2013 Community Impact Fund Awardees

16 applications were received with a total of \$206,675 in requests and \$70,000 in available funds. The independent Grant Review Committee recommended funding 8 of those projects; details of the CIF Grant Awards are listed below. Note: No applicant received the full funding of \$15,000.

<u>Anderson Interfaith Ministries</u> (\$10,000) – Housing Rehabilitation Program: To build the capacity of AIM to launch the Emergency Repair and Owner-Occupied Repair Program. AIM received certification from SC State Housing in September to qualify for funds from SC State Housing Trust to carry out this program.

<u>Benedict-Allen CDC</u> (\$8,000) - Pinehurst/Edgewood Community Revitalization: This project is designed to increase the quantity of affordable rental housing for low and moderate-income persons residing in the Edgewood/Read Street community in Columbia, SC. We intend to purchase a blighted property located at 2623 Chestnut Street and rehabilitate the unit for use as an affordable rental single family home.

Community Assistance Provider (\$11,500) – Northwood Development Project: CAP is seeking funding to take out a bridge loan which will be used to acquire eight units in this targeted neighborhood which suffers greatly from foreclosure. Redevelopment will provide a major impact on this lovely community with boasts wide paved streets, mature landscaping and nice ranch style homes. Also, the neighbors are clearly a cohesive unit that care about keeping the units attractive and maintaining a safe and child-friendly community.

Community Works Carolina (\$10,000) – Small Business Support for Hispanic Entrepreneurs: CWC is currently working with SCACDC to provide Business IDA opportunities and microloans to promote small business development and create employment opportunities in the Upstate. Without business training, Hispanic entrepreneurs are not prepared or equipped to access capital through the IDA or Microloan program, and CWC is requesting CIF funding to support the costs of training and one-on-one mentoring for 35 Hispanic entrepreneurs to start or expand their small business.

Genesis Homes (\$5,000) – Affordable Housing in Laurens, SC: Genesis Homes requests CIF funding for construction of two 3BR/2BA affordable rental homes in Laurens, SC. While its past work has been in in the City of Greenville, Genesis Homes is moving into the City of Laurens with affordable housing in the old Laurens Mill Village area. This project is supported by the Mayor of Laurens, Sharon Brownlee, and through a formal resolution by the Laurens City Council. The rental units will be rented to tenants at or below the 50% and 60% Area Median Income.

Increasing H.O.P.E. (\$7,000) – Home Rehabilitation Project: Increasing H.O.P.E. will present a three-part quality of life project to offer affordable housing, financial education training, and workforce development targeted to low- to moderate-income individuals. First, Increasing HOPE will coordinate the rehabilitation of a home to be sold to a low-to-moderate income individual. Next, financial education training will be provided to the new homeowners to support their new responsibilities. Last, Increasing HOPE will collaborate with the Community

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Connection Center (C3) to coordinate a workforce development project to offer jobs for individuals to assist with the home rehabilitation activities.

Southern Carolina Regional CDC (\$10,000) – The Southern Carolina Regional CDC proposes to increase the energy efficiency of its' rental properties by responding to professionally performed energy audits, revenue vs. maintenance analysis and quarterly-conducted inspections. It is our goal to expand the life span of the properties, provide comfortable and hazard-free environment for the residents and to lessen their financial burdens through decreased utility expenses.

<u>Soteria CDC</u> (\$8,500) – GreenStart Deconstruction plans to employ 8-10 recently released individuals from prison and train them in the process of deconstructing buildings for the purpose of recycling and reuse of building materials. This project will not only help sustain the men but promote an environmentally-responsible community.