



REGION III HUDLINE NEWS

April 2013



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A MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR



On April 11, 1968 President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Fair Housing Act into law prohibiting discrimination in the sale or rental of housing based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, familial status or disability.

Since that landmark legislation was signed 45 years ago, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has taken the opportunity each April to celebrate Fair Housing Month. This year's theme: *"Our Work Today Defines Our Tomorrow,"* enables us to cast a spotlight on a persistent problem that exists in this country as individuals and families continue to face both blatant and subtle forms of housing discrimination.

I encourage you to read HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan's [The HUDdle Blog post](#), where he shares that "Celebrating Fair Housing Month is always special—it gives us the chance to look back and reaffirm HUD's commitment to creating fair and decent housing in inclusive, sustainable

communities for all as well as an opportunity to reflect on how far we've come and how far we still have to go." At HUD's Fair Housing Month event at headquarters (pictured left) he repeated that message and spoke of as how proud he is after decades of work, this February, HUD issued a rule that formalized existing national standards for determining whether a housing practice violates the Fair Housing Act because it has a discriminatory effect. Having the rule in place makes it clear that HUD will use every enforcement resource available to fight unlawful housing discrimination under the Fair Housing Act.

With the National Fair Housing Alliance, HUD has launched a national media campaign to educate the public and housing providers about their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act. The campaign, titled ["Fair Housing Is Your Right. Use It."](#) includes English, Spanish, and Chinese radio and print public service advertisements that feature examples of actions which violate the Fair Housing Act and let the public know what to do if they experience housing discrimination. The campaign's PSAs will run in advertising space and in timeslots donated by the media.

In her blog post about the media campaign, [HUD Public Affairs' Shantae Goodloe passionately wrote](#), "Just when you might think or hope that housing discrimination is a thing of the past, we're reminded it's still very much a part of society today. Consider the case of a single mother of two hoping to rent a two-bedroom apartment only to be told by the landlord that there is a 'one heart beat per room rule.' Or the deaf or hard-of-hearing individual who tried to rent an apartment only to be informed that persons like you 'belong in a nursing home.'" [Be sure to check out the up close and personal stories from people about their experiences with housing discrimination and how they got help.](#)"

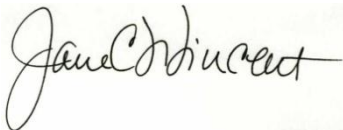
On April 11, I had the opportunity to share the compelling story of the single mom at the Fairfax County Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs' Annual Fair Housing Month event in Fairfax, VA. I told the nearly 150 housing advocates in attendance that you wouldn't think this kind of thing would happen in Fairfax County, but it does. Advertisements for rentals included language like a one-bedroom "ideal for a single, working person" and a four-bedroom, 2,000 square foot townhouse noting "no more than three people." Overly restrictive occupancy standards would undoubtedly discourage any family with children.

It's hard to believe that HUD and our Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) partner agencies receive almost 10,000 complaints each year alleging some form of discrimination. And there are many other instances of discrimination that we know go unreported. The number of complaints is disturbing, but it's even more important to remember that each complaint represents a person or a family who feels their housing rights may have been unlawfully violated.

Throughout this month's Region III HUDLine News, you'll find stories about how our field offices are working in their communities to promote Fair Housing Month. You'll find an extensive listing of special events being held in HUD's offices as well as by our FHAPs and Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) partner agencies in each one of the Mid-Atlantic States.

You'll find the message we are trying to say and send loud and clear. If you feel like you've been a victim of discrimination (or know someone who has), there are a number of ways to file a complaint. You can call 1-800-669-9777, [contact a local fair housing agency](#), or visit www.HUD.gov/fairhousing. Or, you can access HUD's mobile adaptive pages in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Join the more than 1,000+ to download our [app](#)! Help us spread the word that "Housing Discrimination Has No Place in Our Nation."

Thank you,



Jane C.W. Vincent, Region III Regional Administrator
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



Pictured (l-r) are Kenneth L. Saunders, Director, Fairfax County Office of Human Rights & Equity Programs; Christine M. Todd, CEO, Northern Virginia Association of Realtors®; Jon Wolford, Chairman, Northern Virginia Association of Realtors® Board of Directors; Marvin Turner, Director, HUD District of Columbia/National Capital Area with Jane C.W. Vincent at the Fairfax County event. Photograph courtesy of Ann Gutkin.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Preserving Multifamily Housing through the Green Refinancing Plus program is working. Read the [article](#) in the *HUD PD&R Edge* to see Green Refinancing in action.

