United States Representative Rubén Hinojosa

The 15th District of Texas

Grants Alert

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Welcome Back

to School



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CONGRESSMAN RUBÉN HINOJOSA ANNOUNCES NEARLY \$6 MILLION DOLLAR GRANT FOR WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS MCALLEN

Congressman Rubén Hinojosa announced that the U.S. Department of Labor has awarded Workforce Solutions (McAllen) and Cameron Works, along with other border programs, **\$5,999,998** through the Workforce Innovation Fund grants to develop and expand innovative strategies to help Americans return to work.

Congressman Hinojosa serves as the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training and led the fight for the Workforce In-

vestment Act (WIA) in efforts to help train and prepare Texans to enter the workforce.

"This is an incredible and much needed investment into our communities that will serve our residents, and our local and state economy well currently and in the future," said Congressman

Hinojosa. "I congratulate my friend and CEO of Workforce Solutions Bonnie Gonzalez for her steadfast support and dedication to seeing this grant through from beginning to end. We are united in bringing better opportunities to our residents along the Texas border."



A total of \$146.9 million in Workforce Innovation Fund grants was awarded to only 26 communities across the nation. The Growing Regional Opportunity for the Workforce (GROW) grant, under the Workforce Innovation Fund, was awarded to a consortium of five Workforce Investment Boards (WIB's) through the Border Workforce Alliance (BWA). The Texas Counties receiving the funding are: Hidalgo, Cameron, Willacy, Starr, Jim Hogg, Zapata, Dimmit, Edwards,

LaSalle, Maverick, Real, Uvalde, Val Verde, Zavala, Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Webb, Kinney and Presidio.

"This is wonderful news, not just for the communities we serve but the entire state of Texas. With these funds, Project GROW will serve specific populations that face many of the same barriers and provide them with the necessary resources and tools to succeed in the workforce." said Yvonne 'Bonnie' Gonzalez. CEO



of Workforce Solutions. "I would be remiss if I did not mention our many partners that helped make this possible, including our congressional offices, and workforce development boards that represent the BWA, along the Texas/ Mexico border spanning from El Paso to Brownsville, TX; Jobs for the Future; and business and community partners."

The GROW program is designed to improve and streamline case management and supportive services offered to participants and to comprehensively link education and training programs to real employer workforce needs in the region.

"We aim to develop and expand innovative strategies to help our residents return to work by delivering services more efficiently and focusing on partnerships with specific employers or industry sectors," said Congressman Hinojosa. "We want our residents to upgrade their skills so as to be prepared to take on high skilled jobs. I believe this grant award will help so many of our residents access good jobs and careers."

CONGRESSMAN RUBÉN ANNOUNCES ATASCOSA HEALTH CENTER AWARDED FEDERAL GRANT FOR FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTER IN THREE RIVERS

Congressman Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX-15) announced the Health Resources and Services Administration's New Access Points grant program has awarded \$483,333 for the first year of a three year program to the Atascosa Health Center for a Federally Qualified Health Center in Three Rivers to serve the area's indigent population. The funding comes from the Health Resources and Services Administration's New Access Points grant program made possible through the Affordable Care Act of 2010.

"I am very pleased that this very important grant was awarded to the Atascosa Health Center for Three Rivers and its surrounding communities for primary and preventive health care services", said Congressman Hinojosa. "I applaud the concerted effort by political and community leaders who all worked very hard to make this happen. I want to thank Executive Director of the Atascosa Health Center Monty Small for also working with me to make sure constituents of Texas' 15th Congressional District would receive proper health care."

Planning for the health center began when the Texas Department of Health and Human Services designated Live Oak County as a "lagging behind county" which meant that the children of low income families were behind in their basic health care needs. Texas DHS determined that 35% of the population in Live Oak County lives at or below the poverty level.

"The New Access Point grant is part of Congress' effort to expand access to high quality care while extending health insurance to the majority of Americans", said Congressman Hinojosa. "I fully supported the Affordable Care Act which is the very legislation that is providing \$11 Billion in new funding for Federally Qualified Health Centers in order to

CONGRESSMAN RUBÉN HINOJOSA ANNOUNCES FEDERAL GRANT FOR MORE THAN \$700,000 AWARDED TO MCALLEN ISD

Congressman Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX-15) announced a federal grant of \$715,495.00 was awarded to the McAllen Independent School District by the United States Department of Education. The funding will be used for physical education and health instructional services over a 3 year period.

"So many students will benefit from this program that is focused on keeping our children physically active and nutritionally aware," said U.S. Rep. Hinojosa. "I congratulate the educators involved in this program for working to receive this award but more importantly for concentrating their efforts on keeping our students up to Texas State standards when it comes to their health and wellbeing."

Mario Reyna, Coordinator for Health/ Physical Education and After School Enrichment Program at McAllen I.S.D. says the first phase for this new program will involve hiring new employees, staff development, creating monitoring system to gather District data. The City of McAllen offered a letter of support for the program that will benefit thousands of students each year. The McAllen I.S.D. along with Texas VALLEY (Valuing Activity with Lifestyle Lessons to Encourage Youth) will enable a series of much-needed changes within the K-12 physical education program. This partnership will focus on providing the means to turn around the less effective programs already in place in an effort to create a new obesity prevention model.

