



REGION III HUDLINE NEWS

October 2011



Region III E-Briefs from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development Region III (DE, DC, MD, PA, VA & WV) in
Region III (215) 656-0500 in Jane C.W. Vincent, Regional Administrator in www.hud.gov/pennsylvania in

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A Message from the Regional Administrator

I've been humming Willie Nelson's hit, "On the Road Again," for the past month as I've traveled the region, touring HUD-funded projects and talking with folks about the American Jobs Act, which includes a multi-billion dollar program called Project Rebuild. This proposed program builds on the success of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, creating more jobs, stabilizing more neighborhoods and cleaning up abandoned properties. [Read Secretary Donovan's blog about Project Rebuild.](#) I'm proud of the work our partners are doing to create affordable housing and sustainable communities, and to ensure the fair housing rights of residents; and it's my privilege to see first-hand and celebrate those accomplishments.

With the start of the new fiscal year October 1, we're gearing up for a very busy fall! This month, we're engaging men and youth in a local, state and national conversation about domestic violence prevention. As part of the [Vice President's initiative](#) to raise awareness about dating violence and sexual assault among young people, the White House will be hosting a roundtable to focus on the role of men role in curbing dating violence and sexual assault. HUD is working with the Departments of Education and of Health and Human Services to coordinate a regional roundtable on October 26 in the Philadelphia HUD office. We must heed the Vice President's call to action and be part of the solution to this issue, which doesn't only occur inside homes but on high school and college campuses across the country.

We can each make a difference that will improve the quality of life for those around us. There is no greater calling for me than that, and I look forward to working with you and in support of you towards that end!



HUDlights in this issue:

Regional Administrator's Message.....	1
HUD's Newest News.....	1
HUD Funding Resources.....	4
FHA News.....	4-5
Region III Field Office News.....	6-9

HUD's Newest News

Nearly 40 community leaders attended a meeting with HUD Director of the [Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities](#) Shelley Poticha and Regional Administrator Jane C. W. Vincent on September 23 at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD. The two HUD officials were seeking input and feedback on HUD's FY 2012 priorities. The discussion focused on community development, sustainability and the need for affordable housing. The participants were excited about the proposed Project Rebuild and offered their support for the Jobs for America Act. A similar convening was held in Richmond, VA with HUD Deputy Chief of Staff for Budget and Policy Jonathan Harwitz and Vincent on September 16. Attendees in Richmond suggested ways to strengthen partnerships and discussed HUD's impact on their work.



Follow HUD happenings between newsletters through social media – search @HUDMidAtlantic on Twitter or join the HUD group on Facebook!

HUD's Mission: To create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities with quality, affordable housing for all.

FOND FAREWELLS



Brenda M. Laroche has been HUD's Deputy Regional Administrator for Region III since 2002, ensuring a steady hand at the helm of management for HUD staff and operations throughout Region III. With steadfast support of the Department's mission to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities with quality affordable housing for all, Brenda has served in many capacities during her 38 years at HUD, including several rotations as Acting Regional Director and most recently, as Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Single Family Housing. All of HUD, and especially all of Region III, wishes Brenda many happy years of retirement, with gratitude.

Diane Lello has been a valued member of the HUD staff since 1991. She has been the Field Office Director for the HUD Wilmington, DE office since it opened in the late 1990's. Diane has also served as the Region III Sustainable Communities Officer, and, in addition to stepping up to serve as Acting Deputy Regional Administrator from time to time, she has served in the offices of Regional Housing and as the Regional Public Affairs/Congressional Relations director. She has had a distinguished career at HUD and her contributions have been many. We all wish her well as she begins a new chapter in her life.



HELP FOR RECOVERY

Tornadoes, an earthquake, a hurricane and a tropical storm – many places in Region III have been affected by the recent disasters. FEMA has guidance for recovery and a listing of cities and counties where Public Assistance and/or Individual Assistance have been authorized. [Go to FEMA's website for information about preparation, recovery and applying for assistance.](#)

The National Center for Healthy Housing handbook explains clean-up after flooding. Intended to help residents and contractors remove mold and other contamination, *Creating a Healthy Home: A Field Guide for Clean-up of Flooded Homes* is free at <http://www.nchh.org/>. Agencies working directly with individuals impacted by floods can order printed booklets for distribution from the National Center for Healthy Housing, 877-312-3046.