The **Federal Housing Administration (FHA) Powersaver Home Energy Retrofit Pilot** has been extended. FHA insurance will continue to be available through May 4, 2015 for loans to homeowners to finance energy-saving alterations, repairs and improvements in existing structures or manufactured homes. Contact Patricia McBarron, HUD, 202-708-2121.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is looking for nominations for participants in **FEMA's Youth Preparedness Council (YPC)**. The Youth Preparedness Council offers an opportunity for young leaders to serve as a member of a distinguished national council; to complete a youth preparedness project of their choosing; to learn about youth disaster preparedness from the leadership at FEMA and other national organizations dedicated to youth preparedness; to voice their opinions, experiences, and share innovative ideas and solutions; and to participate in the Youth Preparedness Council Summit where the council meets with emergency management leadership to discuss steps to strengthen the nation's resiliency against all types of disasters. Click [here](#) to learn more.

There's more to the **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)** than just a policy. Flooding is the most common natural disaster in the United States. Recently there have been more frequent severe weather events, like Hurricane Sandy that ravaged the East Coast. FEMA manages NFIP, which provides flood insurance policies that give millions of Americans a defense against flooding. But, flood insurance policies are only one component of the program and just part of the protection that NFIP provides to individuals and the American public. Click [here](#) to learn more. And, [here](#) for a webinar schedule.

The **Federal Housing Finance Agency has announced that beginning July 1, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac** will require their servicers to "to offer eligible borrowers who are at least 90 days delinquent on their mortgage an easy way to lower their monthly payments and modify their mortgage without requiring financial or hardship documentation." Eligible homeowners whose mortgages are owned or guaranteed by Fannie and Freddie will need to demonstrate their "willingness and ability" to make three consecutive on-time payments after which their mortgages will be permanently modified. For more, [click here](#).

So, what's irking American consumers these days? Credit cards? Mortgages? Student loans? Banks accounts? Now you can find out thanks to the **Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's brand new, online Consumer Complaint Data Base** comprised of more than 90,000 complaints and more than one million data points, covering approximately 450 companies. The online tool includes the type of complaint, the date of submission, the consumer's ZIP code, and the company that the complaint concerns. The Bureau says it's searchable and sortable, too. For more, [click here](#).

The Department of Housing and Urban Development, in partnership with the Council on Foundations, announced the annual **Secretary's Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships – Housing and Community Development in Action** – as part of the Council's annual Fall Conference. The Secretary's Award for Public-Philanthropic Partnerships recognizes excellence in partnerships that have both transformed the relationship between the sectors and led to measurable benefits in terms of increased economic employment, health, safety, education, sustainability, inclusivity and cultural opportunities, and/or housing access for low- and moderate-income families. This award emphasizes cross-sector partnerships between the philanthropic and public sectors. Recognizing that foundations of all sizes partner with public agencies, the jury will take asset and staff size into consideration to ensure that the award recipients reflect a diversity of foundations. The fillable PDF form will be available beginning March 18, at <http://www.cof.org> and www.huduser.org/secaward/cof. **The deadline for completing submission is 11:59 p.m. PT, April 29.**

HUD FEDERAL REGISTER RULES, NOTICES & FUNDING

Proposed Rules

[Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing: Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program and Revisions to the Definition of "Chronically Homeless"](#)

[Federal Housing Administration \(FHA\): Direct Endorsement Program Solicitation of Comment on Timeframe for Conducting Pre-Endorsement Review](#)

Notices

[Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Comment Request; Housing Counseling Training Program](#)

[Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment: Annual Progress Report \(APR\) for the Competitive Homeless Assistance Programs](#)

[Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Comment Request; Assisted Living Conversion Program \(ALCP\) for Eligible Multifamily Housing Projects and Emergency Capital Repair Program \(ECRP\)](#)

[Notice of Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request: Submission Requirements for the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly and the Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons With Disabilities Capital Advance Program](#)

[Federal Property Suitable as Facilities To Assist the Homeless](#)

[Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collection to OMB: Emergency Shelter Grants Program \(FR 2562\)](#)

[Notice of Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request: Multifamily Housing-Utility Allowance Adjustments for Rental Assistance](#)

[Notice of Submission of Proposed Information Collection to OMB: Annual Progress Report \(APR\) for Competitive Homeless Assistance Programs](#)

[Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Comment Request Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing \(AFHM\) Plan](#)

[Notice of Proposed Information Collection; Comment Request: Application for Multifamily Project Mortgage Insurance](#)

HUD Notices of Funding Availability

DUE April 19 – [Housing Counseling Training Grants](#)

DUE April 22 – [FY 2013 Fair Housing Organization Initiative Continuing Development Component](#)

DUE April 24 – [Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program \(SHOP\) Intermediaries](#)

NEW DEADLINE DUE April 30 – [Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency \(ROSS\) Service Coordinator](#)

DUE May 28 – [FY 2013 Choice Neighborhood Planning Grant Program](#)

DUE June 11 – [Fair Housing Initiative Program \(FHIP\) Private Enforcement Initiative Grants](#)

AROUND THE REGION, DELAWARE

Maria L. Bynum, Field Office Director
302-573-6300, hud.gov/delaware

DSHA Celebrates \$5.1 Million Section 811 Project Rental Assistance Grant

Delaware State Housing Authority Director Anas Ben Addi (second from left) hosted HUD Regional Administrator Jane C.W. Vincent, Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) Secretary Rita Landgraf and U.S. Sen. Tom Carper (l-r) on March 27 in Newark to celebrate Delaware's award from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development of \$5.1 million to create and sustain 170 units of affordable housing for people with disabilities over the next five years. In her remarks, Secretary Landgraf identified DHSS client Delores Elliott, of Lewes, as "the human face" of what housing assistance means to people who want to return to the community. After living in a nursing home for three years, Ms. Elliott, who receives housing assistance, found her own accessible apartment. Secretary Landgraf



said, "We asked Delores what it means to live in the community. She told us, 'I am happy. I waited a long time. Now, I am my own boss. I don't have to ask for permission to go to the store.'" DHSS will identify and qualify people with disabilities, who have low incomes, for the housing assistance. The Delaware State Housing Authority will work with landlords to identify units eligible for the funding and then reimburse the landlords for a percentage of the monthly rent. Pictured above is Ms. Elliott, left, with Secretary Landgraf during a visit at her Lewes home the day of the announcement. For more photos, [click here](#).

Communities Proclaim April Fair Housing Month in Delaware

To kick off Fair Housing Month, the Housing Opportunities of Northern Delaware (HOND) hosted its 30th Annual Proclamation Signing Ceremony and Luncheon on April 2 in Wilmington. Those attending were witness to eight official proclamations from around the state. New Castle County Tom Executive Gordon and Dover Mayor Carleton Carey both noted the great demand for affordable housing for those who are working as well as individuals and families battling homelessness. Both expressed their commitment to promoting fair and equal access to housing in their respective proclamations. In his remarks, Delaware Human Relations Commission Chairman Calvin Christopher pointed out the continuing need to educate people in Delaware communities about their protections under the fair housing rights law. HOND, a private, nonprofit, fair housing organization that assists families in filing fair housing complaints and conducts education seminars, also serves as a HUD approved housing counseling agency. On April 29, HOND will continue its Fair Housing Month Celebration by honoring Amy Walls, President of the Diamond State Community Land Trust for her efforts to increase affordable housing in Sussex County and Karen Horton, architect and designer of Fair Housing Programs for the State of Delaware, for her work to champion the Analysis Impediments Study for Fair Housing. For more on this story, [click here](#).

Upcoming Events & Notices

- **April 17**, 6 to 8 p.m. – Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. and the Delaware Community Reinvestment Action Council's Overview of Fair Housing Rights and Responsibilities, 840 Walker Road, Dover, DE 19904. No registration is required.
- **April 19**, 9 a.m. to Noon – Housing Opportunities of Northern Delaware, Inc.'s 15th Fair Housing Law Forum, Community Service Building, Room 105, 100 W. 10th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. For details, please call 302-429-0794 or [click here](#).
- **April 25**, 6 to 8 p.m. – Community Legal Aid Society, Inc. and the Delaware Community Reinvestment Action Council's Overview of Fair Housing Rights and Responsibilities at the Community Services Building, Room 105, 100 W. 10th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. No registration is required.
- **April 29**, Noon to 2 p.m. – HOND's 28th Annual Fair Housing Observance & Awards Luncheon at the Doubletree Hotel, 700 N. King Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. For details, please call 302-429-0794 or [click here](#).
- **April 30**, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Delaware Human Rights Commission, 20th Annual Fair Housing Conference: Housing Discrimination & Segregation: The Impact on Individuals, Communities, and Social Justice in Delaware at the Executive Banquet & Conference Center, 205 Executive Drive, Newark, DE 19702. For more information and to register, [click here](#).
- **DUE MAY 1**– Delaware Chapter of the National Association of Housing Redevelopment Officials (DE NAHRO) is offering a **\$1,000 scholarship to a graduating high school senior living in assisted housing** that is continuing his/her education at a two- or four-year college or university. The application deadline is May 1.

