Planting the Seeds of Economic Self-Sufficiency: William J. Grinker

William J. Grinker, President and Chair of Seedco Financial Services, Secretary of the Seedco Board, founder of Seedco Development Corporation, and former City of New York official, has dedicated his career to helping small businesses and low-income residents and businesses in economically distressed communities.

Grinker was born in New York City on October 22, 1944, and attended New York City public schools. He received his B.A. in Speech and History from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1967. After college, he worked in the military and then began his career in human services administration.

In 1974, Grinker co-founded Seedco Development Corporation, a nonprofit organization that develops and operates affordable housing and community facilities. Seedco also provides technical assistance to community organizations and residents to help them create and sustain community facilities.

Grinker has served on numerous boards and committees, including the National Board of Directors for the Community Development Corporation (CDC) of America, the Board of Directors of the National Association of Housing and Development Organizations, and the Board of Directors of the National Association of Housing and Development Organizations. He has also been honored with numerous awards, including the “Man of the Year” award from the Wisconsin Hispanic Business Coalition.

Today, Grinker continues to be an active member of the Wisconsin business community, and he remains dedicated to helping small businesses and low-income residents create and sustain community facilities.