Improving Communities and Increasing Opportunities

Are you looking for practical, interactive, and comprehensive training designed to meet the needs of economic and community development professionals? The mission of CDI is to empower individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to proactively improve the physical and human resources of their communities. CDI Texas promises to do that and more by building the capacity of individuals and communities to effectively and positively impact economic and social development.

Who Should Attend?
Participants include community and economic development practitioners, city, county, and state officials and community volunteers, non-profit staff and board members, chamber staff, private industry, municipal districts, and academics will find the Institute a valuable learning tool for the development of individual and community leadership skills. Attendees will expand their ability to identify community assets, set goals, encourage collaboration, and respond to a broad range of economic and quality of life issues.

CDI Across the Nation
CDI is a national network of training sites endorsed by the CDC, a nationally-recognized, non-profit organization with the mission of advancing the practice and profession of community development. Training can be completed in subsequent years at one site location or fast track by attending sessions at multiple sites within the same calendar year. Training is available at the following locations: CDI Central, CDI Midwest, CDI Northwest, CDI Southeast, and CDI Texas.
**CDI Advanced**
Advanced CDI focuses on the application of community and economic development principles in a real-world setting. This two-day training is designed for individuals who have completed all three years of CDI as well as for non-CDI alumni who want to stay current with trends and best practices. CDI Texas will offer the Advanced course March 2-3. Completion of Advanced CDI will be recognized by the CDC for education requirements, training, work experience and eligibility criteria for re-certification.

**PCED Certification**
Enhance your career by becoming a Professional Community and Economic Developer (PCED). CDI Texas helps prepare you for this nationally-recognized certification offered through the CDC. Exam content is based on the Community Development Handbook which provides comprehensive, current, and applicable information for community development practitioners. Completion of all three years of CDI is a requirement to sit for the exam which is offered several times a year at all CDI site locations. CDI Texas will offer the exam on Friday, March 4. Application and eligibility information is available on-line and pre-registration for the exam is required 45 days in advance of the testing date.

**Registration and Attendance**
The cost to attend CDI Texas Year 1, 2 or 3 is $600. The Advanced course is $350 for CDI alumni and $400 for non-CDI participants. The registration covers training, participant materials, breakfast, lunch and refreshment breaks daily. Accommodations and other food costs are the responsibility of the participant. All sessions will be held at the Lone Star Community Building and attendance at all sessions is required to earn full credit. If a participant misses more than 10 percent of the course sessions, credit for course completion will not be given. Register online at LoneStar.edu/cdi.

The Courtyard Houston North/Shenandoah will serve as the host hotel for CDI Texas. To make a reservation, call 800.493.2570 and ask for the CDI rate, or visit LoneStar.edu/cdi for a direct link to book online.

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**Curriculum**
The complete program consists of three, one-week training sessions. In addition to learning from successful practitioners, CDI also offers valuable networking and peer-to-peer learning opportunities. Each CDI site offers the core curriculum courses listed below in addition to other course offerings based on site needs and demographics.

**Year 1**
Focuses on the foundations of community development and also includes group simulations providing participants with a better understanding of the challenges and benefits of a community development approach.
- Community Development Principles
- Team Building and Group Decision Making
- Asset-based Community Development
- Economic Development Basics
- Community Assessment
- Strategic Visioning and Planning
- Community Development Simulation

**Year 2**
Emphasis is placed on economic development, including the “nuts and bolts” of implementing economic development strategies, including business attraction, expansion and retention, and entrepreneurship. Specific commercial and industrial development projects in addition to a community development group simulation.
- Business Retention and Expansion
- Building Entrepreneurial Communities
- Community and Economic Development Finance
- Global Trends and Impacts
- Business Site Selection Process

**Year 3**
Focus is on implementing the knowledge gained in previous years plus acquiring skills in leadership, marketing and organizing the community development effort.
- Workforce Planning and Development
- Tourism
- Establishing/Managing Development Organizations
- Marketing Your Community
- Best Practices