MARKET AT ST. MARK’S CHURCH

11th Congressional District

Healthy Food for Ohio Funds Year-Round Fresh Produce Market

The Gateway 105 Farmers Market, located in Cleveland’s Glenville neighborhood, currently operates seasonally, on Fridays from 3-7 p.m. Due to the lack of consistent fresh food access, The Cleveland Community Development Corporation (CCDC) discovered the need for a new larger, year-round operation. Through its Healthy Food for Ohio (HFFO) program, Finance Fund Capital Corporation (FCAP) is providing flexible financing of $500,000 to construct a facility that can appropriately meet the needs of a year-round farmers market. A prefabricated market area will be connected to and supported by a small structure to be used for a demonstration kitchen, administrative space, storage, etc.

The Market at St. Mark’s Church serves the Glenville neighborhood, which has a poverty rate of 42%, average median income of 56% and unemployment rate of 20%. The site has accessibility to bus transportation, a public library branch and other services.

CCDC is pursuing a partnership with a wholesale produce distributor to supply seasonally-appropriate produce at wholesale prices. They will work together to direct excess/imperfect produce to Market at St. Mark’s Church at low or no cost.

“Market at St. Mark’s Church addresses the need for affordable fresh fruits and vegetables and will be a value to the community,” said FCAP VP of Lending, Anne Geggie. “The Market has space for community activities such as an outside teaching kitchen that will provide nutrition education, SNAP & WIC enrollment, Produce Perks SNAP incentives, composting workshops and community gatherings.”

The Market at St. Mark’s Church will open in July 2017. The existing Gateway 105 Farmers Market will start the 2017 season at its current location and will transition to the new structure once construction is complete. The new market will allow the vendors to sell produce year-round and during the peak summer months, additional vendor tables will be set up outside the shed. Vendors will pay below-market rent and will receive accounting, finance, IT, marketing, management, website and social media development support.

FINANCE FUND CAPITAL CORPORATION

INVESTMENT IMPACT:

• Provides residents of the highly distressed Glenville neighborhood with access to local, healthy, affordable food.

• Provides cooking and nutrition education, SNAP & WIC enrollment and Produce Perks SNAP incentives to improve the community.

About Healthy Food for Ohio (HFFO)

The HFFO program provides flexible financing to fund costs associated with land acquisition, predevelopment, construction, equipment, infrastructure and related expenses. Financing can be used for capital projects to build new healthy food retail or expand existing facilities in underserved areas. A wide range of projects is eligible for funding including: grocery chains, individual grocery stores, neighborhood food stores, co-ops and other food projects such as farmers’ markets and food hubs.