The Ohio CDC Association is a statewide membership organization that fosters vibrant neighborhoods and improves the quality of life in all communities through advocacy and capacity building of our member agencies.
The Ohio CDC Association (OCDCA) exists to build capacity for the membership, and we are proud to serve you. We are pleased to report that in 2017 the association continued to grow in member services, membership, and financial health. We would like to thank the membership for your involvement and volunteerism; our funders for your consistent support; our partners for your collaboration; and the dedicated board of trustees and staff.

In an effort to deliver new resources to the membership, the association created new programs called the Community Empowerment Initiative to start in 2018. The CareSource Foundation provided a generous grant to connect the social determinants of health and community development strategies called Empowering Communities. The Bank of America Foundation funded the Social Enterprise Incubation program. The Fifth Third Bank and US Bank Foundations funded the new microbusiness revolving loan fund to provide capital for low-income entrepreneurs. We greatly appreciate the support of these and all of the stakeholders that have supported us over the years. We’re excited to move these initiatives forward.

To offset decreases to the Ohio Housing Trust Fund, OCDCA worked with several state and regional organizations to create the Home Matters to Ohio campaign to raise awareness and substantially expand the fund. The coalition came very close to passage in the budget while raising awareness and legislative alliances. We’ll be continuing this and other efforts to increase and protect critical community development resources.

We’ll continue to strive to improve our service to the membership – a membership of community developers that continues to inspire and make a difference across our great state. We look forward to engaging with you in 2018.

Stephen Torsell     Nate Coffman
President, Board of Trustees    Executive Director

Ohio CDC Association Funders

OCDCA would like to thank our 2017 sponsors and funders:

Bank of America Foundation  KeyBank
Boenning & Scattergood  LISC Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky
Bowen National Research  LISC Toledo
CareSource Foundation  National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations
Chase Bank  National Equity Fund
Citizen’s Bank  NeighborWorks America
City of Toledo  Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing
Corporation for National and Community Service  Ohio Development Services Agency
DiSalvo Development Advisors  Ohio Housing Finance Agency
Enterprise Community Partners  Ohio Savings Bank, a Division of New York Community Bank
Fifth Third Bank  PNC Bank
Finance Fund  Regionomics
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development  REV Community Car Share
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  Third Federal Savings & Loan
Huntington National Bank  U.S. Bank Foundation
IFF
Kristian Hunter is a second year AmeriCorps VISTA serving at Collinwood & Nottingham Villages Development Corporation in Cleveland. In late 2016, she created the community event “Cooking with Cops.” After much success, in 2017, it transitioned into “Kicking it with Cops.”

Kicking it with Cops is a series of community engagement activities. Officers from the Fifth District, along with community members, share in the experience of playing outdoor activities, cleaning the neighborhood, breaking bread together over a healthy meal, and crafting together. These events foster dialogue and create networks that didn’t exist before.

“As ‘Kicking it with Cops’ became more popular, I made a connection with Cleveland Police Foundation,” Kristian said. “We are currently working together to expand ‘Kicking it with Cops’ as a city wide community engagement initiative. I can say, as a VISTA, I am proud of the work I have done and will continue to do.”

“I’m totally empowered. I have a brand new understanding of creative placemaking. I want to stay connected! Thank you!”

-Member training attendee

In 2017, 319 people attended 11 OCDCA trainings. Every year OCDCA surveys members to find out what trainings they need and want. Participants were trained in areas such as commercial real estate deal making, new models of financing, creative placemaking, tactical urbanism, and rural housing issues.

319 people trained
120 hours of technical assistance
26 Scholarships Awarded

= 2 hours of technical assistance
2017 was a successful year for the Ohio Microbusiness Development Program. Our 13 sub-grantees exceeded their projected outcomes and our two Microbusiness Summits were attended by 44 participants and featured sessions on crowdfunding, credit-building, and measuring success.

Rot Sorn and her husband Mehn Hepu came to the United States in 2004, and initially found factory jobs. After serving as an independent contractor making sushi for Heinen’s Grocery in Hudson, Rot reached out to Asian Services in Action. With the help of a $10,000 loan through ASIA Inc.’s microbusiness program in August 2017, they opened Lyeh Thai Food in Akron’s North Hill neighborhood. The small, no-frills restaurant has several tables and a counter and is growing a loyal following. In addition to the loan, Rot and Mehn have worked extensively with program staff at ASIA to receive wrap around technical assistance.

Microbusiness Program Impact
- 1,074 Households Assisted
- 865 LMI Individuals Served
- 2,173 TA Consultations
- 277 FTE Jobs Created or Retained
- 261 Businesses Started or Expanded

IDA Program
We saw great success for the Assets Ohio Individual Development Account Program in 2017. There were 41 total asset purchases. Of these purchases, 21 of them were first-time homebuyers, another 12 saved to start their own businesses, and the remaining 8 used their IDA to pay for higher education.