The grant funding is specifically meant to accomplish several things;

1. Dramatically increase the percentage of K-12 students meeting the Texas State standards.

2. Implement a more focused physical activity, nutrition, and health program.

3. Implement a data system to track and monitor student success and attainment.



CONGRESSMAN RUBÉN HINOJOSA ANNOUNCES \$1.5 MILLION IN FEDERAL GRANTS AWARDED TO 2 SOUTH TEXAS LOW-INCOME HOUSING PROVIDERS

Congressman Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX-15) announced two federal grants totaling \$1,547,892 were awarded, by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, to two low-income housing providers in the Rio Grande Valley. \$1,453,806 was awarded to Affordable Homes of South Texas, Inc. (AHSTI) in McAllen. \$94,086 was awarded to

the South Texas Collaborative for Housing Development, Inc. in La Feria. The grants are available through the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI) program with the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

"This is such a positive accomplishment for everyone

involved at Affordable Homes of South Texas and the South Texas Collaborative for Housing Development," said U.S. Rep. Hinojosa. "I have personally seen first-hand the joy a family experiences when they are able to afford their first home. The funding from this federal program will provide financial literacy services for our constituents and will go a very long way in helping so many of our residents become homeowners in the Rio Grande Valley."

Affordable Homes of South Texas Executive Director Bobby Calvillo says this grant could help 60 families or more. Funds will be used to finance homes for low-income families and will also provide financial literacy.

> "Today's U.S. Treasury CDFI grant announcement is great news for South Texas and for the AHSTI Board of Directors and staff. This \$1.4 million will be used to provide responsible mortgage and consumer loan financing to families that are often vulnerable to predatory lenders for their financial services need. AHSTI has been a trusted mortgage provider as well as a quality affordable

home builder for 36 years and currently has a waiting list of over 1,200 families in need of a new home. These funds will allow AHSTI to further diversify its programs and services to meet the needs of all our constituents; working families in Hidalgo County and South Texas," said Calvillo. AHSTI is the recipient of the largest CDFI award in Texas this year as well as a recipient of funding from the CDFI for the third consecutive year.

CONGRESSMAN RUBÉN HINOJOSA ANNOUNCES UTPA AWARDED GRANT FOR A REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE STUDY OF FACTORS SURROUNDING TSUNAMIS

Congressman Rubén Hinojosa (D-TX-15) announced a \$38, 998 grant was awarded to the University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The award will support an NSF/The Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences (CBMS) regional conference in the summer of 2013 on the UTPA campus on solitons in twodimensional water waves and applications to tsunamis. The term soliton has recently been coined to describe a pulse like nonlinear wave (solitary wave) which emerges from a collision with a similar pulse having unchanged shape and speed.

"UTPA continues to provide impressive educational opportunities for our students in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics or STEM," said U.S. Rep. Hinojosa. "As the NSF continues to support many research projects an events our levels of education become stronger and our students wiser. Congratulations to the administration and staff of UTPA."

The conference will feature a series of lectures by Dr. Yuji Kodama from Ohio State University. Other lectures will be presented by experts in the field. The conference will serve approximately 30 students who are in the beginning stages of their careers.



USDA SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS TO HELP AG PRODUCERS TO BRING VALUE TO THEIR PRODUCT



TEMPLE, August 2012 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today invited agricultural producers to apply for grants to increase the value of their products.

Committed to the future of rural communities.

"Producers can greatly enhance the bottom line of their businesses and improve their economic prospects when they improve the value of their products, thus expanding their markets and customer base," Vilsack said. "The Value Added Producer Grant program (VAPG) has a proven track record of doing just that and I am pleased to announce that we are inviting producers to apply for these grants by the deadline. The funds in this program enable America's farmers, ranchers and rural business owners to find ways to expand their product offerings, revenue streams and create more economic opportunity by bringing additional value to what they already produce."

"Investing in the creative ideas of innovative Texans will result in a positive step towards rural economic and community development," said Paco Valentin, Texas Rural Development State Director. "We are pleased to offer this opportunity to rural entrepreneurs and producers whose endeavors will increase the value of agricultural commodities and therefore promote job creation in their communities."

Applicants have until October 15, 2012 to apply. Vilsack emphasized that far too many producers are missing out on significant economic opportunities when their products are enhanced further away from the farm. "When our producers keep their value-added activities closer to the farm, it not only improves their bottom line; it strengthens our rural economy and strengthens our rural communities."

USDA Rural Development is making up to \$14 million in grants available for projects that help farmers and ranchers produce biobased products from agricultural commodities. The grants, which are competitively awarded, are available for planning activities or for working capital expenses, but not for both. The maximum grant amount is \$100,000 for planning grants and \$300,000 for working capital grants. Generating new products, creating and expanding marketing opportunities and increasing producer income are the goals of the VAPG program. Businesses of all sizes are encouraged to apply, but priority will be given to operators of small and medium-sized farms or ranches that are structured as family farms, beginning farmers or ranchers, or those owned by socially-disadvantaged farmers or ranchers. Grants are available for projects up to 36 months in duration.

USDA, through its Rural Development mission area, has an active portfolio of more than \$172 billion in loans and loan guarantees. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America.



UPDATE FOR FY 2012 GRANT APPLICANTS AND SEMIANNUAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS



FY 2012 AFG and SAFER grant applications are being processed and will undergo peer review panel evaluations in the near future.

1. Award announcements will begin in late September and continue on a rolling basis until all FY 2012 AFG and SAFER grant funds have been awarded. The list of new awardees will be posted each week on the Awards page for each grant program on the AFG website.

2. All applicants will be notified of the decision made on their application regardless of whether they will receive an award.

3. To receive an award, you must be registered and have up-to-date information in the online System for Award Management or SAM (SAM.gov), which has replaced the Central Contractor Registry (CCR). As with the CCR, SAM registration is FREE of charge and required of all Federal awardees. Follow the FAQs and User Guides on the SAM.gov website for specific instructions.

