



## Weekly News Round-up

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### HUD Announces \$1M Funding Opportunity for Delta Business Lending

HUD's new funding program, Delta Community Capital Initiative, will make available \$1 million to increase access to capital for business lending and economic development in critically underserved communities in the Delta region. DCCI is a collaborative effort among three federal agencies - HUD, the Treasury Department, and USDA - to provide direct investment and technical assistance to community development lending and investing institutions to make capital funding more available and effective.

[Read More >](#)



### Delta Leadership Institute holds final session of 2013-2014 Academy

The Delta Leadership Institute recognized the 2013-14 graduating class in a commencement ceremony held in the Arkansas State Capitol

### Upcoming Events:

*Register or Apply Today*

#### September 18

##### **Louisiana Workforce Summit**

Thibodaux, LA | 9:00am-4:00pm  
Registration open for Reimagining the Delta Workforce: Louisiana

#### September 24

##### **Positioning, Planning, & Profiting for Minority/Women-Owned Business Enterprises**

Ridgeland, MS | 8:00am-11:00am  
Facilitated by MMBC Continuum, this is the first of a two-part seminar targeting minority and women-owned businesses seeking information and strategies to grow their business.

#### September 30

##### **Application Webinar: Workforce Development Capacity Building & Technical Assistance Fund**

Join DRA staff for a review of the Notice of Funding Availability for DRA's recently-announced workforce development funding program.

#### September 30, 2014

##### **Meet the Lenders-Illinois**

Carbonale, IL | 1:00pm-4:30pm  
Hosted by the Illinois Small Business Development Center and U.S. SBA, this is your opportunity to meet one-on-one with lenders offering affordable lending capital

rotunda on Thursday, September 11 in Little Rock, Arkansas. The 50 regional leaders, nominated by their Governors and DRA's federal co-chairman, will join more than 300 alumni as part of the Delta Leadership Network to work collaboratively in addressing some of the region's most pressing challenges. As members of DLI's Executive Academy, members meet seven times during the year to explore a wide range of topics ranging from health care, education, transportation, information technology, clean technology, small business development, and economic development while traveling the Delta states.

[Learn more >](#)



## **Meet the Lenders Event Connects Small Business and Affordable Capital**

The DRA is partnering with the US Small Business Administration and its Small Business Development Centers in each state to bring regional lenders together over the next two months to discuss their lending products and meet face-to-face with business owners. "Meet the Lenders" will help address the major challenge of access to capital that small businesses across the Delta region experience. The first of these Access to Affordable Capital seminars will be held in Illinois on Tuesday, September 30, 2014 from 1:00pm – 4:30pm, followed by a networking reception to provide an

for Delta small businesses.

**October 7, 2014**

**SAVE THE DATE: Reimagining the Delta Workforce Kentucky**  
Educators, economic developers and community leaders gather to discuss ways to improve the workforce development system in Kentucky.

*\*If you have an event that you would like featured in our Upcoming Events section, send event information to [news@dra.gov](mailto:news@dra.gov)*

## **Announcements From Our Partners:**

**DRA, Delta region featured in US EDA Monthly Update**

**USDA Announces More than \$518 Million to Modernize Service, Improve the Reliability of Rural Electric Systems**

**Webinar | Voices For Healthy Kids Initiative: Healthy Food Access, Healthy Communities | September 25**

**USDA Seeks Applications for Grants under the Rural Community Development Initiative | Application Deadline November 12, 2014**

**SBA announces Sept-Dec Classes Available at Arkansas Small Business & Technology Development Centers**

extended, informal opportunity to talk with lenders, technical assistance providers, and area entrepreneurs. There is no cost to attend the event, but seating is limited.

[Learn More >](#)



## **DRA Board Holds Quarterly Meeting in Little Rock**

The Delta Regional Authority's Board of Governors held its quarterly meeting on September 11-12 at the Marriott Hotel in Little Rock, Arkansas. Board members heard presentations from Annett Pagan of [Winrock International](#) and Matthew Hampton of [Elevate Youth Entrepreneurship](#), highlighting two programs funded by the DRA to support entrepreneurship and small businesses in Louisiana and Arkansas. Designees for each of the DRA's eight governors participated in the meeting.



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