PROGRAMS

• Community Assistance
  – CSBG, LIHEAP, Weatherization

• Community Revitalization
  – Small Cities CDBG, Disaster Recovery Initiative, Neighborhood Stabilization

• Economic Development
  – Rural, Coastal and Business Programs

• Community Planning
  – Comprehensive Planning, Developments of Regional Impact, Areas of Critical State Concern

DEO
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program, funded by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services through a network of local government and non-profit agencies, helps low-income Floridian improve their lives by becoming self-sufficient. The program provides a wide variety of services designed at the local level to meet specific community needs. These include assisting low-income residents attain the skill, knowledge and motivation necessary to achieve self-sufficiency.

To qualify for the Community Services Block Grant program, the household’s income may not be more than 125 percent above the federal poverty level. Applicants must apply for assistance with the local CSBG provider in the county in which they live, and must provide proof of household income.

OTHER GOALS OF THE PROGRAM

- Low-income residents, especially those in vulnerable populations, achieve their potential through stronger family and other supportive services.
- The conditions in which low-income residents live are improved.
- Low-income residents own a stake in their communities.
- Partnerships are achieved among supporters and providers of services to low-income residents.
The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) annually offers grant funds to community action agencies, local governments, Indian tribes and non-profit agencies to provide specific program services for low-income families of Florida. Program services are available statewide.

The mission of the program is to reduce the monthly energy burden on low-income households by improving the energy efficiency of the home.

The program is funded each year by the U.S. Department of Energy and receives supplemental funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The extent of services to be provided depends on available funding.

To qualify for the Weatherization Assistance Program, the total household income may not be more than 200 percent of the national poverty level. Preference is given to owner-occupied homes, elderly (60 years-plus) or physically disabled residents, families with children under 12 and households with a high energy burden (repeated high utility bills).
The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), funded by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services is provided through a network of local governments and nonprofit agencies. The program objective is to assist low-income households in meeting the costs of home heating and cooling. The majority of the funds are used for utility payment assistance.

To qualify for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, the household income may not be more than 150 percent of the federal poverty level.

Applicants must apply for assistance with the local Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program provider in the county in which they live.

The program has three categories of assistance: home energy assistance, crisis assistance, and weather related or supply-shortage emergency assistance.

**HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE**
- Utility Bill Payment

**CRISIS AND WEATHER RELATED/SUPPLY SHORTAGE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**
- Utility Bill Payment
- Utility Deposits
- Fees for Restoring Power
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAMS

• Small Cities CDBG
• Disaster Recovery Initiative
• Neighborhood Stabilization
The Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is a federal program created in 1974 that provides funding for economic development activities, infrastructure improvements, and housing rehabilitation. Annual funding for the program comes from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The national objectives of the CDBG Program are to:

- Benefit low- and moderate-income persons
- Prevent or eliminate slum or blight
- Address urgent community development needs

The program gives over 200 eligible local governments opportunities to compete in competitive application funding cycles. After seeking public input on local needs, the local governing body applies for funding (up to $750,000 based on population) in one of the following program areas:

- Economic Development
- Neighborhood Revitalization
- Commercial Revitalization
- Housing Rehabilitation
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery funds were awarded to Florida for damage sustained during the 2004, 2005 and 2008 storm seasons. Funding for the program comes from HUD. The funds were made available to units of local governments designated by the President of the United States as disaster areas. Funding is primarily directed to low and moderate income beneficiaries. Grantees are using these funds for recovery efforts that involve: economic development, housing rehabilitation, infrastructure and prevention of future damage to affected areas.
On July 30, 2008, former President Bush signed into law the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 to address the severe housing crisis. Title III of the Act appropriated $3.92 billion in grant funds under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program for states and local governments to purchase and redevelop abandoned or foreclosed properties. The Act directed HUD to target funding to areas with the greatest needs based on the extent of foreclosures, subprime mortgages and mortgage delinquencies and defaults.