 If you registered previously in the CCR, you don't have to do anything with SAM until it is time for your annual data update, unless there has been a change in your organization's financial or payment information. Your previously entered CCR data was migrated to the new SAM system, which will notify you via email when it is time for your annual data update and verification. At that time you will need to create a new SAM account to check and verify your existing data; follow the SAM FAQs and User Guides for specific instructions.

• NEW AWARDEES. SAM registration is required to receive any Federal grant award. If your organization applied for a grant but has not yet registered in SAM, please go to https:// www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/ and follow the FAQs and User Guides to complete the registration process. AFG and SAFER awardees that have not completed the SAM registration process will not be able to draw grant funds.

• If you have questions about SAM registration, contact Jane Early (Jane.Early@fema.dhs.gov) or Chanee Williams (Chanee.Williams@%20fema.dhs.gov).

GRANTEE REMINDER: DON'T FORGET TO FILE YOUR GRANT'S SEMIANNUAL FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORTS (SF -425)

Grantees that received awards on or after October 1, 2009, are required by law to submit semiannual Federal Financial Reports (FFR) (also known as Standard Form-425) throughout the grant's entire period of performance. They are due twice during the calendar year.

SF-425 Report Due Dates

• January 30 (No later than January 30 for the period covering July 1 – December 31.)

• July 30 (No later than July 30 for the period covering January 1 – June 30.)

• Final SF-425: Due 90 days after the end date of the grant's performance period.

You must submit SF-425 reports by these specific dates for as long as your grant is open. Even if you just received the award on June 10, for example, and have not spent any grant funds, you will still have to submit a SF-425 by July 31 to report on the period of January 1 through June 30.

We advise you to write down the due dates for these reports and set up a system of reminders to ensure that you submit them on time. A past-due SF-425 report will delay approval of any payment or amendment request you may have pending.

HOW TO SUBMIT THE SF-425

You'll prepare and submit your SF-425 reports online in the "Manage Grant" section of the E-Grant system at https:// portal.fema.gov/famsVuWeb/home.

1. First, read the line-by-line instructions for completing your SF-425, which can be found on the AFG Website under "Grants Management Assistance" in Rules & Tools.

2. Log in to the AFG's E-Grant System where you submitted your original application: (https://portal.fema.gov/famsVuWeb/ home). Complete and submit the SF-425 by the required deadlines.

3. Save printed copies of all submitted SF-425 reports in a grant binder and store the binder in a locked filing cabinet.

AGRICULTURE

Value-Added Producer Grants

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)

Deadline: 10/15/2012

USDA announces the availability of grants through the Value- Added Producer Grant (VAPG) program for Fiscal Year 2012. Approximately \$14 million in competitive grant funds for FY 2012 is available to help agricultural producers enter into value-added activities. At the discretion of the Secretary, additional funds may be made available to gualified ranking applications that respond to this announcement from prior year carry-over funds.

Maximum Grant Size: \$300,000

Number of Awards: 120

Eligible Applicants: You must be an Independent Producer, Agricultural Producer Group, Farmer or Rancher Cooperative, or a Majority Controlled Produced-Based Business to apply to this program; and you must meet all related requirements for Emerging Market (as applicable), Citizenship, Legal Authority and Responsibility, Multiple Grants and Active Grants. In addition, you must meet Departmental requirements related to debarment, suspension and exclusion from participation in Federal assistance programs, as well as requirements related to outstanding Federal income taxes, judgments and delinquencies. For detailed requirements, see 7 CFR 4284.920 and 7 CFR 4284.921.

As a special emphasis, Rural Development encourages applications from Federally Recognized Tribal Groups and corporations and subdivisions of Tribal Groups undertaking or planning to undertake eligible value-added projects. For further tribal eligibility questions, please contact your local Rural Development office. As part of applicant eligibility, it is important to clarify that all four applicant types must meet the Independent Producer and Agricultural Producer definition requirements in 7 CFR 4284.902, including, but not limited to, production and ownership of the majority of the raw agricultural commodity that will be transformed into the proposed value-added product for the project. All applicants must maintain ownership of the raw agricultural commodity through the production and marketing of the value-added product, with one partial exception for Mid-Tier Value Chain projects noted in its definition in 7 CFR 4284.902. Businesses that contract out the production of an agricultural commodity are not considered Independent Producers, and businesses that produce the agricultural commodity under contract for another business and do not own the raw commodity or value-added product produced are not considered Independent Producers. Finally, all applicants for working capital funds must document the quantity of the agricultural commodity that will be used for the value- added product, expressed in an appropriate unit of measure (acres, pounds, bushels, etc.) to demonstrate the scale of the applicant's project. This quantification must include an estimated total quantity of the agricultural commodity needed for the project, the quantity that will be provided (produced and owned) by the agricultural producers of the applicant organization, and the quantity that will be purchased or donated from third-party sources. The application must demonstrate that the amount of applicant commodity contributed to the project is the majority of the total agricultural commodity needed for the value-added project

Contact: Office of the Deputy Administrator, Phone: 202-720-8460

Website: www.rurdev.usda.gov

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

NAMM Foundation Announces Wanna Play Fund Grants for Instruments Available to Schools and Community Organizations for Music Education Programs

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The nonprofit NAMM Foundation works to advance active, lifelong participation in music making by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving, and public service programs of the international music products industry. The organization has announced the availability of grants through its Wanna Play Fund to provide instruments to schools and community organizations that are expanding or reinstating music education programs as part of a core curriculum and/or that employ quality music teachers. Eligible applicants are public schools serving low-income students (percentage of free and reduced lunch data required); community organizations serving low-income students and students with special needs (community demographic information re-

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Funding Opportunities

quired); and schools and community programs that have made a commitment to hiring and retaining high-quality music teachers and providing standardsbased, sequential learning in music. Online grant applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Applicants will be notified within thirty days of submission whether or not a grant will be awarded. Website: <u>http://www.nammfoundation.org/grant-information/apply-grant-and-scholarship</u>

Grants for Nonprofit Music Programs

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The Guitar Center Music Foundation's mission is to aid nonprofit music programs across America that offer music instruction so that more people can experience the joys of making music. Maximum Award: \$5000.

