

Membership Form

I would like to become a member of SHARE. Enclosed is my membership fee of \$10.00

I have opened a SHARE Credit Fund account at the First National Bank of the Berkshires.

I have not yet opened an account. Please send forms for doing so by mail.

The Association checked below is of most interest to me. Please let me know of its next meeting:

- Agricultural (SHAREcroppers)
- Cottage Industry
- Alternative Energy
- Consumer Co-ops
- Homeowners and Builders
- Small Business
- Cultural and Educational
- Forestry
- Health Care
- Social Service

Name _____

Address _____

S·H·A·R·E

Self Help Association for a Regional Economy
P. O. Box 125, Gt. Barrington, MA 01230



S·H·A·R·E

Self Help Association for a Regional Economy

WHAT IS SHARE? (Self Help Association for a Regional Economy)

SHARE is a non-profit organization established by local community members. Membership is open to anyone in the community.

The purpose of SHARE is to encourage local and regional self-reliance by securing loans offered at attractive rates of interest to businesses or individuals who are providing services or producing goods which meet SHARE criteria, but who are unable to obtain conventional bank financing. To meet this goal SHARE has created the SHARE Credit Fund in cooperation with the First National Bank of the Berkshires.

SHARE LOAN CRITERIA

The primary criteria for loans secured by the SHARE Credit Fund include whether the loans will create greater regional self-sufficiency in the production of basic necessities (food, shelter, energy) or in providing basic needed community services (transportation, health care, job training, legal services).



Other criteria would include whether the loan purpose will increase local employment and/or use local resources, conserve energy and be non-polluting to the environment. As a matter of procedure SHARE will exercise sound financial judgement in evaluating potential borrowers.

The SHARE Credit Fund does not secure consumer loans except when providing access to basic human needs. Loans secured by the SHARE Credit Fund will be short term and preferably self-liquidating in that funds loaned will create savings or greater productivity which can then repay the loan.

Only members of SHARE qualify for loans backed by the SHARE Credit Fund.



HOW DOES THE SHARE CREDIT FUND WORK?

Anyone wishing to become a member and to support the SHARE Credit Fund may do so by opening a 90 day notice savings certificate at the First National Bank of the Berkshires, designating the account as a SHARE account. The account will be structured as a joint account with SHARE. On opening the account the depositor authorizes SHARE to earmark up to 75% of the deposit balance as cash collateral in support of local loans which meet SHARE's criteria (Document A). This account will function otherwise in the same way as other 90 day notice certificates of deposit. It will earn interest and, except in the event of a loan loss, only the depositor may withdraw funds from the account.

INITIAL DEPOSIT \$100.00 minimum.

ADDITIONAL DEPOSITS

New deposits may be made at any time by mail or by taking the deposit directly to the bank along with a deposit slip.

INTEREST 6% per year.

CERTIFICATE PASSBOOKS

Passbooks will be held by SHARE for the purpose of securing loans which meet SHARE's criteria. On opening the account, the depositor signs a pledge agree-