



Founded in 1964 by the late Reverend Doctor Leon Howard Sullivan, OIC of America, Inc. (OICA) is a national non-profit network of employment and training programs bound together by a common commitment: to help the disadvantaged realize their true potential. With 42 affiliated programs in 22 states and the District of Columbia, OIC has grown into a movement, which has served over 2.5 million disadvantaged and under-skilled people.

OICA's mission is to continue to be the nation's leader in providing quality education, training, employment, and housing services through a national network of local affiliated organizations enabling economically disadvantaged people of all races and backgrounds to become productive fulfilled members of the American society.

Located in Philadelphia, OICA is the national headquarters, which serves as a catalyst to aid affiliates to establish and maintain workforce development technologies, reinforce capacity and system-building endeavors, expand partnerships and collaborations, and promote organizational growth through professional development.

**“helping people help themselves”**

**OIC of America, Inc.**  
**1415 N. Broad Street**  
**Suite 227**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19122**  
**Phone (215) 236-4500**  
**Fax (215) 236-7480**  
**www.oicofamerica.org**

**H. ART TAYLOR** – *Chairman of the Board*  
**HOWARD H. SULLIVAN** - *President & CEO*

**ANTHONY M. POWELL** – *Vice President, Field Operations & Development*



## Strengthening Communities Fund



*A Nonprofit Capacity Building Initiative funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 and administered by **OIC of America, Inc.** for the benefit of communities with emerging nonprofit organizations in North, Northwest, and West Philadelphia.*

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

OIC of America, Inc. (OICA) has been awarded \$1 million by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The award comes from the Strengthening Communities Fund (SCF), part of a new federal initiative created by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, designed to boost the ability of community and faith-based organizations to handle the broad economic recovery issues in their communities, including job training and retention and access to state and Federal benefits.

### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

OICA will provide expert technical assistance to grassroots secular and faith-based organizations located in the City of Philadelphia in the areas of:

Leadership development	Organizational development
Program development	Evaluation of effectiveness
	Community engagement

These objectives will support the selected organizations with their organizational and program capacity, enhance leadership abilities, improve investment profile for program sustainability, and create increased involvement in community engagement. The project will be offered to select organizations located in three low wealth communities: **North, Northwest and West Philadelphia**. In order to lay a successful foundation, this model will explore the

viability of building the capacity of selected organizations through the efforts of providing training, one-on-one technical assistance, and sub-awards. This strategy, over the two-year grant period, will assist organizations in making informed and strategic investments in their human, social, physical, and economic capital resource stock. This will be completed through a measured process which layers and integrates investments in critical areas of need for capacity building. Additionally, the strategy will be

incentive-based and communities will have a series of milestones to be accomplished throughout the two-year period. Successful achievement, as determined by OICA, of each milestone will allow the selected organizations the ability to earn additional resources to be invested in their local communities.

### ELIGIBILITY

OICA will target grassroots nonprofits that have an office location within the identified zip code areas, or they will document experience serving clients from those neighborhoods. Selected nonprofits must:

- Have budgets under \$500,000 annually;
- Document a need in at least three of the five critical capacity areas;
- Provide services in the area of workforce development/ economic recovery services in the identified distressed target zip codes; and
- Have not directly received prior federal funding.

### HOW TO APPLY

For more information and to participate in the initial screening process, please contact Jennifer Brower ([jbrower@oicofamerica.org](mailto:jbrower@oicofamerica.org)) Program Coordinator/Monitor at 215-391-4282 or Greg DeLozier ([gdelozier@oicofamerica.org](mailto:gdelozier@oicofamerica.org)) Project Liaison and Capacity Building Team Leader at 215-391-4284.

The final selection of sub-grant awardees will be determined by an independent review panel.

#### Impacted zip code areas:

19132, 19133, 19122,  
19121, 19123, 19140,  
19139, 19131, 19143,  
19126.