

## Lift Campaign Gains Victories and Momentum

Ten months into the LIFT Campaign and we already have had a number of victories: \$40 million from MassHousing put into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund; the release of state subsidy dollars for expiring use, \$750,000 in the state budget for the small business technical assistance program, and a new state-sponsored Foreclosure Rescue Loan Fund. Of course, there is still a great deal of work ahead and we hope to make further progress this summer, especially on the expiring use legislation and the foreclosure prevention legislation.

At the same time, the LIFT Campaign has been a terrific vehicle for mobilizing and engaging our members in advocacy:

- 33 member groups brought 250 people to the State House for Lobby Day;
- 9 members have held local meetings with their legislators;
- 16 members actively mobilized local businesses to support the Small Business Technical Assistance Program; and
- A total of 78 legislators have heard directly from CDCs about LIFT Campaign priorities either in the State House or in their district.

The following activities have helped us advance the LIFT campaign:

- Lawrence Community Works, Oak Hill CDC, Pittsfield Economic Revitalization Corp. and WATCH all held meetings with their legislators in their districts.
- Watertown Community Housing staff went to the State House and met with their legislators.
- Southwest Boston CDC organized two rallies on Expiring Use at the Florence Apartments in Roslindale.
- CEDC-SM invited MACDC to present the LIFT campaign to a local labor coalition.
- Twin Cities CDC and Greater Gardner CDC presented LIFT campaign issues at a local CRA coalition meeting for endorsement.
- Worcester Common Ground, Main South CDC and Worcester East Side presented LIFT campaign issues at the Central Mass. Housing Alliance Legislative Lunch.

## MACDC Announces Billion Dollar Initiative

MACDC and its members announced earlier this month that we will work together to attract \$1 billion of investment over the next four years to build homes, create jobs, grow local businesses, and serve low and moderate income families in communities across the state. To achieve this ambitious goal, MACDC and its members will work together to secure the public policies and private sector investments necessary and to support one another through peer learning, collaboration and sharing of best practices. thoughtfulness

The Initiative, called the Growing Opportunities, Assets and Leaders (GOALs) Initiative, establishes the following six goals for 2007 – 2010 (for full report [click here](#)):

- Engage **2,000** community resident leaders each year to lead our efforts.
- Build or preserve **6,000** affordable homes.
- Create or preserve **9,000** job opportunities.
- Help **5,000** locally-owned businesses start, grow or stabilize their businesses.
- Provide economic and educational opportunities to **100,000** families; and
- Attract **\$1 billion** in private and public investment to revitalize our communities.

MACDC will survey its members each year to collect the data to determine progress toward these results.

“The MACDC GOALs Initiative represents a major commitment by our members to increase the scale and impact of their efforts so that we can meaningfully transform the lives of individual families and entire communities,” said Joseph Kriesberg, President of MACDC. “To achieve these goals we will have to work smarter and more efficiently and the public and private sectors will have to come to the table with new resources and a commitment to partnership.”

“We are thrilled that Massachusetts CDCs have set such an ambitious set of goals for themselves and we stand ready to partner with them to help them achieve these results,” said Dan O’Connell, Secretary of Housing and Economic Development in the Patrick Administration. “We have already implemented several new policies that should help CDCs achieve their goals, including the provision of \$40 million in new, additional funding for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.”

“Individually, CDCs are critical agents of change in local communities across the state,” said Jeffery Hayward, senior vice president for community impact at United Way of

Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley. "We are tremendously excited about harnessing that local energy and commitment and focusing it on a coordinated effort among CDC's across the state. These goals are ambitious, but achievable when one sees the incredible work that CDC's have done over the past 20 to 30 years," Hayward said.

MACDC launched the first GOALS Initiative in November 2002 and over the past four years, MACDC members have achieved the following:

- Engaged over 1,700 volunteer community leaders in CDC activities each year;
- Built or preserved 5,186 homes;
- Created or preserved 7,966 job opportunities;
- Provided technical and financial support to 3,925 locally-owned businesses;
- Supported 58,654 families with housing, jobs, training, or other services; and
- Attracted \$828 million in private and public investments in our communities.

To see some press coverage of the announcement, click here for the [Boston Herald article on GOALS](#), and here for [Boston Globe article](#).

## MACDC to celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on November 16

Twenty-five years ago there were less than 20 CDCs in Massachusetts, mostly in the Greater Boston area. Yet the leaders of those organizations had the vision and foresight to imagine a day when CDCs would be in place across the state and they founded MACDC to give the field a voice in state government. On November 16, 2007 we will celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Leadership Breakfast at the new ICA Museum. The event will provide an opportunity to recognize our many achievements over the past 25 years and to highlight where we are headed in the future.

We will also use the occasion to recognize two distinguished leaders who have helped MACDC and its members in numerous ways over the years.

**Ken Wade**, President and CEO of Neighborworks America, ([click here for his bio](#)) will receive our Excellence in Community Development award which goes annually to an outstanding leader in the public sector. Ken, who was a fixture in community development here in Boston for much of the 1980s and 1990s, is now leading the transformation of Neighborworks America, a Congressionally chartered national organization that supports community economic development across the country.

**Margaret Harrison**, Vice President and Community Investment Officer for the Bank of New York Mellon, is this year's winner of the Jeffrey Graham Award which goes annually to a person from the private sector who has served the community economic development field with distinction. Margaret has helped to support numerous CDCs and been a leader in the Massachusetts Community Banking Council.

We hope you will plan to celebrate with us on November 16 and honor these two fine leaders. We will be sending out sponsorship information and ticket information in a few weeks.

## **MACDC Members and Friends Filling Top Posts in Patrick Administration**

A growing number of MACDC members and friends are finding themselves in top positions within Governor Deval Patrick's Administration. These appointments reflect on the growing importance of our field and provide a tremendous opportunity to advance a positive community economic development agenda in Massachusetts. Some of the key appointments:

**Maureen Flynn**, former Deputy Director at MACDC, is now Special Counsel to Dan O'Connell, Secretary of the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development. Maureen is playing a critical role in shaping and advancing housing and economic development policy for the administration.

**Ron Marlow**, the Vice President and COO at Dorchester Bay (and once the Vice President of MACDC) has been appointed Director of the Governor's Development Cabinet that is responsible for coordinating several cabinet secretariats to ensure an effective economic and development policy. Ron meets regularly with the Governor and Cabinet members to shape policy for the state.

**Gail Latimore**, executive director of the Codman Square NDC, has taken a six month leave of absence to be the Director of the state's Homeless Commission, which is charged with developing a strategy for addressing the homelessness crisis in Massachusetts.

**Corinn Williams**, executive director of the CEDC-SM in New Bedford, has been appointed to the new Commonwealth Workforce Development Accountability Task Force created in last year's economic stimulus bill. The bill requires an MACDC representative and Corinn will fill that role, ensuring that we are at the table as the Administration develops its workforce development strategy. Best of all, this appointment does not require Corinn to leave her job at the CDC!

**Tina Brooks**, the former Program Director of the Boston office for the Local Initiatives Support Corporation is now the Undersecretary for Housing and Community Development and is responsible leading state housing policy and managing DHCD.

**Kristina Egan**, former Executive Director of the Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance (of which MACDC is a member) is now the Project Director at the Exec. Office of Transportation responsible for developing the new commuter rail line to Fall River/New Bedford.

MACDC wishes to extend our congratulations to all of our colleagues and we look forward to working together in their new capacities.