

**For Immediate Release:**

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**Grant Funding Available to Cooperatives**

The Ohio Cooperative Development Center (OCDC) is announcing the return of the OCDC seed grant program. Groups that are interested in forming a cooperative may request up to \$1,500 to perform a feasibility study or other formation activities for the group. Incorporated cooperatives or member-controlled businesses may request up to \$3,000 for implementation needs such as the hiring of services or the development of marketing materials.

Recipients must match funds received from this program with their own resources. This OCDC seed grant program requires one quarter matching funds with at least half of the match to be in cash and the other half can be an in-kind contribution. All grants are reimbursement grants. Grant recipients will have until August 30, 2012 to use the funding.

The deadline to submit an application is Monday, August 31, 2011. Notification of grant winners will be in October, 2011.

The Ohio Cooperative Development Center is located in Piketon, Ohio at The OSU South Centers. This center has provided assistance through training, education, marketing, and research to numerous existing and potential cooperatives in Ohio. OCDC assisted in the legal formation of 29 cooperatives and/or nonprofits in the past year.

More information about this program and application forms can be found on the OCDC website <http://ocdc.osu.edu> or contact Kimberly Roush, 740-289-2071 Ext. 232, or email at [roush.143@osu.edu](mailto:roush.143@osu.edu).