

A photograph of a man in a light blue polo shirt and jeans, smiling as he works on a wooden structure. He is holding a long wooden beam with both hands. In the background, other people are visible, also working on similar structures. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

# Community Development



Community Development: Grants

American Assembly  
New York, New York  
\$100,000

The American Assembly, established in 1950 by Dwight D. Eisenhower as an affiliate of Columbia University, is a nonpartisan, public-affairs forum that illuminates important national policy issues and formulates innovative solutions to complex problems. This grant provided funding for the 110th assembly, held in Detroit in April 2011, which focused on strategic responses to the challenges facing cities with population loss.

The Brookings Institution  
Washington, D.C.  
\$400,000

Brookings’ Metropolitan Policy Program focuses attention on the vital role cities play as engines of economic growth and global competitiveness. Kresge’s three-year, \$1,200,000 grant will support research, policy and outreach activities that advance the economic transformation of Michigan’s metropolitan areas.

Emerge Community Development  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
\$100,000

The nonprofit corporation provides economic opportunities to north Minneapolis residents through its portfolio of workforce, housing, social-enterprise and community-development programs. Emerge will use this two-year, \$300,000 grant to renovate a historic library for use as a neighborhood technology, training and placement hub.

The German Marshall Fund of the United States  
(2010 grant)  
Washington, D.C.  
\$250,000

Founded in 1972 through a gift to the United States from Germany, the nonpartisan public-policy and grantmaking institution promotes greater cooperation and understanding between North America and Europe. Kresge’s three-year, \$750,000 grant will enable leaders from U.S. cities, including Detroit, to participate in the Comparative Domestic Policy program. It also establishes Detroit as a participating city in the Marshall Memorial Fellowship program.

Greyston Foundation Inc.  
(2010 grant)  
Yonkers, New York  
\$200,000

Greyston is a recognized pioneer in social enterprise. It operates various entrepreneurial enterprises, including the Greyston bakery, to help low-income individuals achieve self-sufficiency. Kresge’s two-year, \$400,000 grant will buttress the bakery’s operations and allow for the enhancement of its workforce-development program.

In Our Backyards Inc.  
(2010 grant)  
Brooklyn, New York  
\$50,000

This innovative organization uses micro-philanthropy in an online format to connect small-grant donors and volunteers with groups in need of funding to carry out neighborhood environmental projects in urban areas. This two-year, \$200,000 grant commitment will help the nonprofit build organizational capacity, test and evaluate a pilot program in New York City and prepare for a national roll-out.

This nonprofit organization identifies, develops and promotes education and workforce strategies that expand opportunities for youth and adults in more than 200 communities across 43 states. Kresge’s three-year, \$600,000 grant, requested on behalf of the National Fund for Workforce Solutions, will support the expansion of workforce development partnerships and meet the matching requirements for a federal grant initiative.

Jobs for the Future  
Boston, Massachusetts  
\$200,000

This nonprofit organization helps families transition out of homelessness and poverty through a continuum of housing, enhanced with supportive services, delivered through three shelters and 18 permanent rental properties. This two-year, \$250,000 grant will support the expansion of its model Housing Stability Program, which provides affordable, permanent housing and comprehensive wraparound services to chronically homeless families.

L.A. Family Housing  
North Hollywood, California  
\$125,000

Living Cities is a premier philanthropic, corporate and public-sector partnership that brings innovative community-development opportunities and the financial power of mainstream markets to urban neighborhoods and residents. Kresge’s three-year, \$3,000,000 grant will support the work of Living Cities, especially through its Integration Initiative, a new program to foster models for systems reform and regional cooperation in distressed communities.

Living Cities Inc.: The National Community Development Initiative  
(2010 grant)  
New York, New York  
\$1,000,000

The national community-development intermediary works through 30 local offices in 25 states to revitalize the nation’s neighborhoods. It helps community-based organizations gain access to financial capital, expertise and policy support to create affordable housing and commercial activity. This two-year, \$1,425,000 grant will continue Kresge’s support for the expansion of its Building Sustainable Communities initiative, a multi-faceted approach to revitalization in cities and rural areas.

Local Initiatives Support Corporation  
New York, New York  
\$750,000

The four-year, liberal-arts college and conservatory of music, founded in 1833, is the lead anchor institution for the Oberlin Project, a planned green redesign of the city of Oberlin that will serve as a working model of environmental sustainability and economic development. This grant will support the redevelopment of a 13-acre block in the city center as a LEED-platinum Green Arts District and the launch of America’s first carbon-neutral community.

Oberlin College  
Oberlin, Ohio  
\$750,000

PolicyLink is a national research and action institute focused on advancing economic and social equity. This grant helped to fund program development and implementation at the fourth national equity summit, “Equity Summit 2011: Healthy Communities, Strong Regions, A Prosperous America,” which was held in Detroit in November 2011.

PolicyLink  
Oakland, California  
\$250,000

Established after Hurricane Katrina, the resident-led corporation and its development partners are engaged in a neighborhood planning process to reconstruct 556 affordable, “beyond green” homes in the Pontchartrain Park community, a multigenerational African American enclave. Kresge’s two-year, \$450,000 grant will accelerate home construction and allow the corporation to meet its design-build aspirations for affordability and energy efficiency.

Pontchartrain Park Community Development Corporation  
(2010 grant)  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
\$200,000

Founded in New York City after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the restaurant-workers organization, with 8,000 members in eight locations, seeks to improve the pay and job conditions of the nation’s 10 million low-wage restaurant workers. This two-year, \$200,000 grant will support the expansion of COLORS, a worker-owned cooperative restaurant that provides employment, job training and a source of affordable local food, to new sites in New Orleans and Washington, D.C., and a second location in New York.

Restaurant Opportunities Centers United Inc.  
New York, New York  
\$100,000

The organization is dedicated to achieving environmental justice through innovative and economically sustainable projects. Kresge’s three-year, \$300,000 grant will help launch the Fabrication Laboratory in South Bronx as a program to teach residents how to digitally design and fabricate products while fostering green innovation and entrepreneurship.

Sustainable South Bronx  
(2009 grant)  
Bronx, New York  
\$100,000

The nonpartisan economic and social-policy research institute disseminates its findings to a broad audience and informs community development to promote social, civic and economic well-being. Kresge’s two-year, \$200,000 grant will fund the second phase of the What Works Collaborative: Building and Sharing Solutions for Housing and Urban Policy, a collaboration of national foundations and four leading research institutions engaging in the development of innovative policies and approaches to the current urban crisis.

Urban Institute  
Washington, D.C.  
\$75,000