Eligibility: 501(c)(3) organizations. Qualifying applicants are established, ongoing and sustainable music programs across the United States that provide music instruction for people of any age who would not otherwise have the opportunity to make music.

Website: http://www.guitarcentermusicfoundation.org/grants/index.cfm?sec=info

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

Deadline: 12/04/2012

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections (SCHC) helps cultural institutions meet the complex challenge of preserving large and diverse holdings of humanities materials for future generations by supporting preventive conservation measures that mitigate deterioration and prolong the useful life of collections.

Libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations across the country are responsible for collections of books and manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings and moving images, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, art, and historical objects that facilitate research, strengthen teaching, and provide opportunities for life-long learning in the humanities. To preserve and ensure continued access to such collections, institutions must implement preventive conservation measures, which encompass managing relative humidity, temperature, light, and pollutants in collection spaces; providing protective storage enclosures and systems for collections; and safeguarding collections from theft and from natural and man-made disasters. As museums, libraries, archives, and other collecting institutions strive to be effective stewards of humanities collections, they must find ways to implement preventive conservation measures that are scientifically sound and sustainable. This program therefore helps cultural repositories plan and implement preservation strategies that pragmatically balance effectiveness, cost, and environmental impact. Projects should be designed to be as cost effective, energy efficient, and environmentally sensitive as possible, and they should aim to mitigate the greatest risks to collections rather than to meet prescriptive targets. To help institutions develop sound and sustainable preventive conservation projects, NEH encourages collaborative and interdisciplinary planning. Such planning should include consideration of the following factors: the nature of the materials in a collection; the performance of the building, its envelope, and its systems in moderating internal environmental conditions; the capabilities of the institution; the nature of the local climate and the effects of climate change; the cost-effectiveness and energy efficiency of various approaches to preventive conservation; and the project's impact on the environment.

Eligible Applicants: U.S. nonprofit organizations are eligible, as are state and local governmental agencies and federally recognized Indian tribal governments.

Contact: Division of Preservation and Access, Phone: 202-606-8570, Email: preservation@neh.gov

Website: www.neh.gov

COMMUNITY, BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)

Deadline: Open/Rolling

This Notice is to invite applications for loans and grants under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program pursuant to 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. Funding to support \$33 million in loans and \$10 million in grants is currently available. The commitment of pro-

gram dollars will be made to applicants of selected responses that have fulfilled the necessary requirements for obligation. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant's risk

Maximum Grant Size: \$1,000,000

This Notice is to invite applications for loans and grants under the Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant (REDLG) program pursuant to 7 CFR part 4280, subpart A for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. Funding to support \$33 million in loans and \$10 million in grants is currently available. The commitment of program dollars will be made to applicants of selected responses that have fulfilled the necessary requirements for obligation. Expenses incurred in developing applications will be at the applicant's risk.

Website:www.usda.gov

Planning and Local Technical Assistance Programs

Economic Development Administration (EDA), U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC)

Deadline: Open/Rolling

Pursuant to PWEDA, EDA announces general policies and application procedures for grant-based investments under the Planning and Local Technical Assistance Programs. These programs will help communities develop the planning and technical expertise to support communities and regions in their comprehensive, entrepreneurial, and innovation-based economic development efforts. Resulting in increased private investment and higher-skill, higher-wage jobs in areas experiencing substantial and persistent economic distress, these programs are designed to enhance the competitiveness of regions. Pursuant to PWEDA, eligible applicants for and eligible recipients of investment assistance include a(n): District Organization; Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes; State, city or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions; institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; or public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State. See section 3 of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3122) and 13 C.F.R. § 300.3. EDA is not authorized to provide grants directly to individuals or to for-profit entities seeking to start or expand a private business. Such requests may be referred to State or local agencies, or to non-profit economic development organizations serving the region in which the project will be located.

Website: www.eda.gov

Microsoft Unlimited Potential-Community Technology Skills Program

Deadline: Open/Rolling

This program promotes workforce development and IT skills training in underserved communities. It supports technology skills training, ranging from basic computer literacy to the use of advanced business productivity applications.

Funding details: Donations of cash, software, curriculum, and technical expertise

Eligibility: Nonprofit community technology centers (CTCs)

Website: http://www.microsoft.com/About/CorporateCitizenship/US/CommunityInvestment/CommunityTechSkills.mspx

Brownfields Assessment Grants

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER)

Deadline: 11/19/2012

The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act ("Brownfields Law", P.L. 107-118) requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to publish guidance to assist applicants in preparing proposals for grants to assess and clean up brownfield sites. EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Brownfields Assessment Grants: provides funds to inventory, characterize, assess, and conduct planning (including cleanup planning) and community involvement related to brownfield sites.

Website: www.epa.gov/oswer

Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER)

Deadline: 11/19/2012

The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act ("Brownfields Law", P.L. 107-118) requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to publish guidance to assist applicants in preparing proposals for grants to assess and clean up brownfield sites. EPA's Brownfields Program

provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. EPA provides brownfields funding for three types of grants.

Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants – provide funding for a grant recipient to capitalize a revolving fund and to make loans and provide subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites.

