Federal Programs That Are Key to Job Creation

The following agencies and programs are instrumental for the creation and sustainability of Micro Enterprise development:

**Small Business Administration (SBA)**

**PRIME (Program for Investment in Micro-Entrepreneurs)**
Provides assistance to various organizations that help low-income entrepreneurs who lack sufficient training and education to gain access to capital to establish and expand their small businesses.
- President’s FY2012 budget proposes funding from $8 million to $0.

**Microloan Program**
Provides small, short-term loans to small business and certain types of not-for-profit child-care centers as well as provides technical assistance to put borrowers in a position to succeed.
- President’s FY 2012 budget request proposes a reduction in funding for technical assistant from $22 million to $10 million.

**Women’s Business Centers (WBC)**
Represent a national network of nearly 100 educational centers designed to assist women start and grow small businesses.
- Proposed for elimination by the House Committee on Small Business.

**Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)**
HUD continues to help local governments undertake a wide range of activities intended to create suitable living environments, provide decent affordable housing and create economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income.
- President’s FY2012 budget request cuts CDBG funding by 8% ($300 million).

**Department of Agriculture**

**Rural Business Enterprise Grants**
Provides grants for rural projects that finance and facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses help fund business incubators, and help fund employment related adult education programs.
- President’s FY2012 budget cuts $9 million in funding.

**Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP)**
Goal is to help new & existing rural microentrepreneurs by providing funds to microenterprise development organizations for microlending and technical assistance to their microloan prospects & borrowers.

**Department of Treasury**

**Community Development Financial Institution Funds (CDFI)**
Helps promote access to capital and local economic growth in urban and rural low-income communities across the nation.
- President’s FY2012 budget proposes a 9% cut (23 million).