate-income Virgin Islanders. The training is being targeted to two business sectors—hospitality services and information

technology—that are critical to the islands' economic development prospects. About 60 people (half on Saint Thomas and half on Saint Croix) are being recruited and trained using a career-ladder approach, which includes offering a range of components from preemployment to more advanced training, to help participants achieve their full economic potential. This is the university's first HBCU grant.



Services

Harris-Stowe State College in Saint Louis, Missouri, is using its \$481,490 grant to develop a collaborative relationship between the college and the residents and community agencies of the Lucas Heights neighborhood. A comprehensive plan for the community, home repairs through the Grand Rock community development corporation's forgivable loan program, tutorial and other educational services for area youth, and new teen businesses at George Washington Carver House are among the projects being undertaken. The goal of the project is to bring in new resources to the community that will encourage short- and long-term revitalization.

Hinds Community College in Raymond, Mississippi, is using its grant of \$300,000 to rehabilitate a vacant building and turn it into a facility to serve the human services and educational needs of the town of Utica. The renovated building will house daycare for the elderly, a Head Start

center, a Foster Grandparents program, and an incubator for entrepreneurs running small businesses. The project will have a major impact on the community by providing economic empowerment through job training and jobs, neighborhood revitalization, and a renewed infrastructure for local service delivery.

Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, is using its \$500,000 grant to continue its partnership with the surrounding Westside neighborhood of West Tuscaloosa. The partnership is renovating 10 homes; creating job training and business development opportunities by teaming with local firms and schools; establishing two additional community-based learning centers to provide onsite educational programs; and implementing community-based drug counseling, conflict resolution, and job counseling services. The project is part of the college's long-term commitment to help revitalize the Westside community.

Development

Bluefield State College in West Virginia is using its \$300,000 grant to establish a community development corporation. The corporation is rehabilitating a building (currently known as Wade School) to house its offices, creating a redevelopment plan for the neighborhood surrounding the building, helping to establish or expand 10 microbusinesses, and providing technical assistance to 20 community-based organizations. The project's goal is to help alleviate the problems associated with the lack of quality educational opportunities, low literacy skills, and unemployment. The project's total cost is \$600,000; the college's partners are contributing the remaining funds. This is the college's first HBCU grant.

Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, Florida, is using its grant of \$494,975 to improve the city's Fourth Street Corridor. The college's community development corporation is making a visible impact on the corridor by acquiring and redeveloping affordable housing for 10 low- and moderate-income families and by developing several parks to create new open space. In addition, the corporation is further empowering its staff through training and capacity building. ♦

Historically Black Colleges and Universities Funded by HUD, Fiscal Years 1991–2001

Alabama

Alabama A&M University
Alabama State University
Bishop State Community College
C.A. Fredd Campus, Shelton State
Community College
Gadsden State Community College
J.F. Drake State Technical College
Lawson State Community College
Miles College
Oakwood College
Stillman College
Talladega College
Tuskegee University

Arkansas

Arkansas Baptist College
Philander Smith College
Shorter College
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

District of Columbia

Howard University
University of the District of Columbia

Florida

Bethune-Cookman College
Edward Waters College
Florida A&M University

Georgia

Albany State University
Clark Atlanta University
Fort Valley State University
Interdenominational Theological Center
Morehouse College
Morris Brown College
Savannah State University
Spelman College

Kentucky

Kentucky State University

Louisiana

Dillard University
Grambling State University

Southern University and A&M College,
Baton Rouge
Southern University at New Orleans
Xavier University of Louisiana

Maryland

Bowie State University
Coppin State College
Morgan State University

Mississippi

Alcorn State University
Coahoma Community College
Hinds Community College
Jackson State University
Mississippi Valley State University
Rust College
Tougaloo College

Missouri

Harris-Stowe State College
Lincoln University of Missouri

North Carolina

Barber-Scotia College
Bennett College
Elizabeth City State University
Fayetteville State University
Johnson C. Smith University
North Carolina A&T State University
North Carolina Central University
Shaw University
St. Augustine's College
Winston-Salem State University

Ohio

Central State University

Oklahoma

Langston University

Pennsylvania

Lincoln University



South Carolina

Allen University
Benedict College
Claflin College
South Carolina State University
Voorhees College

Tennessee

Fisk University
Lemoyne-Owen College
Meharry Medical College
Tennessee State University

Texas

Huston-Tillotson College
Paul Quinn College
Prairie View A&M University
Saint Philip's College
Texas Southern University
Texas College
Wiley College

U.S. Virgin Islands

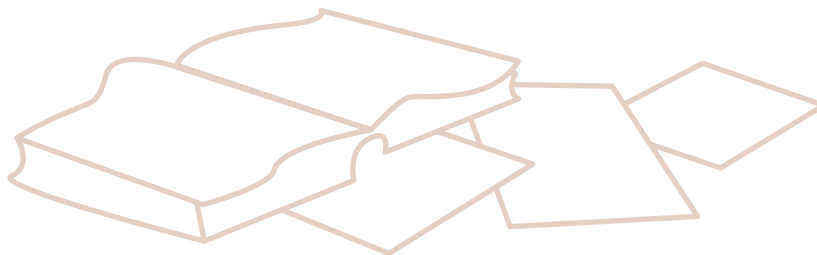
University of the Virgin Islands

Virginia

Hampton University
Norfolk State University
Saint Paul's College
Virginia State University
Virginia Union University

West Virginia

Bluefield State College
West Virginia State University



ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES, from page 1

- Direct homeownership assistance to low- and moderate-income persons.
- Public facilities improvements.
- Facilitation of the establishment or expansion of microenterprises. ♦

Contact Information

For more information and complete program requirements, contact:

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