



## Lincoln Park Neighborhood Development Center Model Implementation

In 2014, Allegany Franciscan Ministries launched the Common Good Initiative – a community-driven approach to create healthier communities. The initiative works with residents and stakeholders in three Florida communities – Wimauma, Overtown and Lincoln Park to build healthier, safer, and more connected places where everyone thrives.

Following a year-long planning process, that included “listening, learning and leading” to gain a greater understanding of the community’s needs, interests and appetite to engage in change; the Lincoln Park Council for the Common Good established the following priorities and strategies.

The need for Quality Jobs and Livable Wages was identified as a priority for Lincoln Park. As a result, the Lincoln Park Council for the Common Good is seeking a lead community partner to adopt and adapt the Neighborhood Development Center model of economic development.

**Priority 1: Quality Jobs and Livable Wages: All Lincoln Park residents will have access to quality jobs that earn them livable wages.**

### Strategies:

- Strengthen and leverage existing job training resources to align with potential workforce opportunities for Lincoln Park residents.
- Promote small business creation in Lincoln Park community.

**Priority 2: Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods: Lincoln Park residents will live in a safe and healthy community.**

### Strategies:

- Facilitate opportunities for neighborhood clean ups.
- Create wellness opportunities for Lincoln Park residents.
- Endorse positive images in the Lincoln Park community.

**Priority 3: Building Community Infrastructure and Capacity: Organizations and individuals in Lincoln Park will have the connections and capacity to achieve their missions and sustain the progress of the Common Good Initiative.**

### Strategies:

- Build capacity of a subset of nonprofit organizations
- Inspire and “train” community change agents (individual leaders).

## LEAD PARTNER:

The need for *Quality Jobs and Livable wages* was identified as a priority for Lincoln Park. As a result, the Lincoln Park Council is seeking a lead community partner to adopt and adapt the Neighborhood Development Center model of economic development. <http://www.ndc-mn.org/what-we-do/our-model/>

The lead partner will help to implement and lead the Neighborhood Development Center (NDC) model in Lincoln Park. This will be a community-wide strategy to promote small business creation in and for Lincoln Park residents. Additionally, this economic development strategy will address barriers to employment for residents and improve the economic vitality of Lincoln Park.

The first year's planning and implementation budget will range between \$65,000-100,000. Upon successful plan and partnership development, additional funds are expected to be awarded to support full implementation and expansion of the NDC model in Lincoln Park.

## EXPECTATIONS FOR LEAD PARTNER:

Though the relationship between the Lincoln Park Council and the Lead Partner will be symbiotic and flexible, the Lincoln Park Council has identified some key expectations and responsibilities for the lead partner. Potential partners will:

- Be a community-focused organization (nonprofit or for-profit) with a mission that fosters a culture of entrepreneurship, and a proven commitment to support and build the assets of low-income people of color.
- Have current organizational competency in small business development, community development and/or finance.
- Have current ties and experience working in the Lincoln Park community, or in St. Lucie County communities similar to Lincoln Park.
- Demonstrate visionary leadership while also producing measurable results.
- Have an organizational structure of diversity and inclusion within their boards, advisory groups, executive team and staff.
- Focus on root causes of long-term economic depression and social inequity in low-income neighborhoods.
- Incorporate strategies that address the racial wealth divide experienced by local communities of color.
- Be willing and able to leverage existing resources (within their organization and the community), while also being open to new partnerships, ideas and approaches.

- Establish relationships that lead to formal partnership agreements with key leaders and stakeholders within St. Lucie County and beyond to achieve the goals of this initiative.
- Have experience convening, facilitating and managing collaborative projects.
- Provide reports and updates to the Lincoln Park Council for the Common Good.
- Conduct a detailed review of existing services available to Lincoln Park residents that address the above strategies.
- Have a commitment and ability to raise funds for this approach.
- Willing and able to make a serious commitment to working with NDC on piloting the NDC approach for two to three years – in its entirety, not a la carte.
- Able and willing to focus the NDC approach in Lincoln Park (Northwest Fort Pierce) community predominately populated by low-income people of color and recent immigrants.

#### POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES AND ACTIONS FOR THE LEAD PARTNER:

The following activities are intended to *promote the small business* strategy, and are considered key for the successful implementation of this initiative. The lead partner will be able to negotiate their role and responsibilities related to the following activities.

- Identify and/or design a coordinated network of diverse services and resources to support low-income entrepreneurs. Services should include, but are not limited to: Entrepreneur Trainings; Access to Capital (including traditional and non-traditional loan products); Small Business Consulting and Coaching; and Business Incubator Space.
- Establish collaborative agreements with local, state and national programs to allow for diverse programming options for entrepreneurs.
- Match entrepreneurs to appropriate services and resources based on a thorough needs assessment – avoid one size fits all programming.

NOTE: Lead Partner may add similar organizations under their leadership to implement this approach.

## KEY DATES

	Timeline	Notes
ANNOUNCEMENT	January 22, 2021	Release announcements to community via partners, Facebook and website.
Notification of decision; decline or invitation to present to Lincoln Park Council for Common Good	March 19, 2021	E-mail notification, followed by a letter.
Council Presentation (VIRTUAL)	April 1, 2021	Applicants will have 45 minutes to present their idea, and answer Council questions.
Decisions Announced	April 9, 2021	
Contract Negotiations	May 2021	Allegany will work with partner (s) regarding budgets and outcomes.
Funding Period Begins	July 2021	

### Organization Background

Allegany Franciscan Ministries is a non-profit Catholic organization whose mission is to serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming, healing presence within our communities. Allegany is guided by this mission and rooted in the tradition and vision of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, New York. Allegany provides funding and works with community partners in three regions of Florida: Miami-Dade County, Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie Counties, and the Tampa Bay area. Over the last twenty-two years, Allegany has invested more than \$100 million to nearly 1500 organizations serving these communities.

### Letter of Application Requirements (5 page maximum, 12 Font, 1 inch Margins)

The Letter of Application must be submitted electronically to [lincolnparkcgc@gmail.com](mailto:lincolnparkcgc@gmail.com) by 12 pm (noon) EST, February 25, 2021. Microsoft Word or PDF file submissions only will be accepted.

1. Applicant Information
  - a. Who is submitting?
  - b. If it is a collaborative, who is the lead?
  - c. Physical address
  - d. E-mail address
  - e. Contact phone number
  - f. What is your connection to Lincoln Park? (i.e., resident, business in community, vested interest or passion for; please describe)
  
2. How do you currently serve and promote low-income black and/or minority owned businesses and entrepreneurs in Lincoln Park? Does your organizational structure represent this diversity?
  - a. What are the primary barriers you assess that low-income entrepreneurs face in building and growing successful enterprises?
  - b. How does your organization specifically address those barriers?
  - c. What more can be done to address these barriers locally?

- d. How do your organization's leadership, staff and volunteers represent diversity and inclusion?
- 3. Is your organization trusted and/or an influencer in Lincoln Park? Open to collaboration?
  - a. What is your connection to the local community, including the residents of Lincoln Park?
  - b. How do you, or would you identify new entrepreneurs in Lincoln Park?
  - c. How do you currently interact with local organizations addressing economic development strategies in St. Lucie County?
- 4. What is your current commitment and connection to Lincoln Park? What measureable successes have you had locally?
  - a. What connection do you have with current businesses operating in Lincoln Park? What role, if any, have you played in their success?
  - b. What is your organization's greatest success story?
- 5. Agency's openness to working with a consultant group to modify your current approach.
  - a. Have you reviewed the NDC Model? What are your reactions to this model? Are there components that are missing in our local resources and approaches?
  - b. If you were to implement a model like NDC's what, if any, other partnerships would you need to identify?
- 6. What is your organizational budget? Describe your revenue sources and key financial indicators.

Questions? Please contact Upendo Shabazz at (561) 310-2649