



## Membership Benefits

MACDC offers a number of opportunities and benefits through our public policy advocacy, member initiatives and services, capacity building and initiatives.

### Public Policy Advocacy

MACDC members shape and direct our public policy efforts through participation in MACDC's Board of Directors, committees, membership meetings, and working with MACDC staff. Members receive regular email updates and action alerts, have opportunities to participate in meetings with key public officials and can participate in the annual MACDC Legislative Action day (March 27, 2008) at the State House. ***Some of our recent accomplishments include:***

- We helped to pass major anti-foreclosure legislation that provides new protections for homeowners, new regulations for lenders and new resources for community based groups.
- We secured \$2.75 million in new funding for community based small business development programs over the past two years.
- We helped win a 100% increase in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in FY 2008, with \$40 million available for affordable housing developments.
- We secured \$3 million in capacity building grants for non profits from MHP over the past three years and we expect to secure at least that much for the next three years.
- MACDC partnered with CHAPA to publish a major new study on successful revitalization strategies for smaller cities. The report is providing the basis for new advocacy efforts focused on strengthening our state's cities.

### Member Initiatives & Services

MACDC core values include building community power and economic justice, challenging racism, and encouraging entrepreneurship. Our member initiatives, which are grounded in these values, include peer groups, networking events, trainings and special programs. These capacity building efforts provide a networking and learning environment which responds to the various needs of community development organizations. Some of our current member initiatives include:

***The Alliance: Advancing Community Development by Confronting Racism:*** The Alliance is a coalition of over 30 organizations from the community development field working to increase the diversity of our organizations. The coalition serves as a forum for learning and dialogue on how to overcome institutional racism; hosts the Community Development Mentoring Program and recently completed a manual for the Recruitment, Hiring and Retention of professionals of color in community development.

***Group Sponsored Insurance Program:*** MACDC offers a full range of insurance products to our members allowing us to use our aggregate buying power to obtain lower rates and better service.

## Additional Benefits

### Linkages to State and National Coalitions:

- National Association of Community Economic Development Associations (NACEDA)
- National Community Reinvestment Corporation (NCRC),
- The Massachusetts Workforce Alliance,
- The Smart Growth Alliance,
- The Building Blocks Coalition,
- The Asset Development Coalition,
- Massachusetts Non Profit Network,

**Networking:** Through MACDC's member initiatives and events, members meet their peers at other organizations and identify opportunities for peer learning, and collaboration.

**Conferences, Trainings and Events:** As our members identify needs we work to develop trainings and gatherings specially geared to your needs. MACDC has hosted trainings on legislative advocacy, housing, economic development, community organizing, small cities revitalization and sustainable development.

**Technical Assistance:** MACDC staff is available to provide direct technical assistance to CDCs in a number of areas, including affordable housing development, the Community Reinvestment Act, economic development, fundraising, organizational management, executive director transitions, and crisis management. We can also link you to other professionals who can provide more intensive assistance.

**Publications:** receive copies of all our publications such as the GOALs Initiative reports, the Journal of Community Power Building, and policy papers.

**Promoting your Organization:** MACDC promotes the individual accomplishments of members in our publications, by informing the media, and sharing success stories with local and national government leaders.

**Green CDC Initiative:** MACDC collaborates with the New Ecology Inc, the Tellus Institute, LISC, and BCC to offer training, and technical assistance for CDCs pursuing environmentally sound development projects.

**Western Mass Community Development Collaborative (WMCDC):** is a cooperative effort of 10 CDCs representing 105 communities in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden County. The Collaborative aims to build the organizational, political and financial infrastructure necessary to allow long-term, sustainable, broad-based, equitable community development in the region.

**Community Economic Development Training Institute:** MACDC is partnering with LISC and others to develop a new Training Institute that would provide access to high quality training at a substantial discount to MACDC members. We hope to launch the program formally in the fall of 2008, although we have already started to offer some training on a limited basis, including the nationally recognized real estate training offered by National Development Council.

**Practitioner Groups:** MACDC operates practitioner groups where members can come together in person:

**Housing and Real Estate Group** is for real estate professionals.

**Organizers Network** is for community organizers.

**Small Business Development Group** is for practitioners that provide services to small businesses.

**Small Cities Group** is for members serving smaller cities.

**Youth Peer Group** is for staffers that work with young people.

**Private Sector Linkages:** Our members participate in MACDC's efforts to build linkages with banks, insurance companies, universities, foundations, financial intermediaries and other private sector partners. These efforts not only allow members to shape the environment in which they work, but also helps them learn about resources that may be available to their organizations, and to establish relationships with new allies. MACDC and CDC representatives serve on boards for LISC, CDFC, CEDAC, MHIC, BCC, Mass. Non Profit Network, Boston Foundation Housing Advisory Committee, Massachusetts Asset Development Commission, the Massachusetts Small Business Development Advisory Council and other organizations.

[www.MACDC.Org](http://www.MACDC.Org)

Post jobs and highlight your accomplishments on our web site.

Please send postings to [webpostings@macdc.org](mailto:webpostings@macdc.org)