

CFED MAKES IT POSSIBLE for more Americans to take part and profit in the economic mainstream. Since 1979, the nonprofit Corporation for Enterprise Development has identified and advanced innovative ways to help moderate- and low-income people go to college, start a business, own a home and save for their children's financial futures and their own retirement years. By moving more households into these proven methods of growing and protecting their assets, CFED expands economic opportunity and works to strengthen America's economic security.

CFED's DRIVING PRINCIPLE is that America's economic vitality, stability and security are greatly strengthened when more and more people of all ages and backgrounds are able to invest in their futures and hold a stake in their communities. We see abundant evidence that moderate- and low-income people everywhere have the desire and ability to become savers and investors, homeowners, and skilled workers and entrepreneurs. We focus on those three critical areas:

Financial Inclusion and Matched Savings

Savings allow families to plan for the future, buy a home, prepare for retirement, send children to college and weather unexpected financial storms, such as job loss. CFED focuses on social innovations like specially designed matched savings accounts that offer incentives to help low-income individuals and families build assets, and initiatives that help the unbanked or underbanked enter the financial mainstream.

Affordable Housing

Homeownership is key to expanding economic opportunity. It is the single largest component of household wealth and a fundamental asset for millions of Americans. CFED works to bring affordable ownership within the reach of low-income households. We work with homeowners, consumer protection groups and policymakers in over 30 states to support manufactured housing as an affordable, asset-building housing solution.

Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

Business ownership is second only to homeownership as a source of household wealth in our country. We see support for entrepreneurs, especially disadvantaged ones, as a key strategy for individual asset-building and as a critical component of a healthy local economy. CFED was founded 30 years ago on the promise that microenterprise held for generating jobs and income in low income communities. Today that work is embodied by our investment in entrepreneurship to help self-employed formalize and grow their small business.

CFED LEADS THE ASSETS MOVEMENT by setting the policy, research and practice agendas for promoting economic security, raising or removing asset limits, preventing predatory practices and protecting assets for Americans of all ages. We also host numerous regional and national convenings, showcasing emerging issues and cutting-edge solutions to renew America's economy.

ABOUT CFED

CFED works at the national, state and local levels to combine community practice, private markets and public policy to open economic opportunities for people and families to improve their lives. We seek the greatest impact by using and sharing innovative ideas that are doable, growable, sustainable and profitable. We combine the vision of a think tank with real-world experience to:

Identify Good Ideas: CFED's research finds ideas with potential for making the economy work for everyone, particularly those on the margins.

Test Them Out: CFED works on the ground with local communities to test promising approaches and adapt them to diverse cultures and economic conditions.

Bring Them to Scale: CFED then takes it to the next level, involving all in devising policies and practices that widen the impact.

PROMOTING SAVINGS AND BUILDING FINANCIAL SECURITY

CFED made its mark in the field of asset building by turning Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) and Children's Savings Accounts (CSAs) into a reality for hundreds of thousands of people. Today CFED is developing and implementing several high-profile programs to take CSAs and other matched savings products to scale:

The Partnership for College Completion (PCC), an unprecedented collaboration bringing together CFED, UNCF and the national network of KIPP schools will provide the education and financial preparation needed by low-income and minority youth to ensure they gain access to and graduate from college in increasing numbers.

CFED is venturing further into the matched savings marketplace with the creation of the 1:1 Fund, an online platform to enable individual and corporate donors to match the savings of low-income families. When launched in 2011, the 1:1 Fund will initially support matched savings programs for post-secondary education.

BUILDING ASSETS THROUGH I'M HOME: INNOVATIONS IN MANUFACTURED HOMES

Innovations in Manufactured Homes (I'M HOME) was created to address the inequities in owning a manufactured home versus a site-built home and transform the marketplace for affordable, appreciable manufactured homeownership. Since 2005, we have helped to facilitate: the preservation of over 1,000 affordable homes through the conversion of 23 manufactured housing communities to resident or nonprofit ownership; development of 117 new and replacement manufactured homes; and passage of more than 35 state-level policy victories that benefit owners of manufactured housing.

I'M HOME also assisted in the creation of and is now supporting two national social ventures, ROC USA™ and Next Step™ Network, to make resident ownership of manufactured housing communities viable nationwide, and deliver high quality, energy efficient, factory-build housing at scale.

GROWING ENTREPRENEURSHIP THROUGH THE SELF-EMPLOYMENT TAX INITIATIVE

CFED's Self-Employment Tax Initiative (SETI) works with local and national partners to leverage the tax code and tax day as a way to improve the delivery of essential tools for small businesses and emerging entrepreneurs and thus links them to asset-building opportunities through credits and refunds. During the 2007-2010 tax seasons, SETI awarded grants to 34 organizations in 24 states that collectively have served 33,285 disadvantaged self-employed businesses, saving these small business owners up to \$16 million in tax preparation fees.

CREATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF INNOVATORS THROUGH INNOVATION@CFED

CFED launched innovation@cfed to identify and support the next generation of leaders and strategies that will help individuals and families build assets and achieve more secure financial futures. In its first 18 months of operation, innovation@cfed has supported 36 innovators to further test their ideas.

SCALING ECONOMIC SECURITY AND OPPORTUNITY THROUGH THE ASSETS POLICY AGENDA

CFED is recognized for its strategic role in moving the asset policy agenda forward at the local, state and federal levels. At the federal level, CFED works directly with policymakers on Capitol Hill, to advocate for expanding economic opportunity and promoting asset and wealth building for all Americans. At the state level, our Assets & Opportunity *Scorecard* and Policy Campaign provides policymakers with comprehensive data and assessments and broadly shares *Scorecard* findings and recommendations with allied organizations and the media. We also partner with organizations in 25 states to build coalitions that utilize the *Scorecard* to advocate for state policy change. CFED's newly developed Local Assets & Opportunity Profile is a practical, useful data tool that can help city leaders and local advocates understand and assess the critical problems that perpetuate financial insecurity among residents.

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