



Funding Opportunity Alert – September 16, 2021

Governor announces \$20 Million Downtown Housing Grant

IEDA accepting applications

Last week, Governor Reynolds announced a \$20 million investment in a new housing program to stimulate downtown housing opportunities. The Iowa Economic Development Authority has released the application materials and opened the application portal. The following is a brief summary of the program.

Program Summary:

The Downtown Housing Grant provides financial assistance for projects that support local downtown revitalization through new and renovated housing opportunities in communities under 30,000. This funding will invest in projects that include:

- Building rehabilitation projects that increase local upper floor housing options,
- Projects that incorporate quality design and preservation-based strategies,
- Projects that support local revitalization efforts and stimulate additional district investment.

Program Details:

Projects creating or improving under 10 housing units are eligible for \$100,000 to \$300,000. Projects creating 10-plus units are eligible for \$100,000 to \$600,000.

- Project must be located within the vicinity of the downtown area.
- The participating City must be the applicant in partnership with the local project owner.
- No more than one (1) Downtown Housing Grant applications will be accepted per incorporated city.
- Grant requires a 25% local match.
- 24-month grant period
- The focus of the project must be the creation of new housing – which can be renter or owner-occ.
- Project can include one building per community or two buildings with same ownership that are adjacent.
- Vacant school buildings or other large, underutilized facilities within the vicinity of the downtown area. – The IEDA has strong interest in this kind of property.
- The program does not require environmental review, prevailing wages, or income/rent limits!

Project expenses can include:

- Upper floor rehabilitation for housing
- Structural stabilization of historic downtown buildings
- Exterior building improvements relating to housing project
- Code and accessibility improvements
- Exterior building amenities that directly complement the housing project (e.g. rooftop, patios, tenant parking, etc.)
- Residential units will be subject to amenity requirements including laundry

Questions/to apply:

Contact SICOG for - Jeremy Rounds, rounds@sicog.com, or Caleb Whitehouse whitehouse@sicog.com or call 641-782-8491.

Applications due November 10, 2021 – contact SICOG right away, as soon as a possible project is identified.

From: Mary Sue Hibbs <marysuehibbs@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2021 9:59 AM
To: City Hall
Subject: Fwd: Community Catalyst Building Remediation

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: SICOG <hagen@sicog.com>
Date: September 24, 2021 at 8:59:58 AM CDT
To: Marysuehibbs@yahoo.com
Subject: Community Catalyst Building Remediation
Reply-To: SICOG <hagen@sicog.com>



Economic Development Update

The Iowa Economic Development Authority will provide grants through the Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program to communities for the redevelopment, rehabilitation or deconstruction of buildings to stimulate economic growth or reinvestment in the community. Strong applications will show the potential of catalytic economic growth in the community; improve appearances and safety; make use of underutilized property, exhibit appropriate design standards; and be well-funded. Economic growth may include the creation of additional jobs, growth of new or existing businesses, development of new housing units, increase property values or potential population growth. A mandatory pre-application process will precede the official grant application. A city, the eligible applicant, must apply and provide financial and/or in-kind resources. A portion of funds will be awarded to cities with populations under 1,500. Funds will be available for the rehabilitation of one commercial building per community or two adjacent buildings with the same ownership, as well as a limited number of planning grants. The Community Catalyst Building Remediation Program will be presented at five regional application workshops. Sessions include deadlines for pre-applications and the actual formal application process. Register today to attend one of the following workshops:

October 5 – Griswold

9 a.m. - noon / City Hall and Community Building — 603 2nd Street

October 6 – Graettinger

12:30 - 3:30 p.m. / Hillcrest Golf and Country Club — 701 South Cedar Avenue

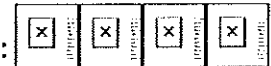
October 7 – Strawberry Point

9 a.m. - noon / Franklin Hotel and Pub — 102 Elkader Street

From: Iowa Economic Development Authority <communications@iowaeda.email>
Sent: Tuesday, October 5, 2021 4:26 PM
To: earlhamcityhall@mchsi.com
Subject: NEWS: Gov. Reynolds announces funds available to support rural communities

If you're having trouble viewing this email, you may [see it online](#).

