

APPLICATION DEADLINE
November 6, 2009

The Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) proudly announces the continuation of our partnership with NeighborWorks America to provide training/technical assistance opportunities for Weed and Seed Communities (WSC). CCDO recognizes the capacity building needs of WSCs across the country vary and onsite training provides site directors, steering committees and other interested stakeholders with opportunity to address issues or develop new skills/tools to aid in the implementation of Weed and Seed Strategies. Over the past five years, more than 500 individuals have participated in training conducted by NeighborWorks through a place-based offering or attendance at a NeighborWorks Training Institute.

CCDO remains committed to developing the local capacity of Weed and Seed Community leaders to build sustainable community collaborations. WSCs interested in capacity building assistance through NeighborWorks America’s place-based training (PBT), may apply for one PBT slot in the following three categories:

- Community Mobilization and Resident Leadership
- Community Economic Development
- Youth Leadership Development

WSC representatives interested in this training opportunity must read this application carefully. Changes have been made to the overall application process. Completed applications must be submitted no later than **November 6, 2009**. **Late applications will not be considered.**

Please note all applications must be submitted electronically via email using the attached fillable, .PDF form to weedandseed@nw.org. If you have questions about the enclosed application, please contact one of the following individuals:

For Community Mobilization: Geroma Void at Geroma.Void@usdoj.gov

For Community Economic Development: Sharron Chapman at Sharron.Chapman@usdoj.gov

For Youth Leadership Development: Amy Akparewa at Amy.Akparewa@usdoj.gov

For general application questions: Anthony Austin, NeighborWorks America at (202)220-6308 or aaustin@nw.org.

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Section One: Program Description

Implementation of Weed and Seed strategies requires numerous community partners committed to working collaboratively, leveraging resources to achieve a common vision of change for the community. Feedback from site directors, United States Attorney's Offices, and steering committee members reaffirmed the ongoing need for training/TA focused on infrastructure development, strategy assessment/development and exposure to new neighborhood revitalization models or youth engagement initiatives designed to yield increased positive outcomes in high crime communities.

PBTs represent one of the most effective training delivery strategies for WSCs due to the number of people eligible to participate in the training without travel or registration expenses. In FY 2010, CCDO will support 17 NeighborWorks America's place-based training sessions. PBT slots in the Community Mobilization and Youth Leadership Development categories will be open to both active and graduated WSCs, while slots for the Community Economic Development category will only be open to active WSCs. All PBTs must be open to WSC residents and free to the public. Please note that PBTs will not be offered as part of the steering committee meeting agenda.

WSCs may apply for one of three PBT categories. A brief description of each category, number of available PBTs slots, examples of relevant issues/opportunities for each topic and training objectives are provided below.

Community Economic Development (5 slots available)

Comprehensive community revitalization efforts like Weed and Seed must include plans to improve the local economy. Given the recent economic impact of business closings and high foreclosure rates, this category intends to strengthen the work of the Neighborhood Restoration (NR) subcommittee and community partners in implementing and/or modifying Neighborhood Restoration strategies. ***Please note that only active WSCs are eligible to apply for a PBT in this category.***

Training Objective: To increase the capacity of NR subcommittee members in effectively leading the implementation of the NR strategies outlined in the Weed and Seed application.

Potential issues or opportunities in the WSC:

- How to create neighborhoods of choice through revitalization;
- Understanding the basics of community economic development;
- Strategies for dealing with foreclosure;
- Understanding how to effectively market the community;
- Developing a community development corporation to lead community economic development.

Community Mobilization and Resident Leadership (7 slots available)

Resident leadership is vital to the success of Weed and Seed. CCDO seeks to ensure a full range of residents are engaged in all aspects of implementation. Helping to ensure all committee members and other interested community partners clearly understand their roles and responsibilities, identifying new residents and developing their leadership skills to communicate effectively or address potential conflicts and ultimately design effective Weed and Seed strategies are the priorities for this category.

Training Objective: To provide skill-building training and tools designed to increase the leadership capacity of residents and other Weed and Seed stakeholders responsible for implementing Weed and Seed strategies.

Potential issues or opportunities in the WSC:

- Increasing resident participation in Weed and Seed;
- Clarifying roles and responsibilities of steering committee members;
- Developing and implementing strategies to connect the community with the Weed and Seed efforts;
- Reviewing or revising existing strategies that are no longer relevant to the community.

Youth Leadership Development (5 slots available)

Preparing future leaders to lead Weed and Seed community change activities remains a priority for CCDO. While many WSCs may have existing youth leadership training, this category seeks to target youth in the community who may or may not have past exposure to such training, but express interest in becoming active members of the steering committee and overall more involved in the implementation of Weed and Seed in their respective community.

Training objective: To develop a diverse pool of youth leaders who are actively engaged in Weed and Seed and contribute to the design and implementation of crime prevention and neighborhood revitalization strategies in their community.

Potential issues or opportunities in the WSC:

- Currently working with youth leaders and seeks to increase their involvement in Weed and Seed;
- Community youth do not have a positive relationship with law enforcement;
- WSC does not presently work with youth leaders, but would like to establish a process to engage youth leaders.