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SUSTAINABILITY PARTNERS AT WORK

Check out Buildingwell.org, a new resource for greening multi-family affordable housing. The site is a joint venture of Local Initiatives Support Corporation's Green Development Center and New Ecology, Inc. and caters to existing building rehabs on tight budgets. Go to the [site](#) to learn more.

Green Refinance Plus, a joint FHA and Fannie Mae program, helps owners of existing rental housing properties refinance and lower their annual operating costs by reducing energy consumption. The program includes funding for energy- and water- saving upgrades, along with other needed property renovations. FHA and Fannie Mae will share the risk on loans to refinance rent-restricted projects, such as expiring mortgages of Low Income Housing Tax Credit and other affordable properties. You can read the full press release [here](#).

The Rural Policy Research Institute, Rural Futures Lab has published a paper called "[Transitioning to Renewable Energy: Development Opportunities and Concerns for Rural America.](#)" The paper explores the benefits and drawbacks of the current energy system and renewable energy.

The City of Roanoke, VA is launching its second "[Green Academy](#)" on October 6, to continue its progress toward becoming the "cleanest and greenest" city in Virginia. [Registration](#) deadline is October 4.

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

Region III programs have been awarded nearly \$420,000 in additional Housing Counseling funds from the unspent FY 2010 appropriation. This funding will be specifically targeted to help families keep their homes and avoid mortgage scams. Read the press release [here](#).

The City of Philadelphia has been awarded two Brownfield Economic Development Initiative (BEDI) grants totaling \$4.25 million. A BEDI grant of \$1.25 million, coupled with an application for a Section 108 Loan of \$1.75 million, will be used for the first phase of the Edison Square Project. Another BEDI grant of \$3 million, with an application for a Section 108 Loan of \$3 million will be used for the Bakers Centre Project. For more information about these awards, and the other BEDI grants around the country, [follow this link](#).



HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan announced that homelessness was prevented or ended for 1 million Americans, thanks to [HUD's Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program \(HPRP\)](#), funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. [Click here](#) to see the announcement, along with a video clip. Pictured, from left to right: Caroline Fernandez, Mark Johnston, Susan Ziff, Secretary Donovan, Ann Oliva, Assistant Secretary Mercedes Marquez, and Tamara Inchurch

HUD has awarded more than \$8.5 million in grants to Public Housing Agencies and FHA Multifamily Housing Developments in Region III. The funding includes: Approximately \$6.6 million through the [Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency – Service Coordinators Program \(ROSS-SC\) Program](#) and the [Public Housing – Family Self-Sufficiency Program \(PH-FSS\)](#); and \$1.9 million through the Multifamily Housing Service Coordinator Program (MHSC). [Read more about local impact of HUD's grant funding](#).

Three national intermediary organizations have been awarded more than \$49 million to help local community-based developers produce or preserve affordable homes nationwide. Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Habitat for Humanity International, and Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. will use HUD's [Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Program](#) to develop and enhance the capabilities of community development corporations (CDCs) and community housing development organizations (CHDOs).

HUD has awarded nearly \$11 million in grants to five Region III projects to protect children and families from dangerous lead-based paint and other home health and safety hazards. [Read a complete project-by-project summary of the programs awarded grants across the nation](#). To read the full press release, [click here](#).

HUD has awarded 2010 Sustainable Communities Research Grant (SCRG) Program funds to six researchers, four of which are in Region III. The Region III awardees are International City/County Management Association (Washington, D.C. – \$284,666), The National Housing Trust (Washington, D.C. – \$348,696), The Urban Institute (Washington, D.C. – \$500,000) and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Blacksburg, VA – \$363,475). Read more about the awards [here](#).

Three Doctoral Dissertation awards in Region III are among the 17 announced on September 20. See the [Federal Register](#) for the complete listing.

Fourteen Region III agencies are among the recipients of FY 2010 Fair Housing Initiative Program (FHIP) grants. The Region III awards total nearly \$4.6 million. Read the [Federal Register](#) announcement.

HUD has awarded \$50,000 to the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority to increase hiring of low-income individuals and public housing residents, one of twelve such awards made nationally to hire full-time [Section 3](#) Program Coordinators. These grants will maximize a HUD program that ensures HUD dollars are used to hire low-income individuals and to contract with businesses that hire them. See the [news release](#) for more information.

