

Education and Training

Developing Strong Leaders and Organizations

NeighborWorks believes in the power of community development to provide opportunities and change lives. Our **Education and Training Initiative** offers training, certification and a variety of other tools and resources to thousands of people seeking to revitalize their communities. Affordable housing and community development practitioners rely on our nationally acclaimed Education and Training programs to help them effect positive change:

- ▶ **NeighborWorks Training Institutes** deliver the highest quality professional development and skill building for community development and affordable housing professionals in the country. Each year NeighborWorks offers four five-day Institutes at locations nationwide. Each Institute features:
 - ✓ Over 100 courses in community engagement and revitalization, green building, affordable housing development and management, homeownership and community lending, nonprofit management and leadership and more. These are taught by faculty members who are experts in their fields, trained in adult education methods and seasoned practitioners.
 - ✓ A day-long symposium on critical issues and trends in the community development industry and a professional networking opportunity where policy makers, practitioners, researchers and thought leaders share the latest and most effective techniques and ideas.
 - ✓ Professional certificates in eight content areas that raise the bar for excellence in community development and affordable housing, as well as specialized training for practitioners in the areas of Native American, rural development and green building.
- ▶ **E-learning courses and webinars** on effective strategies and skills for nonprofits and municipalities in a wide array of content areas.
- ▶ **An annual symposium for executive directors of NeighborWorks organizations** to enhance their skills, learn cutting-edge approaches from industry experts and share best practices.
- ▶ **An annual Community Leadership Institute**, training 800-900 residents who are leading revitalization efforts in their communities.

NeighborWorks awards more than 20,000 training certificates

to affordable housing and community development practitioners from more than 3,600 nonprofit organizations and municipalities each year.

The Education and Training Initiative also provides support for **NeighborWorks Center for Homeownership Education and Counseling** (NCHEC), the nation's leader in training and certifying nonprofit homeownership education and counseling and foreclosure mitigation counseling – awarding **11,000 training certificates** each year. Key NCHEC activities include:

- ▶ Professional certifications in homeownership education and counseling, foreclosure intervention and lending (some courses are in Spanish).
- ▶ Providing multilingual tool kits, publications and interactive Web sites for counselors to share with clients.
- ▶ Developing, providing training on and promoting the National Industry Standards for Homeownership Education and Counseling to ensure quality education and counseling nationwide.
- ▶ Providing state-of-the art software, CounselorMax™, to community development organizations to maximize their service delivery, manage data and report on the impact of their work.

98 percent of training participants rate the trainings effective in building their skills; **99.6 percent** would recommend the training to colleagues.

A contribution to the **Education and Training Initiative** gives affordable housing and community development professionals nationwide an unparalleled chance to build on their skills and experience and engage more effectively in community transformation. Donors may support the Initiative or direct support to:

- ▶ Scholarships to NeighborWorks Training Institutes
- ▶ Sponsorship of one or more National Training Institutes
- ▶ Sponsorship of specific training “tracks” of courses at Training Institutes
- ▶ Scholarships to NeighborWorks Community Leadership Institute
- ▶ Sponsorship of e-learning program or specific e-learning courses