Website: www.epa.gov/oswer

Brownfields Cleanup Grants

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER)

Deadline: 11/19/2012

The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act ("Brownfields Law", P.L. 107-118) requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to publish guidance to assist applicants in preparing proposals for grants to assess and clean up brownfield sites. EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, communities, tribes, and nonprofits to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. EPA provides brownfields funding for three types of grants:

Brownfields Cleanup Grants - provides funds to carry out cleanup activities at a specific brownfield site owned by the applicant.

Website: www.epa.gov/oswer

Small Business Innovation Research Program Phase I

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Deadline: 12/03/2012

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program stimulates technological innovation in the private sector by strengthening the role of small business concerns in meeting Federal research and development needs, increasing the commercial application of federally supported research results, and fostering and encouraging participation by socially and economically disadvantaged and women-owned small businesses. The SBIR program solicits proposals from the small business sector consistent with NSF's mission. The program is governed by Public Law 112-81 (SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011). A main purpose of the legislation is to stimulate technological innovation and increase private sector commercialization. The NSF SBIR program is therefore in a unique position to meet both the goals of NSF and the purpose of the SBIR legislation by transforming scientific discovery into both social and economic benefit, and by emphasizing private sector commercialization. Accordingly, NSF has formulated broad solicitation topics for SBIR that conform to the high-technology investment sector's interests.

Total Funding Available: \$30,000,000

Number of Awards: 200

Eligible Applicants: Only firms qualifying as a small business concern are eligible to participate in the SBIR program. Socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns and women-owned small business concerns are particularly encouraged to participate. For an SBIR Phase I Proposal, a minimum of two-thirds of the research, as measured by the budget, must be performed by the small business concern and the balance may be outsourced to a consultant or subcontractor or a combination of the two. Proposals from joint ventures and partnerships are permitted, provided the entity created qualifies as a small business concern. Proposing firms are also encouraged to take advantage of research expertise and facilities that may be available to them at colleges, universities, national laboratories, and from other research providers. Such collaborations may include research subcontracts, consulting agreements or the employment of faculty as senior personnel and of graduate or undergraduate students as assistants by the small business.

Website: www.nsf.gov

EDUCATION AND CHILDRENS PROGRAMS

Lockheed Martin: Grants for Education

Deadline: Open/Rolling

Lockheed Martin provides grants for K-16 Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education. This includes Lockheed Martin's K-12 STEM Education Initiative, Engineers in the Classroom, as well as STEM-focused curricular and extracurricular programs that provide employee engagement opportunities in a community in which Lockheed Martin has employees or business interests. Maximum award: varies. Eligibility: 501(c)(3) organizations that deliver standards-b/sed science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education to students in K-16. Website: http://www.lockheedmartin.com/us/who-we-are/community/philanthropy/funding-guidelines.html

Campell's: Labels for Education

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The Campell's, Inc. Labels for Education Program gives schools free educational equipment in exchange for labels from Campbell products. Maximum award: varies. Eligibility: Schools or parents coordinate label drives to raise resources for schools. Deadline: N/A. <u>http://www.labelsforeducation.com/About/about-the-program.aspx</u>

Best Buy: Teach@15 Award

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The Teach@15 Award program improves classroom learning by helping schools (grades 7-12) meet technology needs. A teen member (age 13-18) who is a registered member on www.at15.com can nominate his/her school to win a Teach@15 Award. Maximum award: \$1,500 in the form of Best Buy Gift Cards. Eligibility: accredited, nonprofit junior or senior public, private, parochial, magnet, and charter high schools in the U.S. serving any grades 7-12. Website: http://www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com/teach_awards.htm

Carnegie /New York Times: I Love My Librarian Award

Deadline: 09/12/2012

The Carnegie Corporation of New York/New York Times I Love My Librarian Award recognizes the accomplishments of exceptional public, school, college, community college, or university librarians. Maximum award: \$5,000, a plaque, and \$500 travel stipend to attend an awards reception in New York hosted by The New York Times. Eligibility: school, public, college, or university librarians.

Website: http://www.ilovelibraries.org/lovemylibrarian/home.cfm

YouthBuild Grants

Department of Labor (DOL)

Deadline: 09/30/2012

The Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), announces the availability of approximately \$75 million in grant funds authorized by the YouthBuild provisions of the Workforce Investment Act [29 U.S.C. 2918a]. YouthBuild grants will be awarded through a competitive process. Under this solicitation, DOL will award grants to organizations to oversee the provision of education, occupational skills training, and employment services to disadvantaged youth in their communities while performing meaningful work and service to their communities. Based on FY 2012 funding, DOL hopes to serve approximately 5,210 participants during the grant period of performance, with projects operating in approximately 75 communities across the country.

Eligible applicants: Eligible applicants for these grants are public or private non-profit agencies or organizations including rural, urban or Native American agencies, but not limited to: Faith-based and community organizations; An entity carrying out activities under Workforce Investment Act (WIA), such as a local workforce investment board, One-Stop Career Center, or local school board; A community action agency; A state or local housing development agency; An Indian tribe or other agency primarily serving American Indians; A community development corporation; A state or local youth service conservation corps; A consortium of such agencies or organizations with a designated lead applicant; or Any other public or private non-profit entity that is eligible to provide education or employment training under a Federal program.

