

Community Revitalization Training

Blueprint Communities training will be conducted by the West Virginia Community Development Hub with support from other consultants. Training will begin with a kick-off, orientation, and training session to be held in Spring 2019.

Community teams will participate in intensive workshops with topics including:

- Identifying and developing community resources
- Growing local leadership
- Team building and cohesiveness
- Asset mapping
- Encouraging civic engagement
- Understanding community development models
- Visioning and Planning
- Marketing and Communication
- Keeping connected
- Promoting best practices

Teams that complete Blueprint Communities training will gain a thorough understanding of how to create sustainable communities and the elements necessary for success.

Communities will have developed a:

- Vision
- Draft community plan based on that vision
- Clear action strategy (including a funding strategy)
- Process to measure outcomes
- List of next steps/timeline to move the process forward

The West Virginia Community Development Hub

The WV Community Development Hub (The Hub) works statewide to catalyze, facilitate and support locally- driven efforts to revitalize West Virginia communities through performance -driven community development, leadership development and project planning and implementation. For more information, visit www.wvhub.org

Comments from previous Blueprint Communities participants

“This is a wonderful program! There’s a tremendous amount of support from FHLBank Pittsburgh that started before the first training program that continues today. Blueprint Communities has truly brought our community together.”

“I have a renewed sense of mission and energy.”

“We are extremely pleased with the completed strategic plan. Blueprint Communities trainings helped residents better understand the planning process, evaluation of need and how to create an achievable plan.”

“This is the most useful training I’ve ever attended.”

“I find it amazing that a diverse group of people can make a difference in a community. Despite everyone having their own individual agendas, everyone on the Blueprint Communities [teams]... works together for the betterment of their communities.”

“Blueprint Communities offered a wealth of information and networks of support.”



Promoting Team Training

Each team will be comprised of 8 to 10 key community representative, including at least one from an FHLBank member financial institution, an economic development organization, the local governing entity, healthcare organization, developer, and a community-based organization, as well as other key stakeholders. Everyone involved in helping to make communities better should have a stake in the Blueprint Communities initiative:

- Community planners and developers
- School district representatives
- Housing providers
- Religious and civic leaders
- Service providers
- Community and economic development practitioners
- Youth

Program Benefits

Each community selected for participation will receive the following benefits:

- Two-day program kickoff event in Spring 2019 (location TBD in northwest WV)
- Four day-long group strategy development sessions (location TBD in northwest WV) and 16 expert-lead trainings tailored to community needs during eight events (location in participation community)
- Coaching on an as-needed basis to achieve team goals
- Day-long program graduation ceremony (location TBD in northwest WV)
- Eligible for up to \$18,000 in mini-grants from FHLBank Pittsburgh
- Eligible for organizational capacity-building grants from FHLBank Pittsburgh
- Additional funding opportunities and strengthened relationships and communication between local leaders and funding source representatives

Program Eligibility

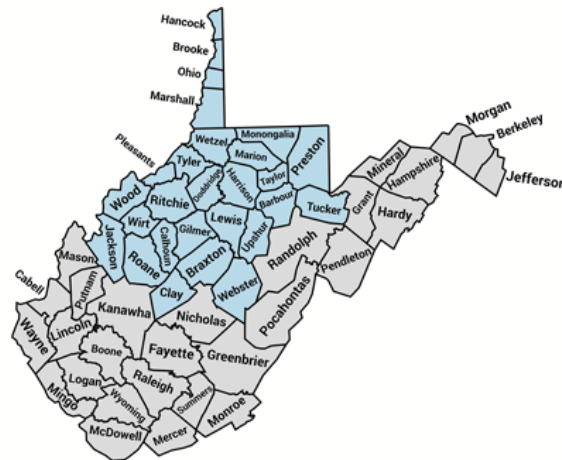
Eligible communities must:

- Be a community with a population of less than 30,000
- Demonstrate local leadership and past successful collaboration
- Demonstrate commitment to the program training schedule
- Assemble a team of 8-10 members
- Identify a fiscal agent to host mini-grant funding (ideally a non-profit)

Selection Process

Every eligible West Virginia community is encouraged to apply. Eligible applicants from communities in the following counties will be prioritized: Barbour, Braxton, Brooke, Clay, Calhoun, Doddridge, Gilmer, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Lewis, Marion, Marshall, Monongalia, Ohio, Pleasants, Preston, Roane, Ritchie, Taylor, Tyler, Tucker, Upshur, Webster, Wetzel, Wirt, Wood.

FHLBank Pittsburgh and West Virginia Community Development Hub with the assistance of the West Virginia Blueprint Advisory Committee will select communities based on a competitive application process. Up to six communities will be selected.



How to Apply

Applications are due December 21, 2018 and are available on the West Virginia Community Development Hub website:

<http://wvhub.org/what-were-doing/blueprint-communities/>

Blueprint Advisory Committee

The Blueprint Communities Advisory Committee (BAC) is a programmatic support group that provides input and guidance to the West Virginia Community Development Hub as it implements Blueprint Communities, as developed with the FHLBank Pittsburgh, for the State of West Virginia.

Representatives from the following organizations serve on the committee:

- FHLBank Pittsburgh
- WV Community Development Hub
- Charleston Area Alliance
- Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation
- Community Works
- Northern Brownfields Assistance Center
- Pennsylvania Downtown Center
- Philanthropy WV
- U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
- U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
- U.S. Small Business Administration
- Woodlands Development Group
- WV Development Office
- WV Housing Development Fund
- WVU Health Research Center

More Information

For more information about Blueprint Communities, visit <https://fhlb-pgh.com/blueprint-communities>

An FHLBank Pittsburgh revitalization initiative

FHLBank Pittsburgh and its partners have developed Blueprint Communities®, a revitalization and leadership initiative that serves as a catalyst for creating sustainable communities in Delaware, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Since the program's inception in 2005, 16 West Virginia communities have received the Blueprint designation, including three communities that are currently active: Bluefield, Princeton, and Richwood. In 2019, the initiative will renew its efforts in West Virginia, with up to six new communities joining the program.

The Blueprint Communities mission

Serve as a catalyst to revitalize older communities and neighborhoods by:

- Fostering strong local leadership, collaboration and development capacity
- Serving as a catalyst for revitalization based on sound local and regional planning that includes a clear vision for the community and a comprehensive implementation strategy
- Encouraging coordinated investments in targeted communities by public and private funders

How to participate or refer a West Virginia community

If you are a member of a community interested in participating in Blueprint Communities, or if you wish to refer a community, please contact Kaycie Stushek with the West Virginia Community Development Hub at k.stushek@wvhub.org or (715) 347-3511.

If you are an FHLBank member interested in participating in Blueprint Communities, please contact Megan Krider with FHLBank Pittsburgh at megan.krider@fhlb-pgh.com or (412) 288-4577