Marvin W. Turner, Field Office Director
202-275-9200, hud.gov/districtofcolumbia

100,000 Homes Fairfax Campaign Visits R-ICH

Tom Barnett and Dean Klein of the 100,000 Homes Fairfax Campaign will go almost anywhere to build support for their initiative to end homelessness. The two advocates, pictured to the left and right of District of Columbia Field Office Director Marvin Turner, traveled to the Philadelphia Regional Office on March 16 to meet with the Region III Interagency Council on Homelessness (R-ICH) to share what they and 200 volunteers learned during the Registry Week they had just completed. Not only were they successful at recruiting more than 200 volunteers to survey everyone battling homelessness in Fairfax County, VA willing to be surveyed, but they also learned their names, their personal stories and took their photographs and videotaped them. Nearly 500 interviews were conducted (a decline of 12% from last year's count) with a collection of [YouTube videos](#), [website](#) and the Partnership's [Facebook](#) and widespread media coverage documenting their efforts. [The Washington Post](#) and [Huffington Post](#) brought national recognition while local radio and television reports from [WTOP](#), [NBC4](#) and [ABC7](#) and the [Lorton Patch](#) and [Reston Patch](#) (and more) introduced the volunteers and the individuals they interviewed to metro-area residents.



Through September 30, the **U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) National Capital Region (NCR) will provide the public with an opportunity to purchase used furniture, electronics, and office supplies that federal agencies no longer need.** Open from 8 a.m. to Noon every second and fourth Thursday of each month, items will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. GSA's regional office hosts the sale at its Surplus Sales Center, 8608 Loisdale in Springfield, VA 22150. Members of the general public can purchase furniture, laptops, CPUs, monitors, televisions, printers, and file cabinets. Buyers must be 18 years of age or older. Payment and removal of property is due on the day of sale by cash, checks or credit card. For more information, contact the NCR Surplus Sales office at 703-605-9341 or visit www.surplussales.gsa.gov and click on DC Metro.

The **Capital Area Foreclosure Network (CAFN) has awarded \$225,000 to six organizations to do outreach, counseling and other services for Washington metropolitan area households at risk of foreclosure.** CAFN brings together organizations that help homeowners at risk of foreclosure and works to ensure that people who are behind on their mortgage payments and worried about losing their home can help themselves or get help from a qualified nonprofit. [Click here to see the grantees.](#) To learn more about how CAFN, [click here.](#)

The **Federal Trade Commission's Senior Identity Theft: A Problem in This Day and Age** will bring together experts from government, private industry and public interest groups to discuss the unique challenges facing victims of senior identity theft. You'll learn the different types of identity theft facing seniors—tax and government benefits, medical and long-term care—and will also explore the best consumer education and outreach techniques for reaching seniors. This free event will be held on May 7 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 601 New Jersey Ave, NW, Washington DC 20001. This free forum is open to the public and will also be available via webcast. For more information, [click here.](#)

Upcoming Events & Notices

- **April 17**, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 2 to 5 p.m. – Northern Virginia Fair Housing Month Seminars in English and en Español & Neighborhood Cultural sponsored by the Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation. These free events are an opportunity to learn more about the Virginia Fair Housing Law in both English and Spanish at the Mark Center Club, 5708 Merton Court, Alexandria, VA. [Register Online](#) for Seminar in English (10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.) [Register Online](#) for Seminar in Spanish & Neighborhood Cultural.
- **April 18**, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. – 12th Annual D.C. Fair Housing Symposium: Laying the Blueprint for Advocacy hosted by the Equal Rights Center, DC Department of Housing and Community Development and DC Office of Human Rights sponsored in part by the DC Developmental Disabilities Council. Mount Vernon Place United Methodist Church, 900 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009. For more information and to register, [click here.](#)
- **April 27**, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Prince William Area Housing Fair will feature a special presentation supported by the Prince William County, Human Rights Commission and HUD Washington DC, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at the Dr. A.J. Ferlazzo Building, 15941 Donald Curtis Drive. Woodbridge, VA. For information about the free event, visit www.pwcgov.org/housing.

