

Applicant/Location	Program Type	Tax Credit Amount	Project Description
United Neighborhood Centers of Northeastern PA - Scranton, Lackawanna County	NPP 3/6	\$160,000	<p>Through this project, we will enhance the business district of the South Side Cedar Avenue Corridor through the institution of a business incubator for small businesses; the development of entrepreneurship and leadership skills in the new immigrant community; and the expansion of the Farmers Market through an increased number of both vendors and customers--bringing fresh foods to this neighborhood, which has been categorized as a food desert. Combined with the future development of the Peoples Security Bank into a permanent site for a business incubator and offices for United Neighborhood Centers of NEPA and the United Neighborhood Community Development Corporation, this program aims to make South Scranton an appealing site for new businesses and economic growth. UNC is partnering with the Scranton Area Foundation and Penn State Scranton to institute a small business incubator, which has already opened in a temporary space in the corridor, with plans to move to an expanded incubator once renovations of the Peoples Security Bank building are under way to create the incubator space and offices for United Neighborhood Centers and the United Neighborhood Community Development Corporation. In addition, we will be working with the new immigrants through our current ESL/Citizenship Classes to add both entrepreneurial and leadership skills. The expansion of the Farmers Market will also add to the vibrancy and commercial activity in the neighborhood, adding both vendors and customers through an enhanced voucher program geared towards SNAP users.</p>

<p>NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania - Scranton, Lackawanna County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$18,750</p>	<p>NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania will continue its vital foreclosure-prevention efforts in the city of Scranton, which stresses homebuyer education as a front-end solution, as well as continue its loss mitigation and foreclosure prevention counseling for current homeowners. NWNEPA is renewing its emphasis on its core service area of the city of Scranton, specifically the 18504, 18509, and 18510 ZIP codes, the top three ZIP codes for foreclosure rates in the city, according to RealtyTrac data, which indicate that one of every 2088 properties (currently 135) in the city is in some state of foreclosure. As of July, the number of properties that received a foreclosure filing in the city was the same as this time last year. As one of the only organizations addressing this issue in the City through combined homebuyer education/foreclosure-prevention efforts, NeighborWorks will continue its efforts to assist homeowners at-risk of foreclosure. We plan to increase our work in the City of Scranton by assisting at least 180 Scranton homeowners and prospective buyers and anticipate more than \$300,000 worth of positive impact on the city. Our experienced counseling staff will assist those struggling with mortgage delinquency while educating new buyers to prevent future foreclosures through sustainable budgeting, homeownership retention strategies, and other methods. Under this project, NWNEPA will conduct 9 workshops in the City of Scranton focused on sustainable homeownership throughout the program period. In addition, our online course also includes a foreclosure-prevention component and is utilized by many prospective buyers who are not able to make an in-person class. We will also conduct one-on-one counseling sessions with buyers and homeowners with a focus on foreclosure prevention, loss mitigation, and loan modification negotiations with lenders and servicers.</p>
<p>Treatment Court Advocacy Center of Lackawanna County - Scranton, Lackawanna County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$19,250</p>	<p>Veteran Education and Training. VCT participants will be provided with improved educational and training opportunities through a structured, collaborative approach as part of the VTC program. Measurable outcomes include: completed Outreach Family Functional Assessments, completed Outreach Service Plans, completed Lackawanna College Educational and Vocational/Employment Assessments, completed Lackawanna College Educational and Vocational/Employment Assessments, completed Referrals to CareerLink, Veterans and their family members who completed Outreach. DCED funds will support: Assessments of family functioning across a range of potential needs as well as provide services to fulfill those needs. Assessments of educational and employment/vocational readiness. Housing assistance (security and rent payments). Transitional needs including toiletries, medication, food, clothing, etc. Transportation (bus and cab fare). Support groups for Veterans and their spouses. Reference books on Veterans' needs when returning to civilian life, including information on mental health needs, coping strategies, violence in military families, and returning to employment. These books will be shared among Veterans</p>