Lawrence Williams was a participant in OSU Extension’s IDA program. While attending OSU Extension’s Financial Literacy workshops, Lawrence heard about IDAs and how they benefit residents. His goals included graduating from The Ohio State University and owning his own business. Lawrence received his Bachelor of Arts in Sports Management and African/African-American Studies from the University. Before transferring to OSU, he attended Columbus State Community College, where he received an Associate of Applied Science in Sport and Exercise Science. Lawrence needed $1000 towards his tuition at OSU. In addition, he received help getting and keeping a job while enrolled in school. Ultimately, Lawrence wants to start a business of his own helping other economically disenfranchised students like himself.
The association is involved in a variety of efforts to expand and protect community development resources that help the membership to fulfill their missions. Some examples from 2017 include:

**Ohio Housing Trust Fund (OHTF)**
The OHTF is the state’s primary resource for affordable housing and funds several comprehensive community development programs. OCDCA collaborated with many state and regional organizations to create the Home Matters to Ohio campaign to expand awareness and substantially increase funding in state budget. The measure came close to adoption and was included in the House version of the budget but didn’t make the final. The coalition will build upon the awareness and legislative relationships created to move forward in 2018.

**Payday Lending Reform**
OCDCA worked with a coalition of faith and community leaders to advocate for the bi-partisan House Bill (HB) 123 to reform predatory payday lending practices. The effort is continuing in 2018 as we’re taking a leadership role in moving forward a companion statewide ballot issue to close the exploitative loopholes capturing many Ohioans in debt traps.

**Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA)**
OCDCA and member agencies worked with OHFA to include provisions in the Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to incentivize and reward non-profit partnerships. For example a new developer fee bonus option for engaging in capacity building partnerships was included in the 2018 QAP.

**Federal**
In 2017 the association and the membership advocated to Congress to protect and expand critical community development resources in the federal budget such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME investments Partnership programs. And also engaged in grass roots and DC advocacy to protect important affordable housing and community development resources from becoming victims of tax reform legislation.

The 2017 Annual Conference was held at the Renaissance Toledo Downtown Hotel. A record-breaking 300 practitioners attended, and those surveyed gave the conference a 98% satisfaction rating, while another 87% said that they learned something new at the conference that they planned to implement in their community. Keynote speaker Manuel Pastor impressed many, and workshops featured topics ranging from federal policy to inclusivity in community organizing to cultivating local food culture.
New Initiatives and Finance

Community Empowerment Initiative
OCDCA unveiled the Community Empowerment Initiative (CEI) – a three part initiative that allows OCDCA members to work with their communities for comprehensive development and empowerment. Two programs within this initiative were officially announced at the October annual conference: Empowering Communities and the Social Enterprise Incubation Program, and both are slated to launch in spring 2018. Empowering Communities will focus on testing innovative solutions that combat the social determinants of health. Funding for this is from the CareSource Foundation.

For years, OCDCA has partnered with the Tony Wells Foundation to send members, like Susan Jennings of Arthur Morgan Institute for Community Solutions, to the Executive Leadership Social Impact Investing training. During the training, Susan learned about a linked deposit strategy. Arthur Morgan then purchased a farm at auction by having local players pledge their deposits in a credit union as security for a line of credit. This farm is a new community asset with many possibilities for research and food security, as well as a real asset for community engagement and connectivity.

In summer 2017, OCDCA launched the third component of the CEI, the Microbusiness Development Program Recoverable Grant Fund (RGF). The RGF is a statewide fund, from which OCDCA makes recoverable grants to sub-sites of OCDCA’s Microbusiness Development Grant Program, in order for the sub-site to then make loans to their low-to-moderate income microentrepreneur clients. Loan repayments are paid back to the subsite who repays OCDCA to replenish the grant fund, so that more grants for loans to microentrepreneurs can be made in the future. In the first year, three organizations took out five recoverable grants totaling $25,000 to bolster new or existing small businesses throughout Ohio. Funding for the grant fund came from Fifth Third Bank, with additional support from the US Bank Foundation.

Creative Placemaking Ohio
In 2017, we implemented the “Creative Placemaking Ohio” project which was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts through the National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations. Ohio CDC Association and Ohio Citizens for the Arts, with other partners, conducted two knowledge-building, day-long workshops in spring 2017 on creative placemaking that attracted over 100 participants collectively. These events focused on bringing the two organizations’ shared networks together to “set the table” for conversations and work in creative placemaking. Both days featured primers on creative placemaking; project tours; ample conversation to break down pre-conceived notions on creative placemaking; tangible problem solving to practice what participants learned; and networking with cross-sector peers and subject experts.

Telling the Community Development Story
In 2017, we continued to tell the story of community development corporations in Ohio. In an effort to add quantifiable outcomes to bolster our previously successful storytelling campaign, we conducted an industry data survey to determine the collective impact of community development corporations in Ohio. We disseminated this information through a one-page summary on our website, as well as through gifs. As a highlight, we found that community development corporations had a positive impact on 1,000,000 Ohioans in 2016.

