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**Florida Community Development
Association**

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**Florida Community
Development Association**

*Continuous Improvement to Work
Quicker, Better, Smarter*

**Professionals Working Together
as Advocates for Community
Development Programs.**

The Florida Community Development Association membership represents thousands of individuals made up of clients, practitioners, local governments, and other partners through Florida and the nation involved in achieving community and economic development objectives. The Association strives to provide practical technical assistance and training to this constituency to facilitate better preparedness and planning to navigate complex program, compliance, political and other challenges to accomplishing "real" community improvement.

FCDA is striving to be the state's leading training and advocacy organization for community and economic development and in order to achieve these goals we earnestly need to hear from professionals in the field. Once the needs are identified the Association will work hard to make that training available or to create that forum to which we can ask the "hard" questions and get practical responses that work in the real world. We will partner with other viable organizations to provide training in those instance where it may not be feasible for the Association to be the lead including the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, Dept. of Community Affairs, Dept. of Environmental Protection, Attorney General, Federal Reserve, and others. As program requirements change we will work diligently to make sure our members are fully informed to react accordingly.

One of the guiding purposes of the Association is to promote "excellence" and professional development in all aspects of our professional life. We recognize too that good personal habits helps our professional performance and we strive to better prepare our members to be "well-rounded". For that reason you may see recommended books or articles or best practices, and other "tips" that would serve to make our practitioners more competitive. Additionally, we recognize outstanding community and economic development programs through "FCDA Excellence Awards limited to our member organizations and projects to which they are connected. Also, we recognize individual contributions the Florida Community Development Association through the "James E. Huger Award" where one member is selected by past winners of this prestigious award.

The Association maintains a close alliance with national organizations that have similar interests in enhancing the vibrancy and quality of life for local communities with a special focus on low and moderate-income persons. The National Community Development Association, U.S. Conference of Mayors, National Coalition for Employment and Economic Development, National League of Cities, and others have advocated together to preserve and enhance community and economic development funding.

Additionally, we have sat with HUD officials to provide meaningful insight into the effectiveness of policy proposals and shaped the way they were written so that they could better for practitioners in local situations. The inclusion of "or" instead of "and" in a policy language can be huge in certain situations.

We ask for your support to join us in this noble effort! Our combined voices and energy representing so many across the state can be a tremendously powerful tool to become excellent is everything we do. Membership is the Florida Community Development Association provides a wealth of advantages including access to our monthly newsletter, free advertising, discounted rates on training, peer-to-peer counseling to gain feedback from qualified professionals, recognition through awards, access to networking opportunities, and a host of other intangibles.

We welcome your participation with us and ask you to visit our website at: www.fcdaonline.com. Complete the Membership Application and become a member or you may contact us directly at:

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