<p>Downtown Hazleton Alliance for Progress - Hazleton, Luzerne County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$35,625</p>	<p>Funding is needed to support a pilot program designed to encourage the integration of the Hispanic community. Within the Hazleton Area School District, minority enrollment is 50% of the student body (majority Hispanic), which is more than the Pennsylvania state average of 32%. There are nine public schools managed by Hazleton Area School District serving 9,980 students. More than 60% of the district's population is considered low income and 100% qualify for free lunches. About 75% of our area's residents have a high school diploma or higher, which is below the 89% rate for the Commonwealth. Only 11% have a bachelor's degree or higher, which is half the county and state attainment. There is a great need for progressive programs that will foster creative and entrepreneurial thinking among our area's youth in ways that will support both the cultural and economic integration of the Hispanic community while fostering small business development and economic growth. The Hazleton Innovation Collaborative (THInC) is a new partnership that leverages the resources of local educational and community institutions to nurture the growth of small business and foster an entrepreneurial culture resulting in economic development, job creation, income growth, improved quality of life, and student career success. In addition to our organization, key partners include Penn State Hazleton, CAN DO, the Hazleton Art League, the Society of Hispanic Professionals of the Hazleton Area, and others. If funded this pilot program will involve high school students in hands-on projects designed to develop their creativity and problem-solving skills and foster creative and entrepreneurial thinking and artistic expression. Projects will utilize the resources of the new City Arts Center and new Penn State LaunchBox (both scheduled for completion in 2019), as well as the educational resources our partners.</p>
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<p>Upper Valley YMCA dba Greater Carbondale YMCA - Carbondale, Lackawanna County</p>	<p>SPP</p>	<p>\$7,500</p>	<p>The Greater Carbondale YMCA is working with local architects to design a comprehensive capital renovation plan (developing an ADA accessible community park, lower level renovations to accommodate a growing demand for high quality early learning programs, a safe and accessible parking lot). Financial commitments have been received from several sources and many grants are pending. The YMCA is able to phase the project as needed to use funds appropriately and responsibly without incurring additional capital debt. In addition, the YMCA has been working closely with Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, Lackawanna River Conservation Association, and the City of Carbondale to collaborate on a vision for that section of the City. All organizations have been completely supportive of the YMCA's park project. NAP funds would be used toward the following projects - Community Park: overall vision for the site is a senior adult &amp; family oriented wellness park with an ADA-accessible trail loop, playground, splash pad, meditation garden and sports fields. Amenities will include lights, benches, open pavilion(s), charcoal grill(s), and access to the creek and River Walk. Lower Level Renovations: The Y will create an enlarged Early Learning Center to meet educational and child care demands of the Upper Valley. The YMCA currently serves over 200 children from infant through school age, in addition to Early Head Start and Head Start. Classrooms are currently at capacity with a waiting list. Secondary Parking Lot: The lot is in disrepair and in need of major upgrades such as paving, sidewalks, landscaping and lighting. The Y serves individuals with physical impairments and special needs. It is critical the facilities (including parking lots and access to parking) be fully accessible and safe.</p>
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<p>Commission on Economic Opportunity - Lackawanna County, Luzerne County, Susquehanna County, &amp; Wyoming County</p>	<p>CFP</p>	<p>\$148,347</p>	<p>The Weinberg Regional Food Bank has a goal to end hunger in Northeast Pennsylvania by 2025 and we can accomplish this goal by working collaboratively with our partners locally, across the state of Pennsylvania and across the county to address food access on multiple levels. We have developed five major strategies that are all necessary to achieve our goal while also carrying out the mission of the Food Bank. The strategies are as follows: solicit food donations, distribute nearly ten million pounds of food annually, provide training and capacity building to Food bank member agencies, operate a community kitchen that prepares and delivers nutritious meals to community and school based programs during both the school year and during the summer months and provides nutrition education at area schools, child care centers, Children's Produce Markets etc. In 2017, the Food Bank distributed 9.5 million pounds of food and the 2018 goal is to distribute 11 million pounds of food. The Neighborhood Assistance Program tax credits will be used to leverage additional donations of healthy, nutritious valuable food and grocery products as well as financial contributions to the Food Bank. The proposed Neighborhood Assistance program project will be complimentary to the already existing Food Bank operations in the Food Banks four county service territory. In addition to distributing healthy nutritious food to member agencies, the Food Bank also distributes food through Mobile Food Pantries, Children's Produce Market's and summer and after school meals throughout the Food Banks service territory.</p>
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