MARYLAND

Carol B. Payne, Field Office Director
410-962-2520, hud.gov/maryland

MonteVerde Rowe—Park Circle Renaissance

MonteVerde Rowe, an initiative to revitalize a full city block, continues to expand. AHC Greater Baltimore signed a contract on another house on the block, bringing the total to nine. One more home is under negotiation. AHC Greater Baltimore has now acquired nearly 50 percent of the homes on the block. The homes are being renovated from top to bottom with high-quality features that reflect the homes' gracious roots. Four homes will be ready to sell this spring. MonteVerde Rowe is the leading edge of a large urban renewal area. The Pimlico Community Development Authority is overseeing the Master Plan for this area.



Residents Receive Fresh Produce from Food Bank

Thanks to the [Maryland Food Bank](#), nearly 200 residents of MonteVerde Apartments received 3,000 pounds of fresh produce earlier this month. Staff from the Department of Social Services was also on hand to register residents for food stamps and other benefits. Thanks to our resident volunteers who helped organize the food drop and distribute the food.

Maryland Health Enterprise Zones Announced

Maryland kicked off an effort to bring medical services to disadvantaged neighborhoods by designating the state's first five "health enterprise zones" created under a law passed last year. The \$4 million-a-year pilot project's five zones will be located in West Baltimore, Annapolis, Capitol Heights (Prince George's County), Greater Lexington Park (St. Mary's County) and Dorchester-Caroline Counties. The program's goals include reducing health disparities among races and ethnic groups, improving access to care in communities that lack services and reducing costs and hospital admissions by offering tax breaks and other incentives to physicians and community groups to bring medical care to underserved neighborhoods. For more on the Health Enterprise Zone (HEZ) Initiative, [click here](#).

Low Maryland Housing Inventory Keeps Demand High

The January inventory of homes for sale in Maryland dropped to the lowest volume since August 2005, according to the latest issue of Maryland Housing Beat, the Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) monthly profile of the state's housing economy. January's drop in inventory was another indication that Maryland's housing market is getting stronger since low levels of inventory helps keep demand high. Home sales posted the highest volume in five years and median prices were up by more than 12 percent over last year. To see the latest issue, visit Mdhousing.org or click [here](#) to download a PDF version. January's high reading indicates good news for first-time homebuyers as well as repeat buyers. [Learn more](#) about how homebuyers can take advantage of the improving market through the competitive rates and down-payment and settlement cost assistance of the Maryland Mortgage Program. Maryland Housing Beat is an in-depth review of housing-related data compiled by DHCD's Office of Research and Statistical Analysis from a broad range of sources, including the National Association of Realtors and the Maryland Association of Realtors; Freddie Mac, the Mortgage Bankers Association and RealtyTrac.

Frederick Featured on CNN's "America's Best Small Town Comebacks" List

The historic crossroads town of Frederick, nestled in western Maryland with its fabled clustered spires, is on CNN's list of ["America's Best Small Town Comebacks;"](#) part of the news organization's "Best of" series. Designated in 2001 as a Main Street Maryland community, the revitalization of downtown Frederick's historic shopping district serves as a model for communities across Maryland. Using DHCD neighborhood revitalization programs such as [Community Legacy](#) and [Neighborhood BusinessWorks](#), the Downtown Frederick partnership and the City of Frederick have worked hard to enhance, promote and preserve the vitality of downtown by offering façade improvement programs, enhancing visitor experience with way-finding signage and renovating properties for new restaurants and retail opportunities. Frederick is one of only two Main Street communities in Maryland to receive the prestigious Great American Main Street Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation for exceptional accomplishments in revitalization. Frederick also is a state-designated Arts and Entertainment district and is located in the heart of the Civil War Heritage area.

O'Donnell Heights Groundbreaking on April 9

Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and Commissioner Paul T. Graziano are hosting a groundbreaking ceremony on April 9 for O'Donnell Heights. The large, multi-phase project is a massive revitalization of a 62-acre, 1940's public housing community on Baltimore's southeast side. Site work began about a month ago and is already about 15 percent complete. The first phase of the project includes leveling the slope of the site. So far, 833 trucks have brought soil to the site. Work on foundations should begin in late March. The project is a joint venture with AHC Greater Baltimore and the New Jersey-based Michael's Development Company. The Housing Authority of Baltimore (HABC) is also a key partner.