Contact: Kia Mason, Phone: 202-693-2606, Email: mason.kia@dol.gov

Broad Agency Announcement

Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Deadline: 09/30/2012

The purpose of this notice is to request applications for special projects and programs associated with NOAA's strategic plan and mission goals, as well as to provide the general public with information and guidelines on how NOAA will select proposals and administer discretionary Federal assistance under this Broad Agency Announcement. This BAA is a mechanism to encourage research, education and outreach, innovative projects, or sponsorships that are not addressed through our competitive discretionary programs. It is not a mechanism for awarding congressionally directed funds or existing funded awards. Funding for potential projects in this notice is contingent upon the availability of Fiscal Year 2012, Fiscal Year 2013 and Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations. Applicants are hereby given notice that funds have not yet been appropriated for any potential activities in this notice. Publication of this announcement

does not oblige NOAA to review an application, or to award any specific project, or to obligate any available funds. As an agency with responsibilities for maintaining and improving the viability of marine and coastal ecosystems, for delivering valuable weather, climate, and water information and services, for understanding the science and consequences of climate change, and for supporting the global commerce and transportation upon which we all depend, NOAA must remain current and responsive in an ever-changing world. We do this in concert with our partners and stakeholders in federal, state, and local governments and private organizations, applying a systematic approach that links our strategic goals through multi-year plans to the daily activities of our employees. Every year we are committed to re-evaluate our progress and priorities, look for efficiencies, and take advantage of new opportunities to improve our information, products, and services. In furtherance of this objective, NOAA issues this BAA for extramural research, innovative projects, and sponsorships (e.g., conferences, newsletters etc.) that address one or more of the following four mission goal descriptions contained in the NOAA Strategic Plan: Long-term mission goal: Climate Adaptation and Mitigation and responding to climate and its impacts, Long-term mission goal: Weather-Ready Nation, Long-term mission goal: Healthy Oceans and Long-term Mission goal: Resilient Coastal Communities and Economies.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants may be institutions of higher education, nonprofits, commercial organizations, international or foreign organizations or governments, individuals, state, local and Indian tribal governments.

Website: www.noaa.gov

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Accepting Applications for Fall 2012 K-12 Public School

Improvement Projects

Deadline: 10/12/2012 or first 1500 applications received before the application deadline

For the 2012-13 school year program, the foundation will give priority to basic necessities. There is a preference for funding requests that have a permanent impact such as facility enhancement (both indoor and outdoor), as well as landscaping/cleanup projects. Projects that encourage parent involvement and build stronger community spirit are encouraged. (Please note: the grant money cannot be used to pay for memorials, stipends, salaries, artists in residence, field trips, scholarships, or third-party funding.) Sample project ideas include reading gardens, vegetable gardens, physical fitness areas, school landscaping projects, school nature trails, parent involvement centers, peer tutoring centers, playgrounds, and rotating student art exhibits. Grant requests must be between \$2,000 and \$5,000 per school. Lowe's will donate \$5 million to schools and school parent/teacher groups at more than one thousand different schools during the school year.

Maximum Award: \$5,000

Eligibility: Any individual U.S. public K-12 school or nonprofit parent group associated with a public K-12 school is eligible to apply. Parent groups that are applying must have an independent EIN and official 501(c)(3) status from the IRS. Groups without 501(c)(3) status should apply through their school. Pre-schools are not eligible.

Website: http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/

NEA Foundation: Learning & Leadership Grants

Deadline: 10/15/2012

NEA Foundation Learning & Leadership Grants support public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education for one of two purposes. Grants to individuals fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences, such as summer institutes or action research; grants to groups fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson study, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff new to an assignment. Maximum award: \$2,000 for individuals and \$5,000 for groups engaged in collegial study. Eligibility: public school teachers grades K-12; public school education support professionals; or faculty and staff at public higher education institutions.

Website: http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/Learning&Leadership_Guidelines.htm

NEA Foundation: Student Achievement Grants

Deadline: 10/15/2012

The NEA Foundation Student Achievement Grants provide funds to improve the academic achievement of students by engaging in critical thinking and problem-solving that deepen knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning,

and critical reflection. Maximum award: \$5,000. Eligibility: practicing U.S. public school teachers, public school education support professionals, or faculty or staff at public higher education institutions

Website: http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/StudentAchievement_Guidelines.htm

Clorox: Power a Bright Future Grants

Deadline: 10/17/2012

Clorox Power a Bright Future Grants aim to provide necessary resources to help support school programs that enrich kids' lives. Maximum award: \$50,000. Eligibility: Anyone at least 18 years old at time of entry can nominate an accredited K-12, public or private school program.

Website: http://www.powerabrightfuture.com/

AGI: A World of Change in My Community

Deadline: 10/19/2012

The American Geological Institute is sponsoring a photography contest to celebrate Earth Science Week 2012. The photography theme for this year is "Earth Science is a Big Job." Maximum award: \$300, a copy of AGI's Faces of Earth DVD, and winner's photograph on the Earth Science Week Website. Eligibility: interested residents of the United States of any age.

Website: http://www.earthsciweek.org/contests/photography/index.html

Bridges to the Baccalaureate Program

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Deadline: 10/26/2012

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) issued by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), encourages Research Education Grant (R25) applications from institutions that propose research education programs to increase the pool of community college students from underrepresented backgrounds who go on to research careers in the biomedical and behavioral sciences and will be available to participate in NIH-funded research. This initiative promotes partnerships/consortia between community colleges or other two-year post-secondary educational institutions granting the associate degree with colleges or universities that offer the baccalaureate degree. The program expects that the joint efforts of baccalaureate degree-granting and associate degree-granting institutions will foster the development of a well-integrated institutional program that will provide students with the necessary academic preparation and skills to enable their transition and successful completion of the baccalaureate and subsequently more advanced degrees in biomedical and behavioral sciences.

