



Georgia Earned-Income Tax Credit/Tax Assistance/Asset-Building Funding Resources

Grants.gov

<http://www.grants.gov/>

Grants.gov is an online source to find and apply for Federal grants. Grants.gov is a central storehouse for information on more than 1,000 grant programs and provides access to approximately \$500 billion in annual awards.

Assets for Independence Program, Office of Community Services, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

The Assets for Independence (AFI) Program, through Office of Community Services (OCS), provides 5-year grants to nonprofit organizations and government agencies that empower low-income families to become economically self-sufficient for the long term. Grantees provide financial education training on money management issues, and they assist participants in saving earned income in special matched savings accounts called Individual Development Accounts (IDAs). Participants use the IDAs to accumulate funds, with the goal of acquiring a first home, obtaining postsecondary education, or starting up or expanding a small business. OCS will post a new announcement for accepting applications for funding new AFI projects in fiscal year (FY) 2011. For more information, see: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/afi/applying.html> and <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/HHS-2008-ACF-OCS-EI-0053.html>.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Grant Program, Internal Revenue Service

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Grant Program is an Internal Revenue Service initiative designed to promote and support free tax preparation service for the underserved, low-income populations, including elderly, disabled, limited-English-speaking, nonurban, and Native American taxpayers. In 2008, 379 organizations applied for VITA Grant funding, requesting more than \$30 million. Of these, 111 received VITA Grant funding for the 2009 fiscal year. Congress appropriated funds for the 2010 fiscal year to continue the VITA Grant Program. The program is intended to provide direct funds to organizations to:

- Enable VITA Grant Programs to extend services to underserved populations in hardest-to-reach areas—both urban and nonurban
- Increase the capacity to file returns electronically
- Heighten quality control
- Enhance volunteer training
- Significantly improve the accuracy rate of returns prepared at volunteer sites.

For more information, see: <http://www.irs.gov/individuals/article/0,,id=184243,00.html>.



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Weed & Seed, United States Department of Justice (DOJ)

Weed and Seed, a community-based strategy sponsored by the DOJ, is an innovative, complete multi-agency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization. DOJ's Community Capacity Development Office oversees the Initiative. The Initiative's strategy includes four fundamental components: law enforcement; community policing; prevention, intervention, and treatment; and neighborhood restoration. The prevention, intervention, and treatment component concentrates an array of human services on the designated neighborhood and links law enforcement, social services agencies, the private sector, and the community to improve the overall quality of services to residents. The neighborhood restoration component includes a focus on economic development and employment opportunities for residents.

Communities interested in becoming Weed and Seed Communities (WSCs) must submit a Notice of Intent to the U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO). For more information, see: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/ws/welcome.html>

The National Credit Union Administration's Community Development Revolving Loan Fund

The National Credit Union Administration's (NCUA) Community Development Revolving Loan Fund (CDRLF) was established by Congress to support credit unions that serve low-income members and communities by making loans and technical assistance grants available to eligible credit unions. The Office of Small Credit Union Initiatives administers the CDRLF. An eligible credit union is one that is (a) federally chartered and designated as a low-income credit union, as set forth in Section 701.34 of NCUA's Rules and Regulations, or (b) State-chartered with an equivalent low-income designation from its respective State supervisory authority and concurrence from NCUA. CDRLF is now accepting applications for loans. For more information, please see the following Web site: <http://www.ncua.gov/Resources/CreditUnionDevelopment/Finance.aspx>.

The Grantsmanship Center

<http://www.tgci.com/index.shtml>

The Grantsmanship Center holds about 150 workshops annually in grantsmanship training. There are also many free resources for grantseekers available on its Web site, including daily grant announcements from the *Federal Register*; archives of *The Grantsmanship Center Magazine*; and indexes of funding sources at the local, Federal, and international levels.

Foundation Center

<http://foundationcenter.org/>

The Foundation Center is a national nonprofit service organization that retains the most comprehensive database on U.S. grantmakers and their grants; issues an extensive variety of print, electronic, and online information resources; conducts and publishes



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research on trends in foundation growth, giving, and practice; and offers an array of free and affordable educational programs.

Georgia Credit-Able

<http://www.thecfii.org/applicationguide.html>

Credit-Able is Georgia's Alternative Financing Program for Assistive Technology. The mission is to make independence affordable for Georgians with disabilities. They do this by developing and sustaining strategic partnerships with community-based organizations and financial institutions that share the common idea of improving the financial well-being of all Georgians, with a special importance given to individuals with disabilities and those who are on the edge of the financial mainstream. Credit-Able provides low-interest loans through participating credit unions to enable Georgians with disabilities to have access to affordable financing for assistive technology assets such as computer equipment, and home and vehicle modifications. The loans are for individuals.