Offshore Wind Legislation Passes the Maryland Legislature

The [Offshore Wind Energy Act of 2013](#) passed earlier this week, making offshore wind a promising part of Maryland's goal to increase in-state renewable electricity generation to 20% by 2022. The legislation will incentivize the construction of a 200 megawatt offshore wind farm off the coast of Maryland and will create almost 850 manufacturing and construction jobs. Every megawatt-hour of wind we generate in Maryland is a megawatt-hour we do not generate from fossil fuels that pollute our air, and make people sick. By advancing this project, we can prevent as much as 7.5 million tons of climate change-causing pollution from being pumped into our atmosphere. The legislation's passage is a win for jobs, for the environment, and for future generations of Marylanders.

In Celebration of Fair Housing Month 2013

Baltimore Field Office (BFO) Director Carol Payne will provide the opening remarks as the BFO Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Division, in collaboration with The University of Maryland School of Law and Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc., presents an **April 12 Fair Housing Month event, "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing: Building Inclusive Communities."** The full-day event will include topics of affirmatively furthering fair housing, sustainable housing and communities and fair housing implications and housing equity through fair housing, will be held at the University of Maryland School of Law's Westminster Hall in Baltimore. Joining FOD Payne in a panel discussion on sustainability and the Baltimore Regional Analysis of Impediments will be HUD's Salin Geevarghese of the Office of Sustainability, Poverty & Race Research Action Council's Megan Haberle, Baltimore Metropolitan Council's Mike Kelly and Maryland Disability Law Center's Lauren Young. Baltimore's Fair Housing team provided a grant the University of Maryland's Law School to enable students to learn about fair housing law and practice.

Michelle Green feared for her sons' safety while living in downtown Baltimore. Her worst fears were realized when her nephew was shot to death on the street while walking home from a convenience store. Before she moved, Sabrina Oliver's teenaged son was struggling in school and was diagnosed with a learning disability. Now he is an honor roll student. Tameka Johnson not only made the move, she now works as a peer counselor for the housing mobility program—helping others move to areas of higher opportunity. Along with Nichole Smith (far left) and American Civil Liberties Union attorney Barbara Samuels (far right), the **"Thompson Movers"** shared their stories of how the Baltimore Housing Mobility Program that will be continued and expanded through the landmark Thompson settlement, has made a difference in their lives. The five appeared at HUD Fair Housing Month Kickoff events at the Baltimore Field Office and headquarters in Washington, DC.



Upcoming Events

- **April 13**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Seventh Annual Come Home to Howard County Housing Fair, Long Reach High School. 6101 Old Dobbin Lane, Columbia, MD 21045. Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc. will be a featured presenter and exhibitor. For information and to register, [click here](#).
- **April 24**, 2 p.m. – Maryland Association of Realtors' Fair Housing Calendar/Poster Contest Event at the Governors' Reception Room in Annapolis, MD.
- **April 27**, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. – 13th Annual Montgomery County Housing Fair and Financial Fitness Day at the Activity Center at Bohrer Park, Summit Hall Farm, 506 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg. The fair will offer on-site loan modifications from lenders, as well as free assistance by certified housing counselors and attorneys with experience in dealing with housing issues. The event is organized by the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs in partnership with the Housing Fair Planning Committee. For more information, [click here](#).
- **April 29**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. – Fair Housing & Your Credit Workshop sponsored by Shore UP! Inc., City of Salisbury and others, 125 N. Division Street, Room 301, Salisbury, MD. For more information, call 410-860-8800.

PENNSYLVANIA – EASTERN REGION

Richard Ott, Deputy Regional Administrator
215-656-0600, hud.gov/pennsylvania

Philadelphia's Affordable Housing Projects Subject of ULI Roundtable

Urban Land Institute Philadelphia's Young Leaders Council hosted a Market Trends in Affordable Housing Roundtable on March 22 in Philadelphia. Milton Pratt, Senior Vice President of Development of The Michaels Development Company joined Jane C.W. Vincent, HUD Region III Regional Administrator, pictured here with a member of the council, for a discussion covering the uses of low income housing tax credits, soft debt and financial considerations/opportunities and the challenges in getting projects financed in today's economic environment. The Young Leaders Council is designed to engage a diverse group of real estate professionals through continuous educational development, sharing best practices, exposing members to industry leaders and foster an environment conducive to creating and maintaining lasting relationships through events like the roundtable.