HUD FUNDING RESOURCES

The [General Section](#) for HUD's FY 2012 funding has been published. All potential applicants for HUD's competitive funding are encouraged to read the General Section carefully as it provides critical guidance in advance of publication of any FY2012 Notices of Funding Availability. The General Section also describes HUD's policy priorities based on its Strategic Plan for FY2010-2015, as well as submission requirements for FY2012.

Currently available funding opportunities:

- FY 2011 [Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program](#) full applications are due October 6.
- FY 2010 [Energy Innovation Fund](#) applications are due October 20.
- FY 2011 [Continuum of Care](#) applications are due October 28.

All the latest in HUD funding news may be found at [hud.gov funds available](#) or [grants.gov](#). All applicants are reminded to register or update information at [grants.gov](#) before submitting applications.

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

October 15 – Deadline for AARP Foundation Sustainable Solutions To Hunger Innovation Grants. See <http://www.aarp.org/aarp-foundation/Grants-Administration/> for more information.

October 17 – Deadline for applications to Youth Service America and United Healthcare for programs that demonstrate understanding of the health risks associated with childhood obesity; propose creative solutions to fighting obesity; and can be easily implemented, scaled, and measured. For details and to apply, click [here](#).

October 31 – Application deadline for the 2011 US Disaster Recovery Grant Initiative from AmeriCares. The US Disaster Recovery Grant offers funding support for projects in the health sector. For more information, see the [RFP and Guidelines here](#).

Now accepting applications - AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) invites potential Project Sponsors to apply for teams of developing leaders. See the [NCCC Website](#) for more information.

FHA LEADS THE WAY

Notices to note: For FHA technical support on these or any other FHA issue, please contact the [FHA Resource Center](#). Email technical support is available at: answers@hud.gov

- Notice for FHA Lenders and Appraisers: The January 1, 2012 implementation date of Mortgagee Letter 2011-30 applies to FHA insured mortgages **only**, with case numbers assigned on or after that date. See [the FHA Mortgagee Letter page](#) and click on Letter 2011-30 for more information.
- EEM Notice for FHA Partners: FHA's Energy Efficient Mortgage (EEM) relies on a home energy audit that uses the Home Energy Ratings System tool (HERS). Visit [FHA's EEM Home Page](#) for more information about EEM.
- Beginning September 12, lenders will no longer be able to order a streamline refinance case with an appraisal, and for streamline refinances cases without an appraisal, the outstanding principal balance for the projected month of closing and the following month will be provided in FHA Connection.

New [Mortgagee Letters](#):

- Mortgagee Letter 2011-31 provides guidance to counselors and lenders regarding revisions to form HUD 92902 and other documentation for Home equity Conversion Mortgages (HECM).
- Mortgagee Letter 2011-32 provides instructions and guidance pertaining to the recognition of commercial income in calculating the maximum insurable mortgage.
- Mortgagee Letter 2011-33 announces that FHA approved Holders and Servicers are subject to sanctions for failure to report Mortgage Record Changes.
- Mortgagee Letter 2011-34 announces changes to the requirements for obtaining, maintaining and utilizing an entity's FHA lender approval.

- Mortgagee Letter 2011-35 provides clarification on Annual Mortgage Insurance Premiums for loans with forward amortization terms of 15 years or less and an LTV of 78 percent or less at origination.
 - Mortgagee Letter 2011-36 eliminates HUD Headquarters' concurrence of affordable housing programs with borrowers whose household income exceeds 115 percent of the area median income (AMI).
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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Comments are due October 25 about the proposed rule that would amend HUD regulations to enable the direct lending institutions of the Farm Credit System to seek approval to participate in the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) mortgage insurance programs as approved mortgagees and lenders. For more information about this proposed rule, or for instructions about making a comment, [click here](#).

Public comments on a proposal that would establish the criteria to designate a community as a Safe and Healthy Homes Investment Partnership (SHHIP) are due October 14. Designating a community as a SHHIP may make that community eligible for bonus points in future HUD Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs). See [the Federal Register announcement](#) for more information and to make comments.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Starting October 4 - The weekly *Ready, SET (SNAPS e-Learning Tuesdays), Go!* webinar series will provide comprehensive information for Continuums of Care (CoCs), HMIS administrators, grantees, project sponsors and other stakeholders on a variety of topics focused on community planning and capacity building. All webinar presentations and accompanying materials will be available on HUD's [Homelessness Resource Exchange \(HRE\)](#). Registration information will be distributed via listserv by October 1st. To be sure you're on the listserv, contact the Community Planning and Development program in your jurisdiction's [HUD Office](#).

