



UPGRADE FOR UPLIFT

A **Capacity Building Project** of
The Howard University Center for Urban Progress and
the Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers



UPGRADE FOR UPLIFT (UFU) is a joint project of the Howard University Center for Urban Progress (CUP) and Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers (WG) that was developed to support the viability of faith- and community-based organizations serving economically vulnerable residents in neighborhoods of greatest need in Wards 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8. We hope to increase the sustainability and strengthen the leadership, programs, partnerships, organizational assets and infrastructure, and community engagement of grassroots organizations serving populations that are disproportionately affected by poverty.

The Center for Urban Progress has 15 years experience supporting local partnerships and community development, increasing the availability of affordable housing, providing research, monitoring and evaluation services, training opportunities for residents, and capacity building for small businesses. The Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers partners with governments and nonprofits and builds relationships among grantmakers to support effective and efficient charitable investment in the local region. The organization also provides management and governance oversight to the Community Development Support Collaborative and the Washington AIDS Partnership.

WHAT DOES *UPGRADE FOR UPLIFT* OFFER?

UFU capacity-building activities are designed to help your organization function more effectively in at least two of four areas of capacity building: leadership development, organizational development, program development, and community engagement. A personalized plan of work will be developed for each organization and training and technical assistance will be tailored to your organization's needs.

If your organization participates, you can receive:

- ✓ Intensive group training
- ✓ Individualized technical assistance
- ✓ Financial assistance
- ✓ Peer-to-peer networking sessions
- ✓ Benchmarking trips
- ✓ On-line and telephone assistance



TRAINING

Comprehensive group training will be offered to faith- and community-based organizations on topics such as:

- ✓ How to lead, manage, and grow an effective organization.
- ✓ How to enact scenario planning and design and implement a strategic plan.
- ✓ How to successfully apply for public and private funds and create independent revenue streams.
- ✓ How to design and implement an evaluation plan to assess client satisfaction.
- ✓ How to implement community campaigns and galvanize community support.
- ✓ How to use social marketing and new technologies to tell your story.



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Faith and community-based organizations will receive individualized technical assistance with a consultant or expert who will work with you to address your real-time, organizational challenges on site. Follow-up advice will be provided by phone and online.

CAPACITY-BUILDING GRANTS

Your organization can qualify for a capacity building grant averaging between \$10,000 and \$30,000 that will be awarded through a competitive RFP process. Priority will be given to organizations that have not received funds from the federal government previously, and whose annual budgets do not exceed \$500,000.

It is anticipated that up to 25 faith- and community-based organizations will be selected to be recipients of *UPGRADE FOR UPLIFT* training and technical assistance, and up to 10 of those 25 organizations who participate in training and technical assistance will be awarded capacity-building grants. *UFU* capacity-building services are provided at no charge. You are not required to have 501(c)(3) status to participate in the *UPGRADE FOR UPLIFT* project.

WHO CAN APPLY?

To participate in *UPGRADE FOR UPLIFT* activities, an organization must:

- ✓ Be a grassroots, faith- or community- based organization.
- ✓ Have completed at least one year of operation.
- ✓ Be able to provide evidence of prior activities such as a brochure, reports, or press clips.
- ✓ Be located or providing services in Wards 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 or 8.
- ✓ Provide services to low-income populations such as: public housing residents, the unemployed, homeless, elders in need, at-risk children and youth, immigrant populations, ex-offenders, substance users, HIV/AIDS positive residents and their families.
- ✓ Complete an organizational self-assessment.

For More Information Contact:



The Center for Urban Progress
Empowering Communities through University-Community Partnerships
1840 7th Street, NW 3rd Floor
Washington, DC 20001
www.coas.howard.edu/hucup

Sandy Rattley: Project Director
Wheeler Winstead: Project Coordinator
Call (202) 865-8588 or Email wheeler_winstead@hotmail.com

Funding for the Upgrade for Uplift Project comes from the Compassion Capital Fund of the US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Community Services, Administration for Children and Families