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
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.