

PR Award #: S336S240062

Organization Name: Midlands Community Development Corporation (MCDC)

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Absolute Priority: 4

Competitive Preference Priorities: 1 – 4

Invitational Priority: 1

Requested Total Award Amount: 9,489,899

Project Description: The *EGOT: Educator Growth for Organizational Transformation!* is a TQP grant to improve educator effectiveness and raise student achievement in some of the highest-need schools in South Carolina. *EGOT* is supported by strong evidence of effectiveness (per *What Works Clearinghouse* standards). *EGOT* will create, implement and expand an alternative, non-traditional teacher and school leader preparation / certification / residency program rooted in the tenets of *Improvement Science* and *Equity* to attract up to 15 Fellows: 10 teachers and 5 school leaders (per four cohorts), with the skill sets to use their training as tools to advance equity, raise student achievement, accelerate learning and promote continuous and sustainable academic growth. *EGOT's* goals and objectives include:

<i>EGOT</i> GOAL and Objectives	
GOAL	To raise the academic achievement of high-need students by improving educator effectiveness.
Objective 1	Improve academic achievement in high-need schools.
Objective 2	Equip educators with skills to promote 21 st Century Learning.
Objective 3	Increase number of educators who attain advanced credentials.
Objective 4	Increase impact of <i>EGOT</i> through effective replication and scaled impact strategies.

Project Expected Outcomes: During the 5-year grant period, *EGOT* will support advanced certification and licensure of up to 60 teachers and school leaders from diverse backgrounds to serve as “change agents” who will enter classrooms and schools equipped to use their career and leadership skills combined with their newly-honed education skills as tools to raise student achievement, eradicate persistent achievement gaps and ensure that students leave South Carolina secondary schools, college and career ready.

Project Special Features: *EGOT* teachers and school leaders will employ the tenets of Improvement Science: (a) identifying problems of practice; b) conducting root-cause analysis; c) forming a hypothesis and developing a plan of action; d) course-correcting, if needed; e) solving problems of practice; and f) scaling up results – combined with 21st century learning skills – to transform underperforming schools in Orangeburg and Calhoun schools, scaling a new teacher training model that can efficiently and effectively place teachers in critical subject areas. *EGOT* will train teachers to enter classrooms as equity leaders, at all levels of education, prepared to break down barriers that create equity gaps and achievement gaps in teaching and learning. Participating educators will develop the insight and skill to differentiate instruction, not just as a strategy for best practice, but as a tool to ensure that every student is equipped with the support they need to achieve and grow, socially, emotionally and academically. MCDC strongly believes, as numerous research studies validate, that highly effective teaching is the single most important in-school factor for improving student learning and closing the achievement gap.

Project Partners: Orangeburg County and Calhoun County school districts, South Carolina State University (HBCU/ IHE) and its Colleges of Education and Arts & Sciences, and the Call Me Mister program.