NSP grantees developed their own programs and funding priorities. However, NSP grantees were required to use at least 25 percent of the funds appropriated for the purchase and redevelopment of abandoned or foreclosed homes or residential properties to house individuals or families whose incomes do not exceed 50 percent of the area median income. In addition, all activities funded by NSP benefit low- and moderate-income persons whose income does not exceed 120 percent of area median income. Florida’s State program received two allocations, NSP1 in 2008 and NSP3 in 2010.
The Bureau of Economic Development provides technical assistance to economic development and tourism development representatives, local officials and communities; and offers a variety of programs that result in job creation, infrastructure improvements and enhanced economies. Program areas include:

- **Business Programs**
  - State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI)
  - New Markets Tax Credits
  - Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership
  - Black Business Loan Program
  - Brownfield Areas Loan Guarantee Program

- **Coastal Programs**
  - Waterfronts Florida
  - Post-Disaster Redevelopment Planning
  - Community Resiliency
BUREAU OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

- **Community Programs**
  - Competitive Florida

- **Rural Programs**
  - Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI)
  - Rural Areas of Opportunity (RAO)
  - Regional Rural Development Grants
  - Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund
  - Rural Infrastructure Fund
STATE SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT
INITIATIVE

OVERVIEW

• Created by the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, the State Small Business Credit Initiative was allocated $1.5 billion to strengthen state programs that increase access to capital for small businesses.

• Florida received the 2nd largest allocation, $97.5 million.

• Florida’s programs include: Florida Venture Capital Program, Florida Capital Access Program, and Florida Small Business Loan Support Program.

• Florida has requested SSBCI staff to modify the Allocation Agreement to include the Florida Export Support Program. A $5 million program that will increase access to capital for small Florida exporters. SSBCI staff has preliminarily approved the program.
SSBCI

PERFORMANCE

• Outreach: DEO has reached out to more than 423 Financial Institutions and Partners throughout the state through its Regional Representatives outreach program. Last summer DEO and EFI hosted seven roundtables across the state to raise awareness of the program, over 200 Financial Institutions and Partners attended the SSBCI Regional Roundtable series. A total of 823 Financial Institutions and Partners have been reached since the summer of 2012.

• Total number of loans/investments: 36
• Total amount of SSBCI Funds committed: $31 million
• Number jobs created: 848
Success Story: Chandler & Campbelle Investment Group, LLC

Company Profile
- Chandler & Campbelle Investment Group, LLC (“Chandler”) is a Florida corporation since 2009. The company is a SBA 8(a) certified company whose principal is African American and represents 100% ownership. The company specializes in providing professional management consulting services to government, nonprofit agencies and commercial organizations.

Financing Need
- Chandler’s need for finance grew as opportunities with the Federal Government, Department of Defense; US Navy; US Army; and US Air Force arose. As Chandler received notices to proceed on the contracts awarded, the demand for capital increased to fund those new projects; however, Chandler was unable to meet the requirements of mainstream banking to fund said contracts.

SSBCI Credit Enhancement
- With the help of a Loan Participation under the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) the lender was able to meet the full financing demand of Chandler.

Results
- Because of the SSBCI credit enhancement the company has been able to win additional contracts and has been nominated for numerous awards of achievement. The company expects to add 31 FTE.
Florida New Markets was modeled on a successful Federal New Markets program.

- Encourages capital investment in low-income communities by offering investors a delayed tax credit claimed over a 7 year period.
- The program initially created a pool of $250 million in private capital for investment in qualified business in low-income communities.
- The pool has been expanded to $458 million in private capital for investment in qualified businesses in low-income communities.
- To date, 51 investments, totaling approximately $300 million have been made into qualified businesses in low-income communities around Florida.
NMTC Investment Example: Summit AeroSpace

• New Markets Investment

On October 20, 2010, $3.9 million in Florida New Markets Tax Credit funding was allocated for Summit Aerospace, Inc. as part of a total financing package of $10 million provided by Advantage Capital Partners. The funds were raised in connection with Florida New Markets Development program which strengthens and stimulates economic growth in communities historically underserved by traditional sources of capital.

