



THE REGIONAL CENTER FOR PHILANTHROPY

March 4, 2010

The Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region, along with several of our colleague foundations in upstate communities, is considering a joint application to The Social Innovation Fund (SIF), a new public-private investment vehicle established by the 2009 Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act. We have decided to collaborate on an application recognizing that by combining our resources we have a greater chance for success.\*

The SIF is designed to:

- Fund effective and potentially transformative portfolios of not-for-profit community organizations to help them strengthen their evidence base, and replicate and expand to serve more low-income communities;
- Identify more effective approaches to addressing critical social challenges and broadly share this knowledge; and
- Develop the grantmaking infrastructure necessary to support the work of social innovation in communities across the country.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2010, the Corporation will award up to \$50 million in Federal funding to an estimated seven to 10 intermediary organizations. Annual SIF awards to intermediaries will be in the range of \$1 million to \$10 million, and must be matched 1:1 in cash. The SIF award periods are up to five years. The SIF funding mechanism will leverage \$3 of private funding for every \$1 in federal funding, generating a total public-private investment of \$200 million in FY 2010.

Not-for-profit community organizations will be competitively selected by SIF intermediaries and receive subgrants to:

- Produce measurable outcomes within a specific issue area or geographic region;
- Evaluate their effectiveness; and
- Replicate and expand to serve more individuals and communities.

## Priority Issue Areas:

- **Economic Opportunity** – Increasing economic opportunities for economically disadvantaged individuals
- **Youth Development and School Support** – Preparing America's youth for success in school, active citizenship, productive work, and healthy and safe lives
- **Healthy Futures** – Promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing the risk factors that can lead to illness

Subgrants will be awarded on the order of no less than \$100,000 per year for three to five years, along with strategic support in areas such as evaluation and management. **Subgrantees must also provide a 1:1 cash match for the total amount**—Federal and private dollars—they receive from the intermediaries.

## NEXT STEP

Please send a brief message indicating your interest and describing how your organization meets the eligibility criteria **by the end of the day Monday, March 8**. You can send your email to [eguclin@cfgcr.org](mailto:eguclin@cfgcr.org).

We are meeting with the other funders Friday, March 12 to discuss – we would like to have your input for that meeting.

\*For those of you with large service areas or multiple affiliates, the following foundations are interested in participating in the joint application:

- Adirondack Community Trust
- Central New York Community Foundation
- Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Finger Lakes
- Community Foundation of Herkimer & Oneida Counties
- Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region

To view the final SIF NOFA, two-page NOFA summary, press release, audio call with reporters and, other materials, please visit:

<http://www.nationalservice.gov/about/serveamerica/innovation.asp>.