COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AT THE FEDERAL RESERVE

Each of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks in the Federal Reserve System has a Community Affairs Office that provides financial institutions with information on the Community Reinvestment Act, community and economic development, and issues related to credit access. The Community Affairs Offices also provide resource information, technical assistance, and regulatory guidance to community-based organizations, government entities, and a wide variety of other organizations engaged in community and economic development.

Community Affairs fosters collaboration and provides information for the improvement of communities and the lives of the people who live in them.

Mission
The mission of the Community Affairs program is to support the System’s economic growth objectives by promoting community development and fair and impartial access to credit.

Products and Services
Each Federal Reserve Bank Community Affairs Office (CAO) develops specific products and services to meet the informational needs of its regional market. These information products and services fall into three major areas.

Publications
The CAOs issue a wide array of publications. These include newsletters that highlight community reinvestment activities, profiles that assess the credit needs of communities and identify programs that help banks meet those needs, and special publications that cover topics such as fair lending and small business technical assistance.

Conferences, Training, and Presentations
The CAOs sponsor and participate in a variety of public forums that provide information and guidance on CRA-related requirements, community investment and development opportunities, and model programs and resources from around the country.
Technical Assistance

The CAOs provide a wide range of technical information on community and economic development, including information on the creation of multibank community development corporations, public/private affordable housing development partnerships, and small business lending.

Federal Reserve Districts