HUD's recently released report of U.S. Housing Market conditions for 2011 contains a comparative analysis of the multifamily housing sector with previous quarters, updated national data, overviews of economic and housing market and historical trends. Some interesting statistics concerning the Philadelphia Multifamily Hub for the year ending June 2011 include:

- Average monthly rents increased 9% to \$2170 in Center City, Philadelphia and,
- Average monthly rents increased to \$1,440 in the Philadelphia suburbs.

To read the entire report, see [the HUDUser Website](#).

The Center for Housing Policy is offering a factsheet on "The Role of Housing Counseling in Reducing Mortgage Delinquency and Foreclosure" that summarizes the most recent research on the role that housing counseling plays in addressing these issues. To get a copy, click [here](#).

How to Do It - the Institute for Comprehensive Community Development has templates, case studies, handbooks, videos and other resources for people engaged in community development. Find these resources on the Institute's [website](#).

The "100,000 Homes for 100,000 Homeless Americans" Campaign continues – more allies are needed to reach the goal by July, 2013! [Click here for more information](#).

HUD's [Annual State of Fair Housing Report for FY 2010](#) shows that HUD is resolving housing discrimination complaints faster, increasing its focus on complaints that affect multiple people, and launching more investigations on behalf of discrimination victims where no one has filed a complaint. The Report also illustrates how HUD is helping funded municipalities and state and local agencies comply with civil rights requirements and holding non-compliant funding recipients accountable.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND REGION III...

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Third District Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell slashed a giant energy bill to celebrate the opening of a new sustainable, affordable housing facility named [Jannie's Place](#) on September 20. As part of a push to make Philadelphia more environmentally-friendly, Jannie's Place features 29 energy-efficient units and a "green" roof that uses plant cover to lower temperatures and cut energy consumption.

Every September, veterans working for HUD's Philadelphia Regional Office turn out to recognize and support those who have fought for our freedom. *Stand Down 2011* was held in Levittown over the weekend of September 11. "Veterans Helping Veterans" is a fitting tribute to the men and women who have fought and remain vigilant to keep our borders safe and secure our freedoms. HUD vets like David McCarraher (pictured with a participating vet, right), and others volunteer to help vets attending the Stand Down get information about housing and other services so they can get back on their feet and find a better quality of life. HUD employees support local Stand Down efforts because they offer "a hand up, not a hand out." For more information on HUD help for homeless vets, click [here](#).



- **October 20** - Livable Communities Workshop at Drexel University, presented by the HUD and Drexel University's School of Public Health, with support from HealthPartners. For more information, contact Deanda.l.wilson@hud.gov.
- **November 14-16** - 7th Annual "Homes Within Reach" Conference, in Harrisburg, PA. Register [here](#).

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center received the 2011 Governor's Technology Award in the "Cross-Boundary Collaboration in Modeling and Simulation" category at the Commonwealth of Virginia Innovative Technology Symposium ([COVITS](#)) for its project "Strategic Mortgage Default – An Epidemiological Approach."

The West Point Society of Richmond (WPSR) will conduct an Ethics Conference for high school juniors in the Richmond area this fall. This conference is being offered free for up to four students and one faculty member from each of the public schools in the greater Richmond area, and will focus on topics involving honor and respect, as well as on ethical leadership issues. For more information contact Evie Chitty at 804-862-7780 (enchitt@wal-mart.com).

- **October 13** - Governor's Small Business Summit in Richmond. Registration is available on the [Governor's website](#).
- **October 13** - 5th Annual Hampton Roads Housing Consortium Housing Award Ceremony at the Norfolk Airport Hilton. 2011 HRHC Award recipients include: HRHC Lifetime Achievement Award - George Birdsong, Retired Board Chairman and Director of Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority, HRHC Housing Warrior - Habitat for Humanity Peninsula and Greater Williamsburg, HRHC Housing Partner - Housing Development Corporation of Hampton Roads, and HRHC Across the Region Service Award - Housing Virginia. RSVP for the award ceremony by email to info@hamptonroadshousing.org.
- **November 10** - Veterans and Small Business "SUCCESS" Symposium in Virginia's Gateway Region. Registration is open - for more information, go to <http://veteransuccess.eventbrite.com>.
- **November 16 – 18** – Governor's Housing Conference "Navigating a Changing Environment" in Hampton. See the [Governor's Housing Conference website](#) for more information and to register.

