# **Carver Community Development Corporation**

#### 2016 CDBA Social Impact Working Group Agenda

Session 4: Telling Your Impact Story Thursday April 28, 2016





#### CARVER BANCORP, INC. Carver Community Development Corporation 2016 CDBA Social Impact Working Group Session 4: Telling Your Impact Story Thursday April 28, 2016



# **Table of Contents**

- 1. About Carver
- 2. Carver's Story
- 3. Telling the Story
- 4. Partnerships
- 5. Managing Expectations



## **About Carver**

- **Carver Community Development Corporation** ("CCDC") revitalizes distressed communities through community investment and financial education
- CCDC oversees the community development and financial literacy strategy of Carver Federal Savings Bank ("CFSB", and together with CCDC, "Carver"), a CDFI based in Harlem
- Founded in 1948, CFSB is a federally chartered, publicly traded, full-service bank and a leader in urban community development
- Carver is dedicated to revitalizing low and moderate income communities throughout the New York City metropolitan area
- Since it was established in 2005, CCDC has:
  - Allocated **\$149 million** through the New Markets Tax Credit Program
  - Deployed **\$121 million** in CFSB loans to low and moderate income communities
  - Provided financing for more than 1 million square feet of new commercial and retail space
  - Helped create more than 3,200 local jobs













### **Carver's Story**

- o Our story is bigger than the bottom line
- As a CDFI, community development is at the core of Carver's business
  - We have received an "Outstanding" rating on our last five CRA exams
  - CFSB made over **\$35 million** in non-profit loans between 2013 and 2014
  - CFSB loaned **\$35.7 million** to small businesses during the same time period
  - Since 2011, we have served over **17,000 previously unbanked individuals**
  - Ultimately, Carver invests 83 cents of every dollar deposited at the bank into the community
  - Since 2006, Carver has provided free financial literacy to over **15,000** men, women, and young persons in our communities.
- We promote our community development efforts for several reasons:
  - To attract new customers and partners
  - To educate existing stakeholders, including shareholders, community members, customers, employees, and regulators
  - To justify our commitment to community development
- Our target audience varies widely
  - Internally, the primary audience is the members of the board and employees of the bank
  - These stakeholders need to understand Carver's performance to evaluate performance and set policy
  - Externally, we focus on new customers and partners



# **Telling the Story**

- We rely on a mixture of anecdotes and hard numbers to communicate Carver's impact on the community
  - For example, our Social Impact Handbook blends the stories of individuals and businesses with statistics describing the larger outcomes of Carver's efforts
  - We usually rely on qualitative methods for non-print media channels (e.g., radio and television)
- We use quantitative measures to describe our efforts at a high level (e.g., how many jobs we helped create, total number of loans made in low and moderate income communities)
  - Our loan and retail activities generate a wealth of data that helps us tell our mission
  - Without good data, even a compelling story may seem isolated
  - One of our main challenges is gathering, organizing, and analyzing this data
- We turn to qualitative descriptions to bring specific examples to the forefront and to bring a human element to the broad trends described by the numbers
  - Without individual stories, even the best data may not be compelling
  - We recently produced a series of videos, each of which tells the story of a Carver client
  - For example, the following video focuses on Carver's success stories: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P48reiKMBg4&feature=em-share\_video\_user</u>



# **Telling the Story**

- We tell our stories through all media channels: print, digital, radio, and social media
  - Our print materials include: social impact document, media advisories, press releases, journal ads, news articles and a growing social media presence
- Additionally, we get the word the old-fashioned way: face-to-face communication. A few recent examples:
  - We co-sponsored a concert for Grammy Award Winning Gospel Artist Tasha Cobbs
  - Several Carver executives are members of trade associations and serve on boards of local nonprofit organizations
  - Carver employees provide technical assistance by sitting on panels and giving presentations that highlight Carver's efforts
  - We offer financial education to individuals and small businesses, typically through events and seminars designed to help attendees master their finances, some of the organizations we have partnered with include: Operation Hope; Profit Mastery, Coalition for Debtor Education, Society for Financial Education & Professional Development.





#### **Partnerships**

- Carver views partnerships as a way to magnify our impact in the community as well as a critical component of our outreach strategy
- We have partnered with a number of organizations that connect Carver with low and moderate income clients
  - Metropolitan Transport Authority's Small Business Mentorship Program connects Carver to small minority and women's business enterprises in need of financing
  - The New York City Housing Authority enables Carver to accept rent payments in the braches thereby increasing convenience for low income renters
- Below are few other notable partnerships with local organizations and agencies:





# **Managing Expectations**

- Carver's community development efforts encompass many different initiatives and efforts to revitalize the community: honest and open dialogue are key to managing expectations
- Some approaches that helps us manage expectations include:
  - o communicating with our boards of directors, regulators and potential partners regularly
  - Sharing our strategic objectives; i.e corporate giving pillars
  - when negotiating with potential partners, we strive to carefully outline the scope of our work to avoid misunderstandings

