

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2014 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-81-2014

Proposed by The Chairman (by request – County Executive)

Introduced by Council Members Lehman, Olson, Franklin, Campos, Davis and Patterson

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction September 2, 2014

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 State of Maryland Community Investment Tax Credit Program

3 For the purpose of approving the project to be submitted by CASA de Maryland, Inc. to the
4 Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development for participation in the
5 Department’s Community Investment Tax Credit Program.

6 WHEREAS, Section 6-401 through Section 6-406 of the Housing and Community
7 Development Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, established the Neighborhood and
8 Community Assistance Program to assist nonprofit organizations in carrying out approved
9 projects in designated revitalization areas, to encourage businesses to invest in priority funding
10 areas, and to strengthen public-private partnerships; and

11 WHEREAS, Section 6-404 of the Housing and Community Development Article,
12 Annotated Code of Maryland, provides for the allocation of tax credits to business entities that
13 contribute to approved projects of nonprofit organizations that provide services to priority
14 funding areas; and

15 WHEREAS, Section 6-405(c) of the Housing and Community Development Article,
16 Annotated Code of Maryland, provides that the Maryland Department of Housing and
17 Community Development may not approve a proposal for participation in the Neighborhood and
18 Community Assistance Program unless the proposal is approved by the governing body of the
19 county that includes any of the Priority Funding Area that benefits from the project; and

20 WHEREAS, CASA de Maryland, Inc., a nonprofit organization, proposes an expansion of
21 the financial literacy component of its Immigrant Integration Program (the “Project”) as
22 described in “Attachment A” and incorporated herein by reference; and

1 WHEREAS, the Project will provide low-income immigrants banking and tax preparation
2 assistance, while continuing to offer citizenship education, mentoring and interview preparation,
3 application assistance, and post-naturalization support services; and

4 WHEREAS, CASA de Maryland, Inc. is applying to the Maryland Department of Housing
5 and Community Development for approval of the Project and an allocation of tax credits in the
6 amount of \$50,000.00 for business entities that contribute to the Project pursuant to the
7 Department's Community Investment Tax Credit Program; and

8 WHEREAS, the County Executive expresses approval of the Project.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George's
10 County, Maryland, hereby expresses approval of the Project, as set forth in Attachment A,
11 submitted by CASA de Maryland, Inc. to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community
12 Development for participation in the Community Investment Tax Credit Program.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be sent by the Clerk of the
14 Council to the Secretary of the State Department of Housing and Community Development.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2014.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Mel Franklin
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Rushern L. Baker, III
County Executive

ATTACHMENT A

PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET
CASA de Maryland, Inc.
CASA Immigrant Integration Program
Community Investment Tax Credit Program

CASA de Maryland's office is located in COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 2

APPLICANT: CASA de Maryland, Inc.

CASA de Maryland, Inc. ("CASA") is a 501(c)(3) community based nonprofit organization whose mission is to create a more just society by building power and improving the quality of life in low income immigrant communities. CASA is a community resource, facilitator and advocate for more than the 20,000 low-income, Latino and immigrant community members. CASA has seven offices and two are Langley Park, Maryland. With an overall operating budget of \$8.2 million and 210 full and part time employees, CASA not only provides direct services, but also teaches program participants ways to more fully engage in social, economic, and civic life. The organization provides a variety of programs including employment, legal, social services, education, health promotion and access, community organizing and leadership development.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: CASA's primary mission is to work with the community to improve the quality of life and promote equal treatment and full access to resources and opportunities for low-income Latinos, the immigrant community and their families. CASA advocates for the social, political, and economic justice for all low-income communities.

The goal of the CASA de Maryland's Immigrant Integration Program is to effectively integrate and naturalize aspiring citizens and help them achieve social and economic self-sufficiency in U.S society. The program includes citizenship education, mentoring and interview preparation, application assistance and post-naturalization support. It includes an innovative AmeriCorps program through which AmeriCorps members are housed at organizations throughout the State to teach citizenship, preparation classes and provide one-on-one Application for Naturalization N-400 form assistance and support. In response to the barriers low-income immigrants face in obtaining citizenship, CASA also operates the Citizenship Maryland Loan Program, an award-winning program that has

received recognition from the Migration Policy Institute specifically for CASA's partnership with Citi Community Development to assist Legal Permanent Residents (LPR) in paying the naturalization application fee. The loan program is critical for CASA's target population many of whom are low-wage and contingent immigrant workers facing a myriad of challenges.

Moreover, CASA plans to expand the financial literacy component of the program in order to provide additional banking, tax preparation assistance and financial literacy counseling. For the low-income, immigrant community, secure economic health is not possible without the ability to manage household earnings and establish financial stability.

PROGRAM CONTACT:

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**FINANCIAL AND
LOCAL CONTRIBUTION:**

Partners in this project to date include:
Low-Income Tax Credit Program (LITC), AmeriCorps FY14 Continuation, Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GOSV), HSBC Bank, PNC Bank, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Citi Foundation.

Donations obtained through the tax credit program will support CASA's Immigrant Integration Program at its seven locations.

CASA de Maryland, Inc. is applying for \$50,000.00 in Maryland Community Investment Tax Credits to support its Immigrant Integration Program.

**NEIGHBORHOOD/
LOCALITY:**

Prince George's County, Maryland
Montgomery County, Maryland
Baltimore City, Maryland