

TED STRICKLAND
GOVERNOR
STATE OF OHIO

Executive Order 2009 – 09S

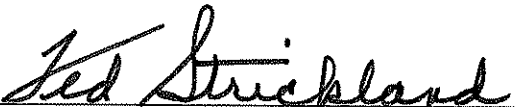
Authorization of Application for Federal Stimulus Economic Recovery Grant Funds

1. Ohio has been severely impacted by the nation's economic downturn. The current national recession has severely impacted Ohioans, resulting in devastating plant closings, layoffs, and foreclosure rates. In May 2009, the unemployment rate in Ohio reached 10.8% while the national average was at 9.4%.
2. Federal stimulus funds are available to assist nonprofit organizations in addressing broad economic recovery issues. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 was designed to sustain and create jobs, and to transform our economy to compete in the 21st century. ARRA includes funding for the Strengthening Communities Fund (SCF) State, Local, and Tribal Government Capacity Building Program. The intent of the SCF State, Local, and Tribal Government Capacity Building Program is to help strengthen the capacity of government offices (or their authorized designee) that provide assistance to faith-based and community-based organizations and other nonprofits addressing the broad economic recovery issues present in their communities. In particular, these funds are intended to help low-income individuals secure and retain employment, earn higher wages, obtain better-quality jobs, and gain greater access to state and federal benefits and tax credits.
3. Ohio recognizes the important work carried out by nonprofit organizations to address the needs of those suffering economic hardships. Many nonprofit organizations are on the "front lines," working closely with those hardest hit by the nation's economic recession. They are often trusted advocates and resourceful service providers working to strengthen communities, families and individuals in need.

4. **GOFBCI is authorized to apply for the SCF grant.** The Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (GOFBCI) serves as a catalyst for effective public-private partnerships aimed at addressing the broad economic recovery issues present in Ohio. ARRA authorizes GOFBCI to apply for the SCF State, Local, and Government Capacity Building grant funds (SCF grant) upon my issuance of an Executive Order authorizing such an application. Accordingly, and because we must all work together to meet the tough challenges of today's economy, I hereby authorize GOFBCI, through its fiscal agent, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, to apply for the SCF grant for the purposes set out below.
5. **GOFBCI's proposed *Together Ohio: Partnering for Ohio's Recovery* initiative.** With the SCF grant, GOFBCI would launch the *Together Ohio: Partnering for Ohio's Recovery* initiative to provide the outreach and training activities through the two efforts outlined below.
 - a. **Social Entrepreneurship and Ohio's Recovery** – In partnership with the Ohio Department of Development's Entrepreneurship and Small Business Division, GOFBCI would launch the Ohio Social Entrepreneurship Initiative to provide funding and financing information for – and technical support and training to – organizations working to establish “socially-minded, low-profit” efforts that employ “hard-to-employ” Ohioans.
 - b. ***Together Ohio* web tool** (with a Geographical Information System (GIS) component) – GOFBCI would launch an innovative *Together Ohio* web tool with a GIS component connecting Ohio's faith-based and community-based nonprofits with resources (i.e., funding, donors, training opportunities) as well as connecting volunteers with volunteer opportunities as they relate to Ohio's economic recovery. The *Together Ohio* web tool would be initially targeted to interested community groups and nonprofits providing services that address the broad economic recovery issues present in their communities.
6. **GOFBCI would maintain certain responsibilities pursuant to the SCF grant.** If the SCF grant is awarded, GOFBCI will have all necessary support, access, and authority and will be responsible for: (1) conducting programmatic and financial oversight of the SCF grant award; (2) implementing the approved work plan; (3) participating in national evaluation studies, and (4) sending two key staff persons to an annual grantee conference in Washington, DC.
7. **Compliance with grant requirements.** As federal rules require, all organizations receiving funds under this Executive Order must comply with the requirements of their respective interagency agreements, grant agreements, applicable sections of the Ohio Revised Code, Title IV-A of the Social Security Act, the

administrative requirements in 45 CFR Part 74 (for non-governmental entities) or 45 CFR Part 92 (for governmental entities), rules adopted by ODJFS and other directives from ODJFS as appropriate, all standard terms and conditions as stated in the announcement of Funding Opportunity Number HHS-2009-ACF-OCS-SN-0092, and with all requirements specified in Division A of the ARRA (Public Law 111-5), including reporting requirements outlined in Section 1512 of the Act.

8. I signed this Executive Order on July 2, 2009, in Columbus, Ohio, and it will expire on July 2, 2011.



Ted Strickland, Governor



ATTEST:

Jennifer Brunner, Secretary of State