Vincent Recognized for Work to End Homelessness

HUD Region III Regional Administrator Jane C. W. Vincent has been named a recipient of *One Step Away's "The Steppy" Award*, an annual honor recognizing those working to bring Philadelphia one step closer to ending homelessness. *One Step Away* is Philadelphia's first street paper aimed at raising awareness of homelessness and providing employment to those in need. With each dollar received, 75¢ goes directly to the vendor. The other 25¢ covers the printing costs. The vendors are people experiencing homelessness or joblessness. While the vast majority of *One Step Away* vendors are living on the street or in temporary shelters when they start with the project, most are able to use the money earned by distributing *One Step Away* to secure their own housing. For more information about their efforts, [click here](#). RA Vincent was recognized for her work in championing [Opening Doors: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) and Philadelphia's Dedicating Opportunities to End Homelessness initiative.

Upcoming Events

- **April 18**, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. – Fair Housing Rights Center in Southeastern Pennsylvania's Fair Housing Month Event, "Housing for All People Requires Building with All People in Mind," in celebration of the 45th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act at the Center for Architecture, 1216 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA. Includes a panel that is being assembled to discuss common design and construction violations that prohibit persons with disabilities from accessing new multi-family housing units or from fully enjoying their dwellings. To register for this event, please contact Heather Lewis, Director of Education, Outreach and Development, by calling 215-576-7711 x12 or email hlewis@fairhousingrights.org.
- **April 26**, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Healthy Homes for Community Health Workers Training sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This free training is for community health workers, health educators and public health nurses. The day-long event will be held at the Crozier-Chester Medical Center, 1 Medical Center Boulevard, Silberman Center Building, 3rd floor, Room 302, Upland, PA 19013. To register, please contact Bill Johnson at 215-814-2766 or email at Johnson.bill@epa.gov. For outline of the agenda, [click here](#).
- **May 2 & 3** – 2013 Commonwealth Housing Forum at the Hilton in Harrisburg, PA. Mark Zandi, chief economist with Moody's Analytics; Joseph Smith, monitor of the National Mortgage Settlement; and Alan Heavens, longtime residential real estate reporter with the Philadelphia Inquirer will be the featured speakers. The Forum offers 32 educational sessions, networking and a prestigious awards ceremony to recognize leaders in the industry. Registration ends April 26. To learn more, visit <http://housingforum.phfa.org>.
- **May 15**, 10 a.m. to Noon – Fair Housing Training: Serving Consumers with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), HUD Guidelines & Resources presented by the Fair Housing Council of Suburban Philadelphia at 455 Maryland Drive, Suite 190, Fort Washington, PA 19034. Participants will learn about various LEP populations in Southeast Pennsylvania, challenges they face in housing and language resources available to those serving these populations. To register, [click here](#).
- **June 6**, 1 to 2:30 pm – Fair Housing Webinar for Nonprofit Housing Agencies. This training is designed for nonprofits, housing counselors and social service agencies that receive HUD funding to operate their housing programs. Participants will gain an increased understanding of the Fair Housing Act as it relates to implementation of HUD funded projects and learn best practices for compliance with Federal and local housing discrimination laws. To register online, [click here](#) or call 267-419-8918, extension 2.



Jane Miller, Field Office Director
412-644-6428, hud.gov/pennsylvania

Health Care for Homeless Veterans Summit “Partnering in Veteran-Centered Care”

On Feb. 26, HUD Public Housing and Field Policy and Management staff participated in a Veterans Health Care Summit held at the U.S. Veterans Administration Medical Center in Aspinwall, PA. Attendees held roundtable discussions about obstacles to providing adequate services to homeless veterans. Dialogue also centered on the wide variety of federal, state and local funds available to combat homelessness amongst veterans and

barriers to obtaining such funds at times. Community stakeholders, including non-profit organizations, local officials, and federal and state agencies, all share the same intent on increasing efficient and effective collaboration of collective resources to assist in ending veteran homelessness as expeditiously as possible. Numerous programs and initiatives were highlighted such as HUD-VASH, grant and per diem program, Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV); Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV), HUD funded Continuums of Care, Stand Downs, the Community Homelessness Assessment, Local Education and Networking Groups for Veterans (CHALENG), and many, many more. Attendees agreed the words homeless and Veteran should never be used together and that having a shared vision further strengthened the resolve of service providers to continue to “fight the battle” against veteran homelessness at every turn. Cynthia Haines, HUD Senior Management Analyst (pictured above right) and Michele Margittai of Veterans Leadership Program of Western PA discussed linkage opportunities for serving homeless veterans during a break at the summit.