The New Markets funding came at a crucial time for Summit Aerospace and provided them with flexible capital at significantly lower rates than a traditional lender could provide. This prevented Summit Aerospace from closing sections of their facilities and allowed them to retain all 114 jobs in a highly distressed Miami community.
Investment Highlights

- $3.9 million Florida New Markets Tax Credit funding enables business growth in Miami
- Additional $6.1 million invested by Advantage Capital
- Total investment = $10 million
- 114 jobs retained in a low-income community
- $4,800 per job annualized cost in Florida New Markets Tax Credits before creation of future jobs
Coastal Technical Assistance

- Waterfronts Florida
  - 24 Designated Communities since 1997
  - Visioning to support the preservation and promotion of working waterfronst through economic development, resource protection, public access and hazard mitigation

- Post-Disaster Redevelopment Planning
  - Partnership with the Department of Emergency Management to promote long-term recovery planning after disasters.

- Community Resiliency
  - A 5-year initiative to promote adaptation planning for long-term coastal erosion and flooding.
Asset-based Community Economic Development

Communities that take action to build and enhance their local economy while staying true to what makes them unique have a competitive advantage.

A Partnership Program that will create a network of vibrant communities and passionate leaders who gain ideas on how to reach their goals through the success and lessons learned from their peers.
Rural Programs

– Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI)
  • Multi-agency organization that assists rural communities.
  • Responds to the communities’ issues, needs, and objectives.
  • Provides the best possible service to the communities.

– Regional Rural Development Grants
  • Grant Program to build professional capacity of a rural economic and tourism development organizations.
  • Organizations consist of designated county and/or city economic development representatives, tourism development representatives and local officials.
  • Grants must be matched by non-state resources.
  • Maximum grant will be $50,000 a year, or $150,000 for organizations that serves RAO’s.
  • Awards will be based on: need, performance, deliverables, coordination of efforts with state agencies, support, and match.
Rural Programs

— Rural Infrastructure Fund
  • Facilitates the planning and financing of infrastructure projects.
  • Three types of projects:
    1. Total Participation
    2. Feasibility Studies
    3. Pre-clearance Review

— Rural Community Development Revolving Loan Fund
  • Provides loans or loan guarantees to local governments or economic development organizations.
  • Projects that maintains or create new jobs, and increases the economic vitality of Florida’s rural counties.
  • Interest rate not to exceed %5 annum.
Rural Programs

- Rural Area of Opportunity (RAO)
- State designated areas receive waivers and exemptions for economic incentives.
- The Governor has designated three Rural Areas of Opportunity for 5-year designation periods.
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

• Implements the Community Planning Act and the Development of Regional Impact Statute

• Composed of:
  – Comprehensive Planning Program
  – Areas of Critical State Concern Program
Bureau of Community Planning Programs

- Comprehensive Planning
  - All local governments are required to adopt a comprehensive plan, and to update it consistent with the law.
  - Comprehensive plans guide growth, including the location, amounts and types of land development.
  - This Bureau reviews:
    - Comprehensive plans and comprehensive plan amendments for consistency with Section 163, F.S.
    - Developments of regional impact, which are large developments that impact the health, safety or welfare of the citizens of more than one county
    - Sector plans, which are long term master plans for 15,000 acres or more
Technical Assistance Grants

- Funded from Documentary Stamp Tax revenue for growth management and economic development efforts
- Focus on building capacity in rural areas and small local governments
- Fiscal Year 2014-2015: $1 million dollars has been encumbered for projects in 45 local governments
- Examples include:
  - a new Port Master Plan for the Port of Port St. Joe,
  - a marketing plan and website for Baker County,
  - creation of economic development elements,
  - community visioning and the development of strategic economic development plans
Areas of Critical State Concern Program

- Areas designated under this program are areas where uncontrolled development could cause **substantial deterioration** or **significantly impact** important state resources.

The existing areas are:
- Florida Keys
- Key West
- Green Swamp
- Apalachicola
- Big Cypress Swamp