Madison Cooperative Development Coalition: Support for new cooperatives

Pathways for new cooperative development:

- Attend MCDC educational programs and webinars (2018) to learn about cooperative business start-up
- Work with community-based organizations that offer business start-up assistance and/or cooperative start-up assistance
- MCDC will connect start-up businesses with a peer support network and offer ongoing training and technical assistance, especially in the first few years.
- Apply for Mini-grants for Cooperative Start-ups (available in 2018)
  - The goal of the mini-grants is to support business planning and preparations for operations for a new cooperative business. Through the mini-grants, MCDC will connect start-up groups with skilled assistance through its network of community based organizations, educational institutions, and a preferred provider list of professionals.
  - Groups may request assistance for:
    - Legal advice
    - Feasibility and business planning
    - Market studies
    - Accounting assistance
    - Governance mentoring
  - Average grant size is $10,000. Budgets will vary according to group size, need and the complexity of the cooperative

October 27, 2017