



DeWitt County Development Council
Micro Grant Application

Dear DCDC Micro Grant Applicant,

Thank you for your participation in the inaugural DeWitt County Development Council Micro Grant program! We are excited to learn more about your business – both your successes and the areas for improvement. The program’s goal is to help your business grow and thrive in DeWitt County for years to come.

DCDC was founded in 2007 after the county determined a need for an organization charged with bringing new businesses to the county. In recent years, the organization has increased its focus on supporting local businesses. Our board currently consists of local business leaders from across several industries, who regularly meet to share ideas on ways the organization can further its mission.

The organization strives to actively engage current and potential businesses to market DeWitt County to attract commerce and encourage job growth. DCDC promoted ideas for local business expansion and workforce development, and provides direction for new and existing businesses or commerce seeking resources to enhance business operations. DCDC hosts quarterly Leader Learning events to highlight key business topics in hopes that business leaders like yourself will attend to learn and take the information back to your business to achieve growth.

Additionally, DCDC received funding from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture’s Rural Development program for our Revolving Loan Fund, which acts as gap financing for businesses seeking a loan from a local lender. The loan – a low-interest, short-term financial solution – is a great way to realize your business goals. For more information on our RLF, please visit <http://www.dcdc-illinois.net/revolving-loan-fund.html>.

The aim of this new micro grant program is to identify those small businesses that are faced with a project that will enhance daily operations in some way. The total amount awarded between all applicants shall be \$10,000. The following application gives the DCDC Micro Grant committee the chance to review your business history, financials and project specifics to determine if your business will be a grant recipient. Select applicants will be asked to present to the committee to answer questions and provide additional information.

Applications can be sent via email to execdirector@dcdc-illinois.net, or dropped off in-person to the Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce office, located at 100 Center Street #101, Clinton, IL 61727. For applicants in the Farmer City area, please contact DCDC for the best method for hard copy submission. **The deadline to submit all application information and related financial information is Monday, February 8, 2021.**

We appreciate your willingness to provide this information, and we truly value you as a business owner in DeWitt County. Should you have questions, please email execdirector@dcdc-illinois.net.

Sincerely,

David Torbert, DCDC Board President

BUSINESS NAME: _____

BUSINESS TYPE (SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP, LLC, CORPORATION): _____

OWNER NAME(S): _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

BUSINESS PHONE NUMBER: _____

BUSINESS OWNER EMAIL: _____

HOW MANY YEARS HAS YOUR BUSINESS EXISTED? _____

HOW MANY EMPLOYEES? (Full & Part-Time Combined): _____

BUSINESS MISSION STATEMENT OR PURPOSE: _____

DESCRIBE THE PROJECT FOR WHICH GRANT FUNDS WILL BE USED (PLEASE ALSO INCLUDE WITH THIS APPLICATION ANY RELATED PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATES RECEIVED): _____

WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT? _____

WHAT IMPACT WILL THIS PROJECT HAVE ON YOUR OVERALL BUSINESS SUCCESS?: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR VISION FOR THE BUSINESS IN ONE YEAR. FIVE YEARS? _____

DO YOU HAVE OTHER LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS YOU WISH TO COMPLETE IN THE FUTURE? PLEASE DESCRIBE: _____

Thank you for completing the application process. As a reminder, please include with this application all relevant financial information that will accurately provide a window into your income and expenses. If you need assistance in providing financial information, please contact DCDC to learn how to gather that information.

*****BEFORE TURNING IN YOUR APPLICATION, PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE ALSO INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:**

- FULL PROPOSAL FOR WORK TO BE COMPLETED, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE BID FROM AREA CONTRACTOR(S). MUST INCLUDE SPECIFIC PROJECT DETAILS AND ASSOCIATED COSTS.
- FINANCIAL STATEMENT DETAILING AT LEAST 12 MONTHS OF BUSINESS INCOME AND EXPENSES. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH THIS, PLEASE CONTACT DCDC IMMEDIATELY.

*****DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ALL APPLICATION MATERIAL IS FEBRUARY 8, 2021. APPLICATION RECEIVED WILL BE REVIEWED, AND A SELECT NUMBER WILL BE ASKED TO INTERVIEW TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BUSINESS AND THE PROPOSED PROJECT FOR WHICH FUNDING IS REQUESTED. EACH CANDIDATE SHALL BE GIVEN 20 MINUTES TO SHARE MORE ABOUT THE BUSINESS AND THE PROPOSED PROJECT, AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE SELECTION COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE WILL THEN INFORM THE FULL DEWITT COUNTY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL BOARD OF ITS RECOMMENDED RECIPIENTS. CHECKS WILL BE MADE TO THE WINNER(S) & TO THE CONTRACTOR OF THE WORK TO BE COMPLETED.**

By signing below, the DCDC Micro Grant applicant certifies that all information provided, including all financials and project estimates, are accurate to the best of his/her knowledge, and does not contain inflated information to falsify business standing or the scope of the work to be completed. Further, the applicant agrees to allow DCDC to use his/her business name, logo and other information to promote DCDC and its Micro Grant program on all future print and digital materials.

NAME: _____

DATE: _____