

Meeting Agendas/Info

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

01-249

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

AGENDA:

MAY 21, 2001

SYNOPSIS -

City Council approval of the allocation of \$40,585 of 2001 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for the Institute for Social and Economic Development (ISED) to operate Microenterprise Training/Technical Assistance Program.

SUBJECT:

MICROENTERPRISE
TRAINING/TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM

FISCAL IMPACT -

Approval will allocate \$40,585 of 2001 CDBG funding for the Microenterprise Training/Technical Assistance Program.

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

Approval.

SUBMITTED BY:

JAMES GRANT
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR

BACKGROUND -

On November 6, 2000, by Roll Call No. 00-4267, the City Council approved the 2001 U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Consolidated Plan, which included an allocation of \$60,000 of 2001 CDBG funding for the Community Business Center to operate a micro-enterprise program. The Community Business Center was unable to enter a contract because of capacity and performance issues.

The Community Development Department has prepared a Microenterprise Training/Technical Assistance Program project agreement with ISED, utilizing \$40,585 of the \$60,000 of 2001 CDBG funding for the period of May 21, 2001 to December 31, 2001.

Since 1988, ISED has provided training and technical assistance services designed to support economically disadvantaged individuals in their efforts to become successfully self-employed.

During this time, ISED has assisted more than 1,520 individuals to start, expand, or strengthen small businesses; access more than \$7 million in business capital; and create jobs for themselves, their families, and others. ISED has provided small business development services in the Greater Des Moines area since 1991.

The organization works closely with the Iowa Department of Human Services and the Promise Jobs program on its Entrepreneurial Training Program for Family Investment Program participants who are working to leave welfare through self-employment. They have also established cooperative relationships with Employee and Family Resources; Spectrum Resources; HOME, Inc.; CCI; and Iowa State Extension Services to provide specialized support services to clients including substance abuse, language translation, homeownership, financial literacy, and other skill training.

At their meeting on May 2, 2001, the Neighborhood Revitalization Board (NRB) recommended approval of the Microenterprise Training/Technical Assistance Program project.