Selection Process

To be considered for a PBT slot, WSCs must meet the following requirements:

1. Compliant with all Weed and Seed program requirements.
2. Have a full time site director/coordinator.
3. Have a functioning steering committee as evidenced by regularly held meetings.
4. Ability to secure at least 25 participants (youth and adults) to attend the training.
5. Identify an ADA compliant, training facility to hold the training and secure the necessary training equipment (LCD projector, flip charts). Neighborworks America will cover any potential expenses associated with the training facility. Training facilities located in designated area are preferred.

Community Capacity Development Office

2010 NeighborWorks® America Place Based Training Application

The following review process will be used for each application:

Task	Timeframe
Initial Screening for Compliance	November 9-13
Applicant Phone Interviews with CCDO	November 16 - 30
Final Selections	December 4
Notifications made to all applicants	December 7

After the application has been reviewed and deemed in compliance, the application process will include a phone interview with CCDO personnel. This assessment is designed to help WSC representative(s) prioritize their capacity building needs for FY 2010. While WSCs may have interest in all three categories, CCDO will work with WSCs to address concerns or opportunities that reflect a capacity building priority for the steering committee. The assessment shall also ensure the WSC is appropriately prepared to plan and execute the place-based training as well as implement training objectives.

Once a final list of applicants has been selected and notified, NeighborWorks America will begin working with WSC representatives to identify appropriate training topics along with other logistical details. **All training must be scheduled and delivered between January 15, 2010 and September 15, 2010.** Prior to the actual training, the NeighborWorks instructor will conduct a pre-training assessment/site visit and confirm training topic.

Section Two: WSC Contact Information (All items must be completed)

WSC Name & ID #			
Site Director Name			
Office Mailing Address			
Office Phone No:		Alternative Phone No:	
E-mail Address			
Steering Committee Chairperson Name:			
Contact Phone No:		Alternative Phone No:	
E-mail Address			
USAO Contact Name & Title:			
USAO District & Address:			
Office Phone No:		Alternative Phone No:	
E-mail Address			

Section Three: WSC Background Information

1. In what year did the community receive its Weed and Seed designation? _____
2. Is this a graduated WSC? Yes No
3. How many people actively serve on the steering committee? _____
4. Does WSC have youth representation on the steering committee or subcommittees?

5. Please complete the table below and indicate the active¹ subcommittees that currently operate under the steering committee.

Name of Subcommittee	# of active members	Name/Email of Committee Chairperson ²

6. Has the WSC ever participated in a Place-based Training funded by CCDO (training provided on site to area residents and other community stakeholders):
7. Place-based Training Yes No If yes, what year and topic? _____
8. Has the WSC ever attended a NeighborWorks Training Institute (NTI) funded by CCDO?
 Yes No If yes, what year and NTI? _____
9. Is there a NeighborWorks America organization serving your community?
 Yes No Not Sure

¹ Active subcommittee means committee members meets on a consist basis and is responsible for the execution of one more components of the Weed and Seed strategy.

² The site director cannot serve as a committee chairperson.

Section Four: Area of Technical Assistance/Training

Community Economic Development

Yes, we are interested in hosting a Place-based Training.

The target group for this training shall include the NR subcommittee and other interested partners seeking to build their individual and collective capacity to implement progressive neighborhood restoration strategies. **Please note that training cannot be offered as part of the steering committee meeting agenda.**

Briefly describe the work currently underway or to be implemented under the Neighborhood Restoration subcommittee.

Please describe one challenge or opportunity the committee is currently working on as outlined in the Weed and Seed strategy.

How might a proposed PBT help increase the capacity of the subcommittee and other interested stakeholders in advancing the NR objectives outlined in the Weed and Seed strategy?

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION AND RESIDENT LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Yes, we are interested in hosting a Place-based Training.

WSCs interested in receiving training designed to reach individuals serving on the various committees and strengthen the overall infrastructure supporting the Weed and Seed should select this training option. **Please note that training cannot be offered as part of the steering committee meeting agenda.**

What has the steering committee done to communicate to the entire community, the mission and purpose of Weed and Seed? Does the community, beyond steering committee members, actually understand Weed and Seed?

Describe the most critical issue or opportunity facing the steering committee related to increasing resident engagement in Weed and Seed.

What challenges could be addressed through a PBT that might improve community mobilization efforts and resident participation?

YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Yes, we are interested in hosting a Place-based Training.

WSCs interested in receiving training designed to either establish or improve the involvement of youth in the design and implementation of Weed and Seed strategies should select this training option. Coordination and collaboration with service providers will be necessary in order to be the number of youth participants required. **Please note that training cannot be offered as part of the steering committee meeting agenda.**

Please describe how the WSC currently engages or would begin to engage youth in the community relative to the implementation of Weed and Seed.

What would be a desirable outcome for community youth in completing a PBT?

What is the steering committee prepared to do to expand the pool of youth leaders in the community?
