



Housing and Community Development Leadership Institute (HCDLI)

Preparing the Next Generation of Leaders in Housing and Community Development

TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR MARCH OF 2021 (CLICK HERE)

This Institute is committed to expanding the field of *housing and community development professionals* in Connecticut – with a priority on increasing the number of women and people of color in the field. Through a combination of training, applied learning and service placements with non-profit developers and housing authorities working on real projects, the Institute will ensure that our next generation of leaders have the knowledge, the tools, and the networks needed to hit the ground running.

At the HCDLI, part of the learning will take place in virtual and classroom environments, with course content designed to cover a broad range of pathways in the areas of housing development; planning, construction and finance; grant funding and tax credits for community development projects; assessing local community development needs; asset management, community development for achieving racial equity and environmental justice; and more. We will help you build skills needed for successful career in community and housing development. This includes learning how to connect HUD and other affordable housing programs with good community planning to bring stability and economic growth to low and moderate income communities.

A second component to the learning takes place in community settings – participants will be onsite, in an organization working on a community development project, and under the guidance of staff engaged in the work. Participants will learn how to bring different skills and broad knowledge to develop a holistic approach to this important work. You will be able to strengthen your leadership skills through invaluable hands-on, practical experience.

The Institute will be available to participants statewide and when possible at BOROUGH496, (the Hamden Incubator) and other statewide locations where workforce development and community sustainability are key values. The first cohort group will begin in the Spring 2021.

Who is the ideal candidate for the Institute?

Someone who is eager to learn a completely new professional role in their community. We do not identify an ideal age but are primarily looking for women of color and other motivated people with a college degree or some college experience. Writing and math skills are recommended. You may participate in the Institute part time or full time based on your schedule and other life commitments.

What types of jobs and careers will the Institute prepare me for and what is the earning potential?

Depending on the *Track* you choose, the Institute will train you in a variety of careers. Whether it be housing development, grant writing and administration, property management, environmental science or neighborhood planning, the earning potential in most cases ranges from a starting point of a low of \$40,000 to a high of \$60,000. Very quickly you can earn as much as \$80,000-\$100,000 or more. Executive Directors make over \$100,000 annually. It is expected that there will be over 100-200 jobs in CT becoming available statewide over the next 5-10 years.

The variety of types of jobs out there are an exciting opportunity for you. You can get a breadth of experience as you work in the field. The jobs are in the public and private sectors.

Examples of professional opportunities within the following *Tracks* at the Institute are as follows.

- *Asset Management*: You can become a Property Manager, Accounting, Maintenance Supervisor, Carpenter/Tradesperson, Human Resources, Banking, Marketing and Leasing
- *Affordable Housing Development*: You can be a Grant Writer and Administrator, manage construction projects, get involved in neighborhood planning careers, develop a career in private or public finance.
- *Housing Education and Counseling*: Work for non-profit housing developers and for Housing Authorities, develop a career in finance or banking, work in Town, State or the federal government or at the community level, work in the Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity fields.
- *Non-profit Management and Leadership*: You can do this at the community level, for foundations, careers in Neighborhood Development, Accounting and Administration, Human Resources, Board and Organizational Management.
- *Grant Writing and Tax Credits*: If you can write grants and learn how to use tax credits you can have careers in many fields such as affordable housing, historic preservation, develop careers in environmental fields. Careers in private and public sector are widely available.
- *Public Health and Community Sustainability*: Public and Private Sector Careers are available in Public Safety, Neighborhood Development, Brownfield Remediation and Abatement (i.e. lead paint and asbestos) and in numerous environmental careers.

How many people in a class will there be and how will the classes be held.

Our goal to have a class size in each *Track* of between 10-20 participants. Classes will initially be held via remote learning. Most learning will take place in the field.

How much does it cost?

Our goal is to make the program free based on grant funding and scholarships.

Where and what type of field placement will there be?

Generally field placements will be held throughout CT. Examples of the types of field placements will be Public Housing Authorities, non-profit housing development organizations, social service agencies, Cities and Towns and in private companies.

Will I be paid as part of the program?

Yes you will be paid a stipend for a portion of your time in the program. The amount will be based on the time in the field and the nature of the project.

What is the work product expected from participants in the institute?

Participants will complete many forms of work products based on the track they work in. It may include a written grant, community needs assessment, Capstone project or construction management project.

How much time do I need to commit to the Institute?

Our goal is to make this a program that you can learn at your own pace. You can work do it part or full time. The more time you put in, the more opportunities there will be in careers that you are interested in.

What kind of Certificate will I receive at the end of the program?

You will receive a certificate based on the track you choose, credits for how many courses you complete and who the trainers are. Finally you may have the opportunity to receive a full certification in one or more of the content tracks. Thus if you are interested in non-profit housing development you may receive a certification from NeighborWorks America. There may also be opportunities to receive a non-credit certificate from the CT Community College System.

We are committed to developing and supporting the next generation of leaders in this community building career-path program. We hope that you will join us for the 2021 class of the Housing and Community Development Leadership Institute. The program is funded by the Connecticut Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority and other partners.

For further information about the Housing and Community Development Leadership Institute (HCDLI), contact dale.kroop@comcast.net or info@borough496.com.