



**CENTER FOR URBAN REDEVELOPMENT EXCELLENCE
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Rockefeller Foundation Redevelopment Fellowship PROGRAM SUMMARY

Made possible by a generous grant from The Rockefeller Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation Redevelopment Fellowship is adapted from the Center for Urban Redevelopment Excellence's national fellowship and will serve to build long-term capacity for urban redevelopment in the New Orleans region. The Rockefeller Foundation Redevelopment Fellowship will recruit talented and energetic staff for organizations that are directly supporting large-scale redevelopment in neighborhoods affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Fellows will be selected from national recruits and local nominees and will receive dedicated training, regional network-building opportunities and national industry exposure. The Center will collaborate with a local program director and the University of New Orleans to implement the Rockefeller Foundation Redevelopment Fellowship.

CORE PROGRAM ELEMENTS

Recruitment and selection process: Recruiting for the Rockefeller Foundation Redevelopment Fellowship will focus on early and potentially mid-career professionals who are clearly committed to helping rebuild New Orleans. Fellowship placements will be sought with all types of organizations playing major roles in the implementation of public/private redevelopment projects, including for-profit and non-profit development organizations, public sector agencies, and lending and financial institutions. The program will recruit strong candidates nationally for participating employers creating new job opportunities, and will also consider nominations of existing employees from organizations playing appropriate roles in the redevelopment process. The Center's selection process identifies individuals with entrepreneurial instincts, technical capacities and a personal mission to improve opportunities for disadvantaged people and communities.

Specialized classroom training: Delivered in New Orleans, fellowship training courses will provide a well-rounded foundation for project management in large-scale real estate development with direct benefits for low income people and distressed communities. The training curriculum will encompass skills and knowledge needed in any community and issues specific to New Orleans and Gulf Coast recovery. Training courses will be taught by senior industry professionals who have developed original cases and teaching approaches. New Orleans classroom training will create an opportunity for the Rockefeller Foundation Redevelopment Fellowship to benefit participants outside its direct fellowship group, including staff from participating employers who are not fellows, and from organizations in related fields. The training courses will establish a shared base of knowledge and skills among fellows and will quickly establish relationships among fellows and other professionals in the community.

National site visits: The Center will organize four national site visits attended by Rockefeller Foundation Redevelopment Fellows and mentors designated by fellows' employers. Site visits will provide fellows and mentors exposure to national best practices and leaders in the field, and will be tailored to address New Orleans concerns. Each trip will include one to two days of project visits and briefings from local leaders. Facilitated discussions among fellows and mentors and networking events will also be included.

Regional network building and specialized educational activities: The local director will work with the Center to organize activities such as neighborhood tours, social events and guest speakers. These activities will provide fellows and mentors the opportunity to establish and nurture a dynamic professional network among the fellowship group.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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