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iowaeda.com/newsroom

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor Kim Reynolds * Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

For more information, contact

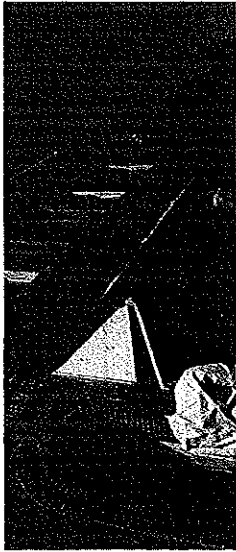
Alex Murphy, 515.802.0986
Alex.Murphy@Governor.Iowa.Gov

Gov. Reynolds announces funds available to support rural communities

October 5, 2021 (*Des Moines*) - Today, Governor Kim Reynolds and the Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) announced four competitive funds available for rural communities with a population under 20,000. Specifically, funding of up to \$500,000 has been allocated to the following funds for current fiscal year (FY) 2022 through FY 2023:

- **Rural Innovation Grant Program** – Provides up to \$200,000 in grants supporting creative, non-traditional ideas that focus on current issues and challenges faced by rural communities associated with the themes of community investment, growth and connection; the
- **Rural Housing Assessment Grant Program** – Provides up to \$100,000 to support the use of publicly available online information through the "Profile of Iowa" tool and rural community efforts to interpret this hard data with supplemental information, as well as to implement through changes to development codes, local ordinances and housing incentives specific to their community needs in partnership with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach; the
- **Rural Child Care Market Study Grant Program** – Provides up to \$100,000 to support the use of data and analysis by rural communities to determine the specific needs and solutions for their area. In partnership with First Children's Finance, funding from the program will empower communities to assess their current child care market environment and develop strategies; and the
- **Rural Return Program** – Provides up to \$100,000 to support creative programming that attracts new residents to move and/or work in rural communities. Grant funding will support the development and implementation of incentive programs.

Earlham Historical Society Project



Technical Assistance

The State Historic Preservation Office offers technical assistance to property owners, local governments, nonprofit organizations, communities, federal and state agencies, and American Indian Tribal governments and organizations.

consultant)

Consultants will be available to you for a maximum of 24 hours total. This amount of time may be divided among (but is not limited to) on-site visits, research, writing, phone calls and grant review.

If you have additional questions please contact us.

Note: Historical Resource Development Program does not guarantee Field Services consultant work. In addition, the use of a Field Services consultant does not ensure future receipt of a Historical Resource Development Program grant.

Apply to Become a Consultant

If you are interested in being a Field Services consultant, please review the [required qualifications](#) and [apply online](#).

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Wednesday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Or by appointment. Closed official state holidays.

The Field Services program provides assistance to potential Historical Resource Development Program grant recipients and those who require guidance once the grant has been awarded. Field Services consultants have many years of experience working with museum, historic preservation and documentary collections projects. Through this program, you can have a consultant visit your community or project site to offer you specific advice on your grant project.

Potential grant applicants may request advice about the identification and development of grant projects and application of appropriate professional standards.

Field Services consultants may assist you once they take the following factors into consideration:

- Level of professional expertise concerning your needs and area of requested assistance
- Geographic proximity of the consultant to the client
- Availability of the consultant

Consultants will not write grant applications or provide any professional services to you as your employee. Some consultants may have expertise in writing grant applications, however cannot

Contact us

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Consultants will help you determine the scope of your grant and the proper methods and procedures to use.

Program funds will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis to potential grant applicants as long as funds are available.

How it Works

- [Request a consultant online.](#)
- Your eligibility for a Field Services consultation will be assessed after submission of the form.
- If your project fits within the Historical Resource Development Program requirements, we will contact you to discuss your project and recommend potential Field Services consultants. You may then contact the consultant(s).
- If a Field Services consultant thinks he/she will be of assistance, the consultant will initiate a letter of agreement with you. A copy of the signed agreement should be emailed to the State Historical Society of Iowa at kristen.vandermoelen@iowa.gov. The letter of agreement will state:
 - Nature of consultation
 - Length of consultation
 - Written reports
 - Travel expenses (you will be responsible for covering the costs associated with mileage, meals and lodging for the

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

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The Earlham Historical Society was accepted for this program with the assistance of the Madison Co. Preservation Commission (+ Linda Smith)

Our consultant is from the nearby Madison Co. Museum
Expenses are: meals + mileage
Update from
Earlham Historical Society
% Jackie Leckband Jean + Don Tool