Eligible Applicants: Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education, Private Institutions of Higher Education, Hispanic-serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs),

Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs), Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions

Contact: Michelle R.J. Hamlet, Phone: 301-594-3900, Email: hamletm@mail.nih.gov

Website: www.nih.gov

Bridges to the Doctorate Program

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Deadline: 10/26/2012

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) issued by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), encourages Research Education Grant (R25) applications from institutions that propose to increase the pool of master's degree students from underrepre-

sented backgrounds who go on to research careers in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, and who are trained and available to participate in NIHfunded research. This initiative promotes partnerships/consortia between colleges or universities granting a terminal master's degree with institutions that offer the doctorate degree. The program expects that the joint efforts of doctorate degree-granting and master's degree-granting institutions will foster the development of a well-integrated institutional program that will provide students with the necessary academic preparation and skills to enable their transition and successful completion of the Ph.D. degree in biomedical and behavioral sciences.

Eligible Applicants: Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education, Private Institutions of Higher Education, Hispanic-serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)

Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs), Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions.

Contact: Michelle R.J. Hamlet, Phone: 301-594-3900, Email: hamletm@mail.nih.gov

Website: www.nih.gov

NGA/Subaru: Healthy Sprouts Awards

Deadline: 10/31/2012

The National Gardening Association/Subaru Healthy Sprouts Awards recognize outstanding youth garden programs that teach about nutrition and the issue of hunger in the United States. Maximum award: \$500 gift certificate to Gardener's Supply; NGA's Eat a Rainbow Kit, chock full of engaging taste education and nutrition lessons. Eligibility: schools or organizations that plan to garden with children between the ages of 3 and 18.

Website: http://grants.kidsgardening.org/2012-subaru-healthy-sprouts-award

Freedom Foundation: Leavey Awards

Deadline: 11/01/2012

The Leavey Awards for Excellence In Private Enterprise Education honor outstanding educators who excite a commitment in their students to the free enterprise system and unleash the entrepreneurial skills of their students at the elementary, junior high school, high school and college level. Maximum award: \$15,000. Eligibility: U.S. citizens or permanent residents employed full-time as an educator at an accredited American school (grades K-12), college or university.

Website: http://www.freedomsfoundation.org/Leavy-Awards.cfm

IRA: Teacher as Researcher Grant

Deadline: 11/01/2012

International Reading Association Teacher as Researcher grants support classroom teachers who undertake action research inquiries about literacy and instruction. Maximum award: \$4,000. Eligibility: All applicants must be members of the International Reading Association (IRA) and practicing pre-K-12 teachers with full time or permanent half time teaching responsibilities (includes librarians, Title I teachers, classroom teachers, and resource teachers). Classroom teachers will be given preference. Applicants may apply as a collaborative group or individually.

Website: http://www.reading.org/Resources/AwardsandGrants/research_teacher_as_researcher.aspx

Prudential: Spirit of Community Awards

Deadline: 11/13/2012

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards honor young people in grades 5 through 12 who have demonstrated exemplary voluntary service to their communities. Maximum award: \$1,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C. Eligibility: Students grades 5-12 who have conducted a volunteer service activity within the past year.

Website: http://spirit.prudential.com/view/page/soc/14830

Environmental Education Regional Grants

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Deadline: 11/21/2012

The purpose of the Environmental Education (EE) Regional Grant Program is to increase public awareness and knowledge about environmental issues and provide the skills that participants in its funded projects need to make informed environmental decisions and take responsible actions toward the environment.

Maximum Grant Award: \$214,000

Number of Awards: 10

Eligible Applicants: Any local education agency, college or university, state education or environmental agency, nonprofit organization as described in Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a noncommercial educational broadcasting entity as defined and licensed by Federal Communications Commission may submit a proposal. Applicant organizations must be located in the United States or territories and the majority of the educational activities must take place in the United States; or in the U.S. and Canada or Mexico; or in U.S. Territories. A teacher's school district, an educator's nonprofit organization, or a faculty member's college or university may apply, but an individual teacher or faculty member may not apply.

Website: www.epa.gov

NGA/Home Depot: Youth Garden Grants

Deadline: 12/03/2012

National Gardening Association Youth Garden Grants provide support to schools and community organizations with child-centered garden programs. In evaluating grant applications, priority will be given to programs that emphasize one or more of these elements: educational focus or curricular/program integration; nutrition or plant-to-food connections; environmental awareness/education; entrepreneurship; and social aspects of gardening such as leader-ship development, team building, community support, or service-learning. Maximum award: gift cards valued at \$1,000 and educational materials from NGA. Eligibility: schools, youth groups, community centers, camps, clubs, treatment facilities, and intergenerational groups throughout the United States.

Website: http://grants.kidsgardening.org/2013-youth-garden-grant-award

Libri Foundation: Books for Children

Deadline: 01/23/2013

The Libri Foundation Books for Children Grants donate new, quality, hardcover children's books for small, rural, public libraries across the country. Maximum award: varies. Eligibility: Libraries should be in a rural area, have a limited operating budget, and an active children's department. The average total operating budget of a Books for Children grant recipient must be less than \$40,000.

Website: http://www.librifoundation.org/apps.html

NGA/Mantis: Mantis Award

Deadline: 03/07/2013

The National Gardening Association Mantis Awards to charitable and educational garden projects that enhance the quality of life in their host communities. Maximum award: NGA selects 25 outstanding applicants to receive Mantis tiller/cultivators. Eligibility: Applicants must operate a charitable or educational program that is not-for-profit in the United States.

Website: http://grants.kidsgardening.org/2013-mantis-tiller-awardg/Programs/grants/hsgrant.cfm

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Southwest Airlines Accepting Applications From Hospitals and Charities to Participate in 2013 Medical Transportation Grant Program

Deadline: 09/30/2012

Southwest Airlines has announced a call for applications from hospitals and medical transportation charities in the United States to participate in the carrier's 2013 Medical Transportation Grant Program.

