



John R. Kasich  
Governor

Christiane Schmenk  
Director

For Immediate Release  
December 12, 2011

## More than \$560,000 Approved to Assist Microenterprise Businesses in Ohio

**Columbus** – Today 10 Ohio organizations received \$569,500 in grants to assist microenterprises to create and retain long-term jobs. The grants are awarded by the Ohio Housing Trust Fund (OHTF) Microenterprise Business Development Program, which is administered by the Ohio Department of Development’s Office of Community Development.

The Microenterprise Business Development Program provides grants to eligible nonprofit organizations to assist in the development of microenterprise businesses, which are defined as for-profit entities with five or fewer employees, one of whom owns the business. The award recipients will use the funding to provide training and technical assistance to more than 1,000 individuals and provide 54 loans for startup businesses.

“It is through programs like this that we help to foster growth for the small businesses in Ohio,” said Michael Hiler, Deputy Chief for the Office of Community Development. “These grants provide Ohio’s microenterprises with the foundation and capability they need to create and retain jobs.”

Organizations receiving OHTF Microenterprise Business Development Program awards include:

County	Award Recipient	Amount
Athens	Appalachian Center for Economic Networks (ACEnet)	\$60,000
Brown	Adams-Brown Counties for Economic Opportunities, Incorporated	\$60,000
Butler	Supports to Encourage Low-income Families (SELF)	\$40,000
Columbiana	Community Action Agency of Columbiana County	\$49,500
Franklin	Economic and Community Development Institute	\$60,000
Franklin	INCREASE Community Development Corporation	\$60,000
Hamilton	Greater Cincinnati Microenterprise Initiative	\$60,000
Hancock	HHWP Community Action Commission	\$60,000
Perry	Southern Perry Incubation Center for Entrepreneurs (SPICE)	\$60,000
Pike	Community Action Committee of Pike County, Inc.	\$60,000
<b>Total Awarded</b>		<b>\$569,500</b>

*The **Office of Community Development**, located within the Ohio Department of Development’s Community Services Division, provides financial and technical assistance to units of local government and nonprofit organizations in Ohio for project activities which benefit low- and moderate-income citizens.*

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through*

*competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to accelerate and support the teamwork that is necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio's future.*

# # #

Media contacts: Penny Martin at (614) 644-8774  
or the Communications and Marketing Office at (614) 466-2609

Office of Communications & Marketing • 77 South High Street • P.O. Box 1001 • Columbus, Ohio 43215 • U.S.A. • 614 | 466 2609

The State of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider of ADA Services.