

(h) "Community reinvestment corporation" means any corporation or foundation whose net earnings are reinvested in activities, projects, or programs for the purpose of fostering, encouraging, assisting in, or carrying out community [development] ASSISTANCE activities, projects, or programs.

(i) "Municipality" means a municipal corporation in this State subject to the provision of Article XI-E of the Constitution.

(j) "County" means one of the 23 counties of Maryland, and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore.

(k) "Financial assistance" means any form of assurance, guarantee, grant, payment, or other assistance, including a loan, loan guarantee, or reduction in the principal obligations of or rate of interest payable on a loan or portion of a loan.

(l) "Technical assistance" means the provision of advisory, consultative, training, information, design, architectural, organization, or management assistance, including financial assistance, to any municipality, county, regional organization, nonprofit organization, local public agency, or neighborhood or community organization in order to assist or carry out community [development] ASSISTANCE activities, projects, or programs.

[4-201.] 4-202.

(A) THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED A COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION WITHIN THE DIVISION.

[(a)] (B) The [Division of] Community Assistance ADMINISTRATION shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

(1) Encourage and assist the efforts of counties and municipalities and other public and private community organizations to develop mutual and cooperative solutions to their common problems;

(2) Serve as a clearinghouse for information, data, and other materials which may be pertinent to sound community [development] ASSISTANCE, including information on available federal, State, and private financial assistance and technical assistance;

(3) Implement model or demonstration programs and projects or otherwise provide a program of practical research in community [development] ASSISTANCE;

(4) Provide grants AND LOANS facilitating energy conservation and utilization of solar energy in commercial and residential buildings;