

## ABOUT TACDC

The Texas Association of Community Development Corporations (TACDC) is a statewide membership association that represents nonprofit community development organizations, lenders, municipalities, and other organizations interested in a community-based approach to development. TACDC improves the lives of low and moderate income Texans by strengthening the capacity of community development organizations which create and preserve homes, jobs, small businesses, and other community assets; by advocating for a supportive environment at the local, state, and federal levels; and by generating resources and relationships that enhance and sustain the community development industry in Texas.

## MEMBERS

TACDC has over 160 members throughout the state of Texas. Members include Community Development Corporations (CDCs), Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), community based organizations, lenders, government agencies, and related nonprofit and for-profit entities committed to improving the lives of citizens across the state.

## ADMINISTRATION

TACDC is governed by a 15-person member-elected, volunteer Board of Directors that represent CDCs and non-profit or government organizations that are deeply involved with community development. TACDC also has a Roundtable Board that includes representatives of national financial intermediaries and private lending institutions. The TACDC Roundtable discusses and suggests policy for the Board's consideration and supports TACDC's work with their financial and staff resources.

## PROGRAMS

Advocacy  
Catalyst CDC Capacity Builder  
Lone Star Internship Program  
Communications  
Access to CDFI, Texas Community Capital  
Research  
401k Plan  
TACDC Updates & Newsletters  
Research Reports  
Annual Community Development Conference  
Annual Texas Community Development Summit

## OUR MISSION IS YOUR SUCCESS

TACDC's Membership Program provides a platform through which our members can access services, information, and support to enable them to increase their organizational capacity.

## MEMBER BENEFITS

- ★ Legislative and administrative advocacy on issues that directly affect your community organization. We ensure our members' voices are heard and make a difference at the local, state, and federal level.
- ★ Discounts for all TACDC publications and to annual conferences, seminars, and state-wide trainings.
- ★ Eligibility for TACDC scholarships to annual conferences, seminars, and trainings with the Catalyst program – Knowledge and skills that work for you!
- ★ Continuing education courses to assist individuals and organizations involved in the community development field to acquire and sharpen their skills while maintaining their professional certification.
- ★ Sponsorship of a 401k plan to fit the needs of your organization.
- ★ Subscription to our e-newsletter that provides legislative, agency, and industry news, as well as listings of upcoming grants, conferences, and trainings.
- ★ Linked listing on our website and inclusion in our published Membership Directory.
- ★ Access to top-notch, industry specific research published by TACDC.
- ★ Access to the services of our CDFI, Texas Community Capital.
- ★ Eligibility for the Texas CED Lone Star Internship Program. TACDC provides 50% of a student intern's stipend while they assist in challenging projects essential to your organization's success.
- ★ Networking via state-wide conferences and trainings.

## NETWORKING

TACDC Networking opportunities and events allow for members to meet and learn from other community development professionals, as well as network with affiliated governmental and private-sector lenders, while identifying industry trends.

### Annual Community Development Summit

The Texas Community Development Summit brings together legislators, lenders, policy makers, and industry leaders from state government, banking, housing, and community development. For over a decade TACDC has been organizing this respected forum to promote an earnest and wide-ranging discussion of public policy and its impact on community development activities like affordable housing, job creation, and quality of life.

The ultimate goal of each Summit is to thoroughly review a current issue in order to help identify public policies that will best address those issues.

### Annual Community Economic Development Conference

The Annual TACDC Community Economic Development Conference provides attendees with opportunities to attend training events, identify industry trends, and network and learn from other community development professionals in other areas of the state. Conference participants typically include nonprofit and for-profit developers from Texas, representatives from state agencies, consultants, bank representatives, and representatives of related national entities.

## ADVOCACY

The TACDC Advocacy Program develops sound policy and tangible solutions to the problems facing Texas communities. The program mirrors its Board of Directors, the Community Development Roundtable, and the association membership who are community-based and driven by a mission to improve the existing conditions in the neighborhoods in which they live. Using a list of member-driven Policy Priorities, the Advocacy Program brings TACDC concerns into the public arena by developing relationships with federal, state, and local policymakers; building coalitions between other advocacy, public interest, and grassroots organizations; working with local or regional CED associations; and advocating sound management of the state's housing and economic development resources.

