



## Invitation to Lenders – Dakota County First Time Homebuyer Program

The Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) cordially invites all mortgage lenders who originate FHA, VA, or conventional loans to participate in the CDA's ***Give Yourself Credit!*** Program to finance the purchase by first-time homebuyers of qualified residences in Dakota County.

Under the ***Give Yourself Credit!*** Program:

- FIRST MORTGAGE LOANS.** Participating lenders will originate first mortgage loans (“**Program Loans**”) at interest rates established by the CDA, for sale to U.S. Bank National Association, as the CDA’s master servicer. The first mortgage loans will be FHA-insured, VA-guaranteed, or Fannie Mae HFA Preferred conventional 30-year amortizing fixed rate loans. The borrower’s income and the purchase price of the home may not exceed limits established by the CDA from time to time
- MORTGAGE CREDIT CERTIFICATES.** The CDA will issue mortgage credit certificates (“MCCs”) for mortgagors that will allow the borrower to take up to 35% of each year’s mortgage interest as a tax credit on their federal income tax. The remaining 65% continues to be taken as a deduction. The MCCs may be used each year during the term of the mortgage as long as the property remains the borrower’s principal residence. ***Give Yourself Credit!*** may be used to the extent the borrower has tax liability in a given year (in other words, it is not a refundable credit). Unused credit may be carried forward for three years. MCCs may be issued for Program Loans or in connection with other mortgage loans made by a lender.
- DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE LOANS.** The CDA will make available subordinate down payment assistance loans in connection with Program Loans, in amounts up to \$10,000 for mortgagors with incomes up to 50% of adjusted median income and up to \$7,500 for households with incomes greater than 50% of adjusted median income but within the program income limits. All household incomes will be adjusted for family size for purposes of the down payment assistance loans. Down payment assistance loans will be due on sale of the home, or upon refinancing or final payment of the Program Loan.

The Program will be administered by eHousingPlus. Lenders will be required to enter into a Participation Agreement with the CDA and a Participating Lender Agreement with U.S. Bank National Association, as the Master Servicer. The CDA reserves the right to terminate the Program at any time.

Lenders will be permitted to charge a 0.5% origination fee but no discount points with respect to Program Loans and will receive a 2% servicing release fee at the time a Program Loan is sold to the Master Servicer for total compensation of 2.5%. Lender participation fees for this program are \$1,500 per lender, regardless of the number of Program Loans made or MCCs issued. The participation fee and executed Participation Agreement should be sent to:

Dakota County Community Development Agency  
1228 Town Centre Drive  
Eagan, MN 55123  
Attn: Shari Larson

The Processing/Compliance Fees, payable by borrowers at closing, will be \$300 for a Program Loan with an MCC (with or without a down payment assistance loan); \$225 for a Program Loan without an MCC (with or without a down payment assistance loan); and \$275 plus a 1% Issuer Fee for an MCC only. In addition, there will be a loan funding fee of \$400 and a tax service fee of \$85.

For more information, please visit the program website at <http://www.ehousingplus.com/available-programs/minnesota/dakota-cda/> or contact Shari Larson 651-675-4472 [slarson@dakotacda.state.mn.us](mailto:slarson@dakotacda.state.mn.us)

We look forward to working with you!