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



Enterprise and MetLife Foundation announced the Ingleside Retirement Apartments as the 2011 winner of the MetLife Foundation Award for Excellence in Affordable Housing for continued dedication to best practices in green, service-enriched housing for low-income seniors. [Click here for more about the award.](#) Pictured at the award presentation are, from left to right, Robert Mulrooney, Vice-Chairman, Ingleside Homes Board of Trustees, Jane Vincent, HUD Region III Administrator, Cynda Jones, Enterprise Partners, Idrisa ABull-Hanmin, MetLife, and Larry Cessna, President/CEO, Ingleside Homes.

Developed with the help of a HUD Section 811 Capital Advance award, the Ministry of Caring opened “Mother Teresa House” to provide independent living for people with HIV/AIDS in Wilmington, Delaware. Read more about this new housing [here](#).

October 26 – Penn-Del AHMA Conference in Dover - [Click here](#) for more information

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

[Healthy Neighborhoods](#), Inc. has received \$26 million in Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 grants to help eligible families buy homes in Baltimore. Visit [Community Review](#), the official blog of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to learn more.

Don't be fooled by Irene scams; hire licensed contractors for repairs. Maryland Home Improvement Law requires contractors, subcontractors and salespeople to hold a current Maryland Home Improvement Commission [license](#) in order to work in the state. The [Maryland Home Improvement Guaranty Fund](#) only protects homeowners who use licensed contractors from shoddy work.

- **October 13** - Local Support for Affordable Housing in Baltimore. Free and open to all interested organizations. Registration is required at <http://baltimorelocalsupport.eventbrite.com/>.

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA



HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan's Chief of Staff, Laurel Blatchford, was in Berkeley Springs, WV on August 25 to represent the White House at a *White House Business Council Roundtable*. Co-hosted by the Morgan County Commission and Morgan County Economic Development Authority, the Roundtable is one of many listening sessions that the White House has held, or plans to hold, around the country by the end of 2011. The Roundtable in rural Berkeley Springs gave Ms. Blatchford, accompanied by Region III Regional Administrator Jane Vincent, the chance to listen and learn first-hand from local business and community leaders about challenges and opportunities faced by small businesses in today's economic climate. Feedback and ideas offered during the Roundtable will be considered by the Administration for potential new policy direction and economic initiatives.

The coal fields of West Virginia served as the backdrop for HUD Regional Administrator Jane C.W. Vincent as she toured Southern West Virginia with Field Office Director Peter Minter. Meeting with local elected officials, a HUD funded non-profit and Congressman Nick Rahall's State Director, Vincent saw first-hand the need for affordable housing and job creation. In addition to seeing HUD funded programs and projects such as the Ashland Company Store pictured (right), Vincent had the opportunity to gather input from local residents and decision makers about the challenges they face in their communities. Vincent discussed the Administration's American Jobs Act and what it would mean for local employment. Finally, she provided a budget briefing to Housing Authority Executive Directors at the annual West Virginia Association of Housing Agencies Conference.



Link Child Care Resource and Referral, Boone County Outreach will be located at Boone County Board of Education Center Office in Madison until further notice. For information call Harold Keener (304) 752-3932.

- **October 6 – 7** - Community Works Conference in Roanoke (WV). Contact: Mary Skeens, Executive Director, 304-965-2241.
- **October 11** - Kanawha Coalition for Community Health Improvement's Health Issues Forum, University of Charleston. Deadline to register October 4, contact Judy Crabtree at 388-7557.
- **October 11** - Kanawha County Health Issues Forum, University of Charleston. Contact Judith M. Crabtree at 304-388-7557.
- **October 21** - Family Center and Fundamentals of Culturally Competent Care Training in Huntington. Register by mail, phone, fax or email to the Wayne County Family Resource Network, P.O. Box 250 Wayne, WV 25701, 304-272-6003, waynefrn@frontiernet.net, fax 272-6003.
- **October 26** - Roark-Sullivan Lifeway Center, Inc. Wellness Fair in Charleston. Contact: Amanda Harrison aharrison@rslwc.org or Stephanie Young syoung@rslwc.org.
- **October 28** – Evie Young and Dave Gallian of the HUD Charleston Staff presenting “Building Assets, Strengthening Communities” Conference in South Charleston. Contact: Debby Berry at 304-342-6972 or email dberry@te-associates.com.