The Georgia 400 Plus: Georgia Foundation Database

This free online database provides comprehensive profiles of more than 700 foundations located in Georgia. It is available from Sinclair, Townes & Co. (www.sinclairtownes.com), P.O. Box 28716, Atlanta, GA 30358, Phone: (770) 988-8111, Fax: (770) 988-8665, E-mail: info@sinclairtownes.com.

Guide to Georgia Grantmakers on CD-ROM

The CD-ROM contains information on more than 1,800 grantmakers located in Georgia, plus nearly 450 grantmakers across the country that fund Georgia nonprofit organizations, and lists more than 12,000 recent grants to nearly 2,000 Georgia recipients. The CD-ROM is available from the Foundation Center (<http://foundationcenter.org>), 79 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003-3076, Phone: (800) 424-9836, Fax: (212) 807-3677.

National Community Tax Coalition

The National Community Tax Coalition is a membership organization for community-based organizations that provide tax assistance and other financial services to low-income working families. A section of its Web site is dedicated to resources related to VITA funding, including a factsheet on the President's FY 2011 proposed budget, a document that shows important points for why there should be an increase in VITA funding, and a sample letter of support for increased VITA funding that can be personalized to send to Congress. See the Web site section at <http://tax-coalition.org/policy-resources/vita-funding>.



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EITC Funders Network

<http://www.eitcfunders.org/>

The EITC Funders Network brings together funders interested in the Earned-Income Tax Credit (EITC), free- and low-cost tax preparation, and asset-building. The Network works to increase awareness of EITC-related projects, foster collaboration, share information about the current status of EITC-related work, and help shape the future of the field.

ING Foundation

ING feels that knowledge and understanding of financial matters are the building blocks to financial empowerment and a more secure future. They also believe that many people in communities desperately need help becoming financially empowered, that is, gaining the knowledge and skills to build financial security and personal success. They are particularly interested in programming that empowers individuals to take control of their financial futures through education, financial literacy, and financial planning, with special attention to the needs of youth and minorities. They primarily awards grants to nonprofit organizations and review applications quarterly. Their next deadline is September 15, 2010. For more information, see: <http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/CorporateCitizenship/INGFoundationGrants/index.htm>

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation

<http://www.wkkf.org/grants/for-grantseekers.aspx>

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation assists programs that “increase family stability, foster quality jobs, careers and entrepreneurship, and promote secondary achievement and financial independence. They support strategies that increase income, assets, and aspirations of vulnerable children and their families and reduce disparities based on class, gender and race.” They focus on areas including family stability, which includes linking vulnerable families to existing services and benefits such as financial education; and financial independence, which includes building assets and investing in policy and practice innovations that deal with issues related to breaking the cycle of poverty. Grant applications are accepted throughout the year.

Wal-Mart State Giving Program

<http://walmartstores.com/CommunityGiving/8168.aspx>

The Wal-Mart Foundation has funds set aside for organizations working in particular States to improve the lives of people in their State. One of the focus areas for the State Giving Program is economic opportunity and workforce development. Nonprofit organizations offering EITC and asset development programs are included in this category.



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Lind, C., Relave, N., Schmid, W., & Terzaghi, D. (2009). *Finding Funding Sources: A Guide to Federal Sources for Funding Asset-Building Initiatives*. Retrieved July 29, 2010, from http://www.financeproject.org/publications/FindingFunding_AssetBuildingInitiatives.pdf

This resource, from American Public Human Services Administration (APHSA) and The Finance Project, and funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, discusses many arenas of funding pertaining to asset-building, including types, strategies, and sources. They profile a total of 71 asset-building funders across the nation but stipulate that not every sources listed in the guide will be appropriate for every asset building initiative.

Torian, S. (2006). *State and Local Support for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Campaigns*. Retrieved May 19, 2010, from http://www.nlc.org/ASSETS/64CE7DAF646445BD9313FCC276644728/IYEF_EITC_State_Local_Support.pdf

This resource, put out by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, provides information on successful EITC campaigns and their funding sources. Examples of State-funded EITC campaigns included in the article were Delaware, Illinois, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. EITC campaigns with local funding at the time of the article included Burlington, Vermont; Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland and Dayton, Ohio; Flint, Michigan; Houston, Texas; Los Angeles, California; and Miami, Florida.