The program provides complimentary, roundtrip tickets to nonprofit hospitals and medical transportation nonprofit organizations. The tickets are distributed by the organizations to deserving patients and their caregivers who must travel for medical care. Southwest allows participating hospitals and medical transportation nonprofit organizations the freedom to determine how to distribute the tickets to their patients and/or caregivers.

To be eligible, applicants must be a nonprofit hospital offering specialized care, or a nonprofit medical transportation organization whose primary mission is to assist patients with their transportation needs. In an effort to further reduce any stress on the patient and/or their caregiver, Southwest can only consider hospitals located within forty miles of a city that is served by Southwest Airlines.

In 2012, the program provided more than \$2.4 million in free transportation to more than seventy hospitals and organizations nationwide for patients needing to travel for medical treatment. Complete program information, the online application, and the list of 2012 grant recipients are available at the Southwest Airlines Web site.

Website: http://www.southwest.com/medicalgrant/

HOUSING

Enterprise Green Communities Offers Charrette and Sustainability Grants for Green Affordable Housing Projects

Deadline: Open /Rolling

An initiative of Enterprise Community Partners, Enterprise Green Communities provides funds and expertise to enable affordable housing developers to build and rehabilitate homes that are healthier, more energy efficient, and better for the environment. In addition to loans and other funding options, Green Communities offers Charrette and Sustainability grants to help cover the costs of planning and implementing green components of affordable housing developments, as well as tracking their costs and benefits. Charrette grants provide up to \$5,000 per project for affordable housing development professionals as well as residents, technical experts, funders, policy makers, and community stakeholders to integrate sustainable green design principles into affordable housing developments. By supporting charrettes at the schematic design phase, Enterprise seeks to help developers establish green goals as early as possible so that the most cost-effective green strategies can be incorporated in the building and site plans. Projects applying for predevelopment charrette funds must be in the early stages of planning or schematic design phase of development. Sustainability Training grants (post-construction) of up to \$5,000 each are provided for affordable housing developers to maximize the health, economic, and environmental benefits of green development throughout a project's life cycle. The grant program provides an opportunity to transfer the design knowledge that informed the Green Communities planning and construction process to residents as well as operations and management staff. Funding may be used to cover the cost of implementing a training program and related tools that support green resident engagement and operations. Projects must have completed construction at the time of application and be occupied prior to the grant award. For both programs, eligible applicants are nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations, tribally designated housing entities, and for-profit entities participating through joint ventures with qualif

Website: http://www.greencommunitiesonline.org/tools/funding/grants/

SPORTS

Bikes Belong Offers Funding for Bicycle Advocacy and Facilities Deadline: end of every guarter

Bikes Belong is a national coalition of bicycle suppliers and retailers working together to put more people on bicycles more often. Bikes Belong welcomes grant applications from organizations and agencies within the United States that are committed to "putting more people on bicycles more often." The Bikes Belong Grants Program funds projects in two categories: 1) facilities; and 2) advocacy.

Maximum Grant Size: \$10,000

Number of Awards: 15

Eligible Applicants: Bikes Belong will accept applications from nonprofit organizations, public agencies, and departments at the national, state, regional, and local levels. For the advocacy category, Bikes Belong will only fund organizations whose mission is expressly related to bicycle advocacy. New organizations that are not yet legally nonprofit organizations may submit an application with the assistance of another nonprofit that has agreed to serve as fiscal agent. Bikes Belong will not fund individuals. Because of the program's limited funds, it rarely awards grants to organizations and communities that have received Bikes Belong funding within the last three years.

Website: http://bikesbelong.org/page.cfm?PageID=21

Baseball Tomorrow Fund Offers Support for Youth Baseball and Softball Programs Deadline: Open/Rolling

The Baseball Tomorrow Fund is a joint initiative between Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association designed to promote and enhance the growth of youth participation in baseball and softball around the world by funding programs, fields, coaches' training, uniforms, and equipment. Grants are intended to finance a new program, expand or improve an existing program, undertake a new collaborative effort, or obtain facilities or equipment necessary for youth baseball or softball programs. The Baseball Tomorrow Fund supports projects that meet the following evaluation criteria: increase the number of youth participating in baseball and softball programs; improve the quality of youth baseball and softball programs; create new or innovative ways of expanding and improving baseball or softball programs; are able to match funds for programs; provide programs for children aged 10-16; support existing programs that have demonstrated success in providing a quality youth baseball/softball experience; and address opportunities for minorities and women. Applicants are invited to submit a Letter of Inquiry. Letters of inquiry are accepted throughout the year. Selected applicants are invited to submit a full application. Grants are awarded on a quarterly basis.

Eligible Applicants: Nonprofit and tax-exempt organizations involved in youth baseball programs are encouraged to apply.

Website: http://mlb.mlb.com/NASApp/mlb/mlb/official_info/community/btf.jsp

USGA/Alliance: Grants for the Good of the Game

Deadline: Open/Rolling

The National Alliance for Accessible Golf (Alliance) and the United States Golf Association (USGA) believe that golf should be open to everyone and supports a wide variety of programs that create opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate in the sport. They especially encourage inclusive programming- opportunities that allow participants with disabilities and participants without disabilities to learn and play the game side by side.

Maximum award: \$20,000. Eligibility: tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations as defined under Section 501(c)3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code or government entities such as public schools or municipalities.

Website: http://www.accessgolf.org/grants/alliance_grants.cfm



For information on these and other funding opportunities, please contact:

Desirée Mendez-Caltzontzint, Grants Coordinator Edinburg District Office 2864 W. Trenton Road Edinburg, Texas 78539 (956) 682-5545 (956) 682-0141 fax <u>desiree.mendez@mail.house.qov</u>