Finance
OCDCA passes through approximately 75% of its total budget to its members, and has realized a net profit in the last eight fiscal years, including 2017, which raised net assets to above $350,000.
Our 2017 members - Community Champions

Ohio CDC Association

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Franklin County Economic Development and Planning
Franklin County Urban Empowerment Lab
Frontier Community Services
FutureHeights, Inc.
Galia-Meigs Community Action Agency
Gerard Diaz Associates
GMN Tri County CAC, Inc.
Gordon Square Arts District
Greater Cincinnati Microenterprise Initiative
Greater Dayton Premier Management
Greater Ohio Policy Center
Greene MHA & Sensible Shelter
Habitat for Humanity of Ohio
HARCATUS Tri-County CAO
Harsany & Associates, LLC
Heritage Ohio
HHWP Community Action Commission
Highland County Community Action Organization
Hocking, Athens, Perry Community Action Agency
Homefull
Home is the Foundation
Homeownership Center of Greater Dayton
Homeport
Home Repair Resource Center
Homes on the Hill CDC
Hough Development Corporation
Huntington National Bank
ICAN Housing
IFC
IMPACT Community Action
Increase CDC
Integrated Services for Behavioral Health, Inc.
Ironton-Lawrence County Area Community Action Org
Jackson-Vinton Community Action, Inc.
Janus Small and Associates
Jefferson County Community Action Council, Inc.
Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance
KeyBank
Kno-Ho-Co-Ashland Community Action Commission
LakewoodAlive
Lancaster-Fairfield Community Action Agency
LEADS
Lenz Planning and Development Services
Lifeline
Lima Allen County Neighborhoods in Partnership
LISC - Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky
LISC - Toledo
Live Healthy Appalachia
Lorain County Community Action Agency, Inc.
Madisonville Community Urban Redevelopment Corp
Mahoning County Land Reutilization Corporation
Mahoning Youngstown CAP
Metro West Community Development Organization
Miami County Community Action Council
Miami Valley Housing Opportunities, Inc.
Michelle Stys
MidTown Cleveland, Inc.
Morgan County Development Office
MORTAR
Mt. Pleasant NOW Development Corporation
Muskingum Economic Opportunity Action Group Inc.
Mustard Seed Development Center
NACEDA
National Church Residences
National Equity Fund
Nazareth Housing Development
Neighborhood Development Services Inc
Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Cleveland
Neighborhood Housing Services of Hamilton, Inc.
NeighborhoodWorks Collaborative of Ohio
NeighborhoodWorks Toledo Region
New Home Development Company, Inc.
New Housing Ohio
New Lima Housing for the Future
New Path Inc.
New Sunrise Properties Inc.
NHP of Greater Springfield
Northeastern OhioNow Development Corporation
North End Community Improvement Collaborative
Northeastern Ohio Community Action Commission Inc
Northwest Ohio Development Agency
Oak Hill Collaborative
Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies
Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities
Ohio Association of Foodbanks
Ohio Association of Nonprofit Organizations
Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing
Ohio Citizens for the Arts
Ohio City, Inc.
Ohio Conference of Community Development, Inc.
Ohio Development Services Agency on Aging, Inc.
Ohio Heartland CAC
Ohio Housing Council
Olde Cuyahoga Savings Bank
Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation
One South Euclid
Opportunities Industrialization Center of Clark Co Organize# Ohio
OSU Extension- University District
Ottawa Residential Services
Over The Rhine Community Housing
Pamela Ford
Parsons Avenue Development Corporation
Passing Through Community Transformation Pathway Inc.
Patrick O’Malia
Paulding County Economic Development, Inc.
People Working Cooperatively, Inc.
Pickaway County Community Action Organization
Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group
PNC Bank
Port of Greater Cincinnati Development Authority
Preferred Properties
Price Hill Will
Rebuilding Together Central Ohio
Regionomics
Reuse Industries
Ross County Community Action Commission, Inc.
Rural Action Inc.
Safeguard Properties, LLC
Shaker Heights Development Corporation
Slavic Village Development
Somali Community Association of Ohio
SPICE
St. Mary Development Corp
Stark County Community Action Agency
StarkFresh
St Clair Superior Development Corporation
Summit County
Supports to Encourage Low-Income Families
Taft House
The Community Builders Inc.
The NHP Foundation
The Org Doc
The Well Community Development Corporation
Third Federal Savings & Loan
Thriving Communities Institute
Transformation CDC
Tremont West Development Corp
TRIAD Architects
Troy Community Works! Corporation
Trumbull Community Action Program
Trumbull Neighborhood Partnership
Union Miles Development Corporation
VanTempleInc
Vinton County Commissioners Community Development
Vinton County Economic Development Board
Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation, Inc
Warehouse District
Washington Morgan Community Action
West Bank
Western Reserve CDC
West Ohio Community Action Partnership
Wild River Consulting Corp
Working in Neighborhoods
WCSOS Community Action Commission
Yellow Springs Home, Inc.
Youngstown CityScape
Youngstown-Mahoning County Housing Authority
Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation
YWCA of Canton
ZION Community Development Corporation

Ohio CDC Association