FHLBank Pittsburgh is Reopening Doors for First-Time Homebuyers

FHLBank Pittsburgh has announced the re-launch of First Front Door (FFD), the Bank's down payment and closing cost assistance program for qualified first-time homebuyers at or below 80% of area median income. FFD helps homebuyers by supplementing the funds they are required to put towards the down payment and closing costs through a 3-to-1 matching grant – for every \$1 provided by the homebuyer, FFD will provide \$3 in assistance, up to \$5,000. Interested homebuyers can apply for FFD grants through FHLBank members that offer FFD as part of their residential lending programs. A list of those members can be found at the Bank website listed below. FFD also provides benefits to local housing organizations by providing additional resources to support their efforts to qualify households for homeownership and to the wider community by promoting the stabilizing benefits of a diverse homeownership market. The Bank has \$2 million in funds for FFD assistance this year, available on a first-come, first-served basis. To learn more about FFD and how you can get involved, please visit fhlb-pgh.com and select Housing & Community > Programs > First Front Door.

Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Project Rental Assistance Demonstration Moves Forward

The Department of Public Welfare (DPW) and the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) will utilize \$5.7 million in federal rental assistance to make accessible housing more affordable for 200 low-income individuals with disabilities. Pennsylvania was one of 13 states selected to receive this rental assistance money from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. PHFA, along with DPW, will create new housing opportunities by using methods developed through PHFA's Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program and other affordable housing programs administered by both agencies. This rental assistance is part of HUD's first-ever selection of Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Project Rental Assistance Demonstration.

Upcoming Events

- **April 16, 23, 30 & May 7**, 6 to 8 p.m. – Nazareth Housing Services and PNC Community Development Banking are now offering PNC Homebuyers' Club classes. Contact Sr. Pat Phillips at 412-381-6925 for Pittsburgh locations and registration.
- **April 17**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – 7th Annual Housing Seminar sponsored by the Erie County Human Relations Commission at the Hirt Auditorium of the Blasco Library, Erie, PA. To learn more, [click here](#). To pre-Register, email cscalise@eriecountygov.org or call 814-451-7021.
- **June 17 through 19** – 2013 Housing Services Conference will be held at the Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center in State College. This event brings together housing management and services in one place for great keynote speakers and sessions for both services staff and management. Registration is now open; please email HousingServices@phfa.org.

Carrie S. Schmidt, Field Office Director
804-822-4804, hud.gov/virginia

Strong Showing for Virginia Fair Housing Month Kickoff

Kicking off Virginia's Fair Housing Month with a "Fair Housing Town Hall Meeting" hosted by the Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation in Richmond are panelists (left to right) Carolyn Meyers, CPD Representative; Heather Crislip, CEO of Housing Opportunities Made Equal (H.O.M.E.); Lorae Ponder, Vice President of H.O.M.E.; Susan Scovill, Curriculum Manager for HUD's National Fair Housing Training Academy; Sylvia Berry, Director of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity for HUD Richmond; and Liz Hayes, Executive Director of the Virginia Fair Housing Office. Nearly 90 people attended, representing a cross-section of housing interests in the Commonwealth.



Congratulations!

Governor Bob McDonnell announced that the inaugural **Governor's Holiday Hoops Classic**, held Nov. 15 to Dec. 15, raised an additional \$48,695 for Virginia's food banks. The additional funds add 117 tons of food to the already more than 100 tons raised by the month-long food drive on the campuses of the four participating Virginia universities. All together the 'Cause of the Classic' effort raised over 200 tons of food and funds representing nearly 375,000 meals. Read the news release [here](#).

Virginia News

The **Virginia Housing Trust Fund** is opening competitive applications for two pools of funding: the **Competitive Loan Pool and the Homeless Reduction Grant Program**. The applications, instructions and Trust Fund plan can be accessed through the Department of Housing and Community Development's online centralized and application management system, CAMS. Organizations must be registered to submit an application. [Click here](#) to access CAMS. Applications for both are **due May 15**. Workshops to provide assistance with the applications process will be held on April 17 in Glen Allen, April 18 in Woodbridge, April 19 in Chesapeake and April 23 in Roanoke. For more information, [click here](#).

Governor Bob McDonnell has announced \$1 million for three permanent supportive housing grants, from a special funding allocation