



Frequently Asked Questions

Faith Based Development Initiative (FBDI) Seattle

For more information please see:

[FBDI Interest Questionnaire](#) – Microsoft Form

[Faith-Based Development Learning Cohort Comes to the Puget Sound](#) – blog post

[FBDI Launch Webinar Recording](#) – June 8, 2022

Or contact Jess Blanch – jblanch@enterprisecommunity.org

Does Enterprise FBDI work with regional groups? We are part of a regional entity, organizing cohorts of churches who are discerning around land use. Are there ways for our regional group to connect (vs. individual churches)?

Yes. The discernment process is a critical step, and we want to support groups on the ground that are doing this work.

Our organization is faith-based, but not a church. We do have property. Would we qualify for this initiative?

Yes, you would qualify. We are lifting up multiple creative pathways to achieving this work. If you are interested, don't disqualify yourself. Please complete the [interest form](#).

Our church is still discerning which developer we'd like to partner with. Does participation in the FBDI program require that we ultimately partner with Enterprise for the development step?

Our goal with this initiative is to support your organization with flexible resources that suit your specific needs. FBDI will give you the resources to make the best decision about who to partner with and how to proceed through the affordable housing development process. Our intent is to give you the tools to interview developers and to understand which questions to ask, but not to dictate any future partnerships. Enterprise is an intermediary; our role is to meet community where they are and to adapt our resources and services to your needs. We also recognize that different faith communities work in different ways. Our goal is not to make participants real estate experts but to help them to be comfortably conversant and make informed go/no-go decisions about development on their land.

Is Enterprise, through FBDI, interested in purchasing church property?

While Enterprise does not purchase land directly, we are happy to help you connect to affordable housing organizations or public partners as you discern a path forward for your property.

What are the financial resources available through FBDI?

FBDI will provide training, technical assistance, and small, but catalytic grants for predevelopment studies. There are two types of grants available to participating faith-based organizations: a \$10,000 grant for a market study and other feasibility studies and a \$40,000 recoverable grant for predevelopment work later in the process. Enterprise will administer the grants and support organizations as they work with consultants (legal, geotech, architects, engineers).



Regarding training and technical assistance, would you work with the entire "Church Development Team" or one identified person?

Our goal is to work with a small group of people from each faith-based organization. This way, the information can be shared throughout an organization. Each organization should aim to send two to three representatives, with capacity for more members of an organization's internal development team on an ad hoc basis. For example, we suggest that a clergy leader and one to two lay leaders participate in the program.

Does Enterprise have experience helping faith-based organizations develop property into housing trust and land trust models?

Yes. Community Land Trusts are a proven model to create permanently affordable housing. FBDI aims to help faith-based organizations to understand the development process and their options for developing land, which could include a land trust ownership model.

We just bought a church, but it needs to be expanded and we want to build affordable housing on the land as well. We need resources and connections to developers since it would be our first time trying to do this. Can you help?

Yes! Please complete the [interest form](#) to tell us more about your needs.

If our congregation is still discerning the use of our property - including the possibility of affordable housing - but also other space usage (i.e., community center, classrooms for community education programming) - will this program help that discernment process?

Depending on where you are in the discernment process, we may refer you to partners who specialize in organizing congregations around land stewardship discernment. Please complete the [interest form](#) so we can learn more about you and connect you to resources as applicable.

If our organization already has a development team, is the technical assistance portion still a requirement?

FBDI in Seattle is not a one-size-fits-all approach. Please complete the [interest form](#) and we can work to adapt our resources and services to suit your needs.

Our organization can't accurately fill out every part of the interest form. Should we still submit?

Yes! The interest form is intended to be flexible to fit most scenarios for our faith partners, but the form can't account for every situation. Fill out the [interest form](#) to the best of your ability and feel free to send us an email with additional information or materials.

Our organization is not based in King, Pierce, or Snohomish County. Should we still submit?

Yes! While our focus is currently on those three counties, we still want to hear from you if you are in other parts of the region. We may still be able to provide some assistance, and knowing about you will help us as we seek to expand this work to a wider geography.