WASHINGTON, DC



The DC HUD Office planned and successfully implemented two Capacity Building Workshops for 160 participants combined in August. Anne Davis of the Richmond Office was the trainer for the Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, facilitating workshops covering basic grants administration (“Grants on Track”) and Board Development. Although the infamous East Coast earthquake disrupted the Grants on Track class, Anne was able to return on September 14 to complete the interrupted course. Pictured left: Anne Davis leads the training

Even though Hurricane Irene was quickly closing in on the East Coast August 27, Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development stuck to their plans to open doors for unemployed and underemployed borrowers seeking assistance under President Obama's Emergency Home Loan Program (EMA). The event processed more than 300 applicants before the storm hit the area.

State of Maryland Delegates Aisha Braveboy and Michael Vaughn hosted the “2011 Stimulus Contract & Procurement Opportunities Fair” in Prince George's County on September 13. Representing HUD was Belinda Fadlelmola, of HUD's DC Office, who brought information to minority businesses about contracting opportunities and offered to provide continuing information on doing business with the federal government.

- **October 14** - Nonprofit counseling organizations engaged in foreclosure prevention efforts in the National Capital region may apply for funding from the [Capital Area Foreclosure Prevention Fund](#). Additional related news in our [Capital Area Foreclosure Network bi-weekly newsletter](#).

- **October 19** - Office of Environment and Energy (OEE) announces a series of webinars to make Environmental Reviews easier to create. [Register here for the webinar.](#)
- **October 25** - Job Fair for Returning Veterans from Afghanistan and Iraq. HUD will provide supportive services in the form of workshops on housing opportunities for homeless veterans and foreclosure prevention resources. For more information, contact [Belinda Fadlemola.](#)
- **November 2** - HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research, with the National Building Museum and John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, are co-hosting the "How Housing Matters" Conference. Pre-registration is required: [sign up today.](#)

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan and HUD Regional Administrator Jane C. W. Vincent tour Pittsburgh Neighborhood Stabilization Program project with community leaders, while discussing the American Jobs Act. To read more about the Secretary's visit to Pittsburgh [click here.](#)



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U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan and Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl toured a Pittsburgh neighborhood to highlight how President Obama's [American Jobs Act](#) and [Project Rebuild](#) can help revitalize neighborhoods, create jobs, and support local economies in Pittsburgh. Pictured is Secretary Donovan with HUD Pittsburgh FPM staff (l to r) Cyndi Evans, Cindy Haines, Jane Miller, Secretary Shaun Donovan, Lauren Ashcraft and Bob McMahon.

Do you have an idea for a great session for the 2012 the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency Housing Conference (June 25-27, 2012), in Pittsburgh? Submit the Speaker Request for Proposal [RFP](#) by **October 15, 2011**, to Crystal Baker at cbaker@phfa.org or fax it to 717-614-2519. Call 717-780-1808 for a fillable RFP.

- **October 7** – Brown Bag Lunch with the University of Pittsburgh's Urban and Regional Analysis program. Topic: Shrinking Cities: What Can Be Done? RSVP to pncis@pitt.edu.
- **October 18 & 19** - PA Association of Floodplain Managers' Fall Conference in Johnstown PA. Register online at www.palocalgovtraining.org, or contact Kelly Lougee at 717-763-0930.
- **October 19** – Annual Government Agency Coordination Office (GACO) Procurement and Opportunities Fair in Mars, PA . Contact: Debbie Wojcik at 724-938-5881, email wojcik@calu.edu.
- **October 20-21** – Pennsylvania Affordable Housing Management Association (PAHMA) Fall Conference; "Embracing the Future of Affordable Housing" in Champion PA. See www.pahma.org for registration.
- **October 21** – Poverty Simulation training at Butler VA Medical center. Registration deadline in October 14. For more information, contact Amanda at 724-284-5714 or afeltenb@co.butler.pa.us.
- **October 22** - Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh: "State of Black Pittsburgh" Opportunity Fair and Town Hall Meeting. Go to [this link](#) for more information or to register.
- **October 22** - Free Homebuyer Education Class at Butler County Housing Authority. To register call: 724- 287-6797 or 1-800-433-6327 by October 19.

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We welcome your feedback and invite you to share your news with editor Anne Davis at anne.davis@hud.gov. If you know anyone who might like this news, please feel free to share it with them and let them know they can subscribe by emailing Anne Davis, or by sending a message to REGION-III-NEWS-L@hudlist.hud.gov.

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