

The Madison Cooperative Development Coalition (MCDC) aims to move beyond traditional business and charitable models that attempt to tackle issues of inequity. This project is designed to address income inequality, racial disparities, and build sustainable neighborhoods. MCDC's proposed program is meant to build capacity at a wide variety of community organizations by providing cooperative business training, coordinating services, and assistance in forming viable businesses under a unionized cooperative model.

MCDC represents a tripod of partners including cooperative developers, labor unions, and community-based organizations (CBOs) big and small. Tripod partners will not only provide educational resources and technical expertise, but they are integral to ensuring that this innovative economic model is considered by every community, especially those that struggle with unemployment and low wages. MCDC will create a comprehensive infrastructure for emerging cooperatives to receive the technical assistance they will need through the entire cooperative development process.

Project resources will initially be used to establish the governance and operational structure for MCDC. Integral to this will be the efficient use of limited resources by eliminating redundancies and encouraging collaboration to create an ecosystem that promotes the development of unionized cooperative businesses in every industry and sector of the economy.

**Members of MCDC understand that we cannot create sustainable outcomes
for the community without its direct involvement and guidance.**

Following the principles of the worker cooperative model, MCDC will operate under a steering committee governance structure. After a six-month interim period, Steering Committee members will be elected by the coalition. The Steering Committee will provide coordination and direction on all elements of the initiative, including:

- Oversight of activity-group (committee) activities and their budgets;
- Oversight of Industry and Place-based Analysis and develop potential cooperative business ideas;
- Oversight of a Peer Support Network to support sustainability of new cooperatives and MCDC;
- Administration of the mini-grant process for CBOs, unions and cooperatives in development (CIDs);
- Coordination of referrals for start-up business loans through the Madison Development Corporation (MDC).

To achieve this, five distinct activity groups will be created to fulfill specific roles including:

- **MCDC Steering Committee:** responsible for outlining policies and procedures for governance; including decision making authorities, evaluation of program effectiveness, and contracting.
- **Resource Development Group:** facilitating the coordination and evaluation of activities to ensure MCDC partners' resource needs are met, including marketing material needs, website development, and communications needs.
- **Program Design Group:** building capacity and identify resources for MCDC members to support their outreach efforts, and designing the mini-grant process and educational programming.
- **Program Delivery Group:** coordinating technical services provided by various groups, including cooperative developers, unions, CBOs, business development professionals, and coordinating a peer support network to connect new and existing worker cooperatives.
- **Fiscal Agent (Cooperative Network):** providing project oversight, and accounting and reporting services.

Please share this and the attached MCDC Partner Profile with your organization. We will be emailing an electronic version to all our partners as well, and look forward to your response. Thank you!

MCDC Partner Profile

Your organization's name: _____

Representative(s) name and title: _____

Representative email: _____

How does your organization's mission align with MCDC's goals? _____

What experience do your organization and individual members have in the following areas:

	Your Organization	Your Members	Organization and Members	No direct experience
Business Development				
Cooperative Development				
Community Outreach				
Job Training				
Educational Training				

How do you see your organization contributing to MCDC's goals?

Contribute by participating in MCDC's governance and infrastructure:

- Run for the Steering Committee
- Serve on the Resource Development Group
- Serve on the Program Design Group
- Serve on the Program Delivery Group
- Not sure at this time

Contribute by doing outreach in the following neighborhoods and communities:

Contribute by doing a neighborhood-based analysis of start-up and/or conversion opportunities:

Contribute by offering the following educational training:

Contribute by offering the following technical assistance:

Please let us know how MCDC can help your org build capacity for outreach, education and/or training:

Help with staff time for outreach: _____

Help with worker cooperative education: _____

Help with cooperative development training: _____

Help with creating resource materials for training programs: _____

Other: _____

What is the best way to elect representatives to the MCDC Steering Committee? _____

What did we miss? _____

(please use additional paper if necessary)