

NSP2 Program Summary
NSP2 Application ID is 374668664

The Columbus and Franklin County Consortium is requesting \$64,775,385 under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 Notice of Funding Availability. The Consortium has leveraged \$75,163,509 in non-federal sources and has commitments to additional non-leverage eligible sources for its proposed activities.

The **Columbus and Franklin County Consortium** is an association of seven organizations and government entities applying for NSP2 funds, as well as, pooling their resources and services to achieve a **Common Goal: *Creating vital, healthy neighborhoods by implementing strategies that build a stronger housing real-estate market in weak-market areas of Columbus and Franklin County.*** Members of the Consortium include:

1. The City of Columbus – Lead Applicant, Unit of Local Government
2. Franklin County, Unit of Local Government
3. Affordable Housing Trust of Columbus and Franklin County, Nonprofit Organization
4. Campus Partners, Nonprofit Organization
5. Columbus Housing Partnership, Nonprofit Organization
6. Community Development Collaborative of Greater Columbus, Nonprofit Organization
7. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Columbus, Nonprofit Organization

These seven entities are some of the most productive and experienced affordable housing organizations in Columbus and Franklin County. A major strength of each organization is its ability to form partnerships with other housing and community development organizations, developers, businesses and contractors to achieve housing and neighborhood revitalization goals. A second major strength is the combined years of experience in the field of housing and community development. Ranging from 8 to over 30 years in the affordable housing business, the Consortium members have provided thousands of Columbus and Franklin County residents with decent, safe and affordable housing, as well as working to create revitalization in distressed neighborhoods. This unprecedented agreement among these entities provides Columbus and Franklin County with an exceptionally strong team to accomplish the challenging task of revitalizing our most impacted neighborhoods.

The **Columbus and Franklin County Consortium** will target 55 Census Tracts within the City of Columbus and Franklin County, Ohio in an integrated, comprehensive effort to stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods. These tracts were selected on the basis of the HUD Scores, the City's market study results, and proposed projects submitted by members of the Consortium. A Housing Market Assessment of Columbus, Ohio Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) VWB Research (June, 2009) (Available on request), examines a multitude of different data sources, categorizes various neighborhoods into "typologies" based on the data, and recommends different approaches to each typology. The Consortium's approach and activities are built on the findings and recommendations for each of the unique typologies: At Risk, Destabilizing, Distressed and Potential Recovery.

The Consortium is committed to:

1. Efficiently use NSP2 funds for the purpose of having the greatest, long-term impact possible in the Consortium's Focus Areas
2. Continuing a coordinated and aggressive acquisition strategy to win site control of foreclosed, vacant and abandoned properties
3. Investing its 120% AMI Neighborhood Stabilization Fund and the 50% AMI Fund in projects tailored to the submarket and typology of the Focus Area in which the projects are located
4. Investing NSP2 funds as a catalyst to generate successful market changing, transformative redevelopment projects
5. Coordinating with other City, County, private and neighborhood resources to increase the possibilities of stabilization and revitalization in the Focus Areas
6. Building capacity to ensure sustainability of revitalization efforts beyond NSP2

The Consortium is also committed to developing green, healthy housing in all of its projects. Under NSP1 The City of Columbus and Franklin County have collaboratively created and adopted the AWARE Green/Universal Design Manual (*Available on Request*) in an effort to reach the highest level of green and universal design standards for federally funded projects. The AWARE Manual standards will be used in the writing of all project work specifications. This will insure that all NSP2 housing projects will meet or exceed all the Energy Star and Enterprise Green Communities mandatory criteria for substantial rehabilitation and new construction.

The Consortium will invest NSP2 funds in for-sale, short-term lease purchase and rental projects using acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction and demolition and homebuyer education to protect At-Risk Areas from destabilizing, stem the decline of the real estate market in Destabilizing areas, stabilize Distressed areas with limited, but focused redevelopment, and transform Potential Recovery areas into vibrant neighborhoods.

Going forward, the Consortium will continue to use the Market Study, as well as collect, organize and analyze new output and outcome data to guide ongoing and future strategic acquisition and redevelopment investments in all Focus Areas over the next several years.