The Advocacy Program accomplishes its objectives by presenting accurate and timely information contained in reasonable policy platforms that are presented through an annual Community Development Conference; an annual Community Development Summit; regional policy meetings; direct encouragement of sound public policy; and attending and participating in legislative meetings, agency hearings, and a variety of community development conferences.

## POLICY AND RESEARCH

The Policy Program's goal is to engage in public policy research and education related to community economic development, particularly as it effects community-based organizations in Texas. This is accomplished by presenting accurate and timely information contained in reasonable policy platforms through annual conferences and summits, regional meetings, direct encouragement of sound public policy, and active participation in legislative meetings and agency hearings.

TACDC's Policy Program maintains excellent relationships with key members of the Texas Legislature and utilizes its familiarity with the Texas Legislative Process and knowledge of Legislative circles to expand awareness of TACDC member issues. TACDC regularly con-

ducts regional meetings where local CDCs provide input to TACDC regarding the organization's Policy Priorities and regionally-specific issues.

TACDC's research efforts are geared toward developing and implementing innovative community development-related research projects with the purpose of providing salient data and cutting-edge information to policymakers, CDCs, and other constituents of community development issues. Its research promotes sound research principles and publication of the results, establishes CDC benchmarks and identifies need within the community development field. Additionally, TACDC Research assists CDCs with information for grant writing, and internal agency program practices.



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## CATALYST CAPACITY BUILDER PROGRAM

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The Catalyst CDC Capacity builds the organizational capacity and development of CDCs nonprofits that create and preserve homes, jobs, and other community assets throughout the state of Texas in order to measurably increase their production output.

The Catalyst Program was designed in response to findings published in TACDC's research publication, "Fanning the Fire." Research indicates that areas in which local and state-wide CDCs need particular improvement include: planning, staffing and personnel management, governance, financial management and management information systems, production and program delivery, asset management, community relations, and resource development. The program is thus designed to focus on these seven key capacity-building components. Accordingly, it helps amplify organization output by offering such core-operating support, training, technical assistance, coaching, and by serving as an information clearinghouse.

TACDC's Capacity Building Program combines community development experts, technical assistance, and coaching to improve CDCs abilities to answer their communities' most pressing needs. Program-initiated trainings help CDCs and community development professionals grow their skill sets according to their communities' development needs. The training component plays an integral role in ensuring the success of the program and its participants. The purpose of the classroom training is two-fold: to foster the specific skill set development of CDC participants; and to offer general training based on needs identified as applicable to all CDCs in Texas.

TACDC's diverse training sessions are conducted by individuals with extensive practical experience. All housing, economic development, and banking professionals are welcome to attend. TACDC members are eligible for a discount on training costs, including limited travel scholarships when available.

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## LONE STAR CED INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

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TACDC's Lone Star CED Internship Program provides college and graduate students the opportunity to gain professional experience in the CED field and be exposed to the issues Texas faces in affordable housing, economic development, and neighborhood revitalization.

This human capital initiative is intended to provide additional talent for the community development workforce with the goal of recruiting new people into the industry. TACDC places interns in CDCs throughout the state for 10 to 12 weeks and typically pays 50% of the intern's stipend. The internship program offers CDCs the ability to

count on additional staff for the summer, creates a pool of qualified candidates with experience in community development, and offers hands-on experiential training to potential future employees of CDCs.

Past host organizations include Alamo Area Mutual Housing Association (San Antonio), Brazos Valley Council of Governments (Bryan), Foundation Communities (Austin), Neighborhood Recovery CDC (Houston), Project Bravo (El Paso), Affordable Housing of South TX (McAllen), and City Wide CDC (Dallas).

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## 401(K) PROGRAM

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The TACDC-sponsored 401(k) retirement program is open to any TACDC member organization. Given recent improvements, it is even easier and more flexible for you to participate. We give your organization the opportunity to provide 401(k) benefits to your employees at a fraction of the cost of administering such a plan independently. An experienced financial advisor is available by phone or e-mail to help participants with their financial planning and investment decisions. Employers now have the ability to make employee contributions via direct deposit, saving you time and money. Lincoln Financial Group, our new investment company, offering a wide range of investments to suit all categories of retirement savers. For more information, contact Ernie Wright, QKA, CLU, CSA, MBA, at 800-426-6534 or [Ernie@ErnieWright.com](mailto:Ernie@ErnieWright.com).

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