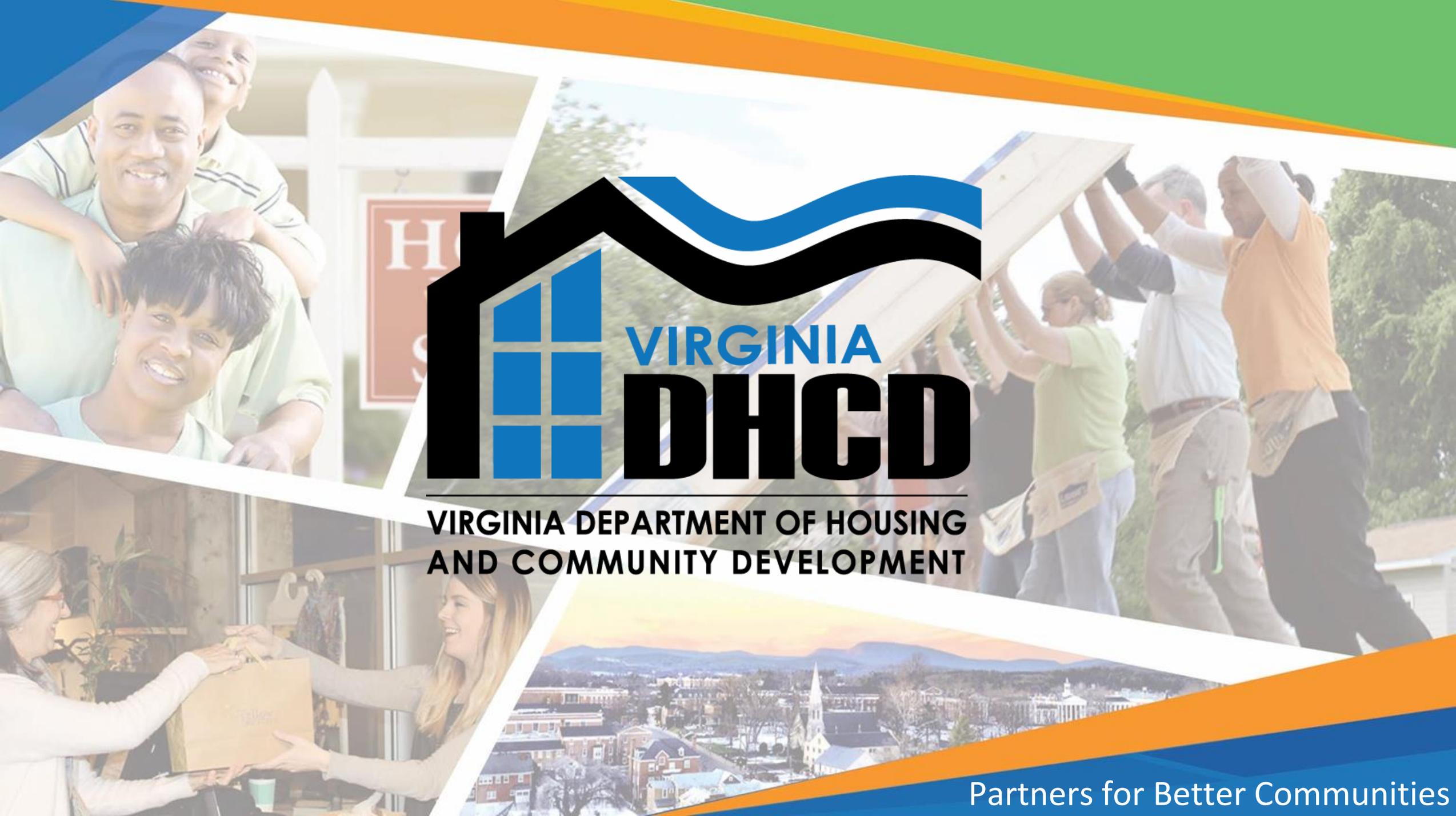




**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**



Partners for Better Communities

VIRGINIA SMALL BUSINESS RESILIENCY FUND (VSBRF)

Program Update for Virginia First Cities

DHCD Mission Statement

DHCD is committed to creating safe, affordable and prosperous communities to live, work and do business in Virginia.



Virginia Small Business Resiliency Fund

The [Virginia Small Business Resiliency Fund](#) (VSBRF) was created to provide a funding stream to existing Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) and emerging CDFIs. This funding is both highly targeted and highly flexible so that dollars reach those that need assistance the most and to enable the broadest impacts. The economic slowdown associated with the COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately impacted small and micro businesses, with *those owned and operated by women, people of color, and immigrants* experiencing the highest rates of closures. VSBRF also seeks to build capacity in the institutions administering those dollars to create programs and products that meet the specific needs of underserved COVID-19-impacted businesses.

VSBRF Goals

- Serving small businesses adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, with an emphasis on those sectors which have been disproportionately impacted or have been economically disadvantaged historically
- Increasing economic activity in distressed communities around the Commonwealth, and
- Increasing the capacity of the CDFI sector to serve these target markets in Virginia

VSBRF Program and Funding Priorities

1. Expansion of services into un- or underserved geographies and business sectors with a focus on those disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Timely deployment of dollars or resources.
3. Expansion of technical assistance, services, and lending products.
4. Capacity building within the Virginia CDFI ecosystem.

Eligible Applicants

To be eligible for VSBRF, entities must be a CDFI or an emerging CDFI as defined and certified by the United States Department of Treasury. Applicants must be able to document each of the following:

- That the organization is certified by the United States Department of the Treasury as a CDFI as of the date of application to the VSBRF, or that it is an emerging CDFI working towards this certification
- An established history of commercial lending
- An established history of lending in Virginia

Available Funding

Emerging CDFI: Planning and Capacity Building

- Planning Grants : Entities that are pursuing U. S. Treasury Certification as a Community Development Financial Institution can apply for funding of up to \$50,000 to defray expenses associated with the Certification process, including hiring a consultant to write the application.
- Capacity Building Grants: Funding up to \$100,000 to support the outreach, research, and development necessary to determine appropriate target markets, target populations, and financial products and services to meet the program priorities.

Emerging CDFIs applying for Planning and Capacity Building can receive a total of \$150,000.

Available Funding:

Existing CDFIs: Financial Products and Services

- Grants to existing CDFIs should directly benefit investment in, and technical assistance to, small businesses and entrepreneurs, per the Fund goals and priorities. Products and Services should be based on identified market demand, identified resource gaps, and support local and regional asset-based economic development strategies. These grants will be capped at \$2,000,000

Timeline

- October 1, 2021: Application opens
- **November 8, 2021: Application deadline**
- November 2021: Application review
- January 2022: Award Announcement
- February 2022: Contracts issued
- March 2022: Projects begin

Projects Completed By:

Emerging CDFIs-Planning and Capacity Building:

- 12 months from contract

Existing CDFIs-Financial Product and Services

- 24 months from contract

Themes and Total ask

Themes

- **Most applications have Capacity Building needs**
 - **Hiring people**
- A handful have the goal to go statewide
 - Recognizing the need to have mission driven lending beyond their current service area
 - This is a great opportunity to identify the CDFI deserts

Total Ask

- 15 Organizations

• \$ **16,960,139.30**

Questions?



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