

# **GICH Senior Year**

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Program Description, Application, and Expectations

# What is GICH Senior Year?

- A two-year program for certified alumni and recent graduates
- Communities will develop a place-based strategy and receive tailored housing education and technical assistance
- Communities will receive special consideration for LIHTC, CHIP, and CDBG greater than the normal amount for GICH communities
- Two communities are chosen from a competitive selection process

# Program Components

## Neighborhood Focus

- Work will be tailored to a specific target area in your community

## DCA Education

- Education from DCA program experts designed for you

## Technical Assistance and Facilitation

- External TA providers and subject matter experts will help facilitate your planning

# Neighborhood Focus

- GICH SY is designed with neighborhood focus in mind
- Technical assistance and education will be targeted towards helping a specific neighborhood or community within your city/county
- As part of your application, you will identify the boundaries of the neighborhood you want to revitalize
- DCA program benefits will apply only within this target area

# DCA Education

- DCA will provide program education and TA to participants
- Education will be tailored to the community
- Goal is to expose participants to the broad spectrum of DCA housing and community development resources and how they can help your neighborhood plan

# Technical Assistance and Facilitation

- An outside TA provider will be provided to participants
- This group will help the communities develop a neighborhood strategy, meaning that we will plan to build a comprehensive neighborhood plan that will link housing with community services, education, healthcare, and retail.
- Facilitated discussion will be provided to help strategize and find opportunities for success

# Application Overview



# The application has two sections

## Threshold

- Threshold requirements must be met to be scored
- Largely based on GICH Alumni Certification requirements

## Evaluation

- Evaluation criteria is scored competitively
- This is section is where you tell us your history and what you hope to accomplish with the program

# Threshold Criteria



# Threshold: Alumni Certification Requirements

Based on alumni certification application:

- 1. An updated team roster
- 2. Confirmation of two-yearly team meetings in 2025
- 3. Confirmation of GICH retreat attendance for 2025

# Threshold: Team Roster

- Must include:
  - Primary and secondary contact
  - Elected official
  - Government employees (City Manager, Economic Development/Development Authority, Planners, etc)
  - Housing authority (if applicable)
  - School board official
  - Resident of target neighborhood

# Threshold: Team Roster (10 pts)

- The previous roster members were required. These are suggested other members. These will be scored competitively
- Should include:
  - Representatives from key local employers
  - Nonprofits, faith-leaders, community-based organization representatives
  - Chamber of commerce
  - Regional Commission
  - Representatives from city/county government (whichever the applicant is not)
  - Any other key community partners not listed here

# Threshold: LIHTC, CHIP, CDBG

- Please attach evidence that your team applied for either LIHTC, CHIP, or CDBG during your time as a GICH community or alumni
- You do not need to have been successfully awarded, just show that you applied
- This requirement demonstrates that you try to utilize DCA resources already

# Evaluation Criteria



# Evaluation: Housing Plan (10 pts)

- Include your GICH team housing plan
- It needs to have been updated within the last two years
- No required structure
- Should include: progress made, projects underway, and future goals

# Evaluation: Community Narrative (20 pts)

- 1-to-3-page narrative about your community in relation to housing
- Focus should be on your target area and its place in your community
- Should include history before GICH, your time in the program, and what you have done after
- Discuss local investment into housing and successes with state/federal programs
- Include barriers to success
- Consider including data to back up claims
- Goal: help us understand your community and why you need this program

# Evaluation: GICH Senior Year Plan (25 pts)

- 2 pages detailing your vision for GICH SY participation
- Discuss your ideas for your target area, detailing the scope and need for the project
- Discuss how you hope to use programs like LIHTC, CHIP, CDBG, etc. for the target area
- Cover what topics you want your team to learn about
- Overall goal is to convey what you want your target area to become and how you plan to get there

# Evaluation: Map of Target Area (10 pts)

- Attach a map of the target area
- Draw the specific boundaries
- Ideally constitutes an existing neighborhood/community

# Evaluation: Program Participation and Resources (10 pts)

- Select the boxes that apply
- Will be asked about DCA Housing and community development programs, local initiatives and assets, and external partnerships
- If you have completed a housing study, please attach it here
- If you list any external partnerships, please include proof of that relationship

## DCA Housing Programs

	Applied successfully	Applied but not selected	Application currently pending
9% Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4% Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rural Workforce Housing Initiative (RWHI)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HOME-ARP	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please include any other DCA housing programs in which your community has participated that you think are relevant but not included in the table above:

# Acknowledgement of Expectations

- On the last page of the application, you acknowledge the expectations of participation
- By submitting the application, you agree to participate in the program as designed

**Neighborhood Focus**

**DCA Education**

**Technical Assistance  
and Facilitation**

# Application Submission

- Applications are due April 10<sup>th</sup>
- Submit through Jotform (link found in email and on GICH website)
- Recommend submitting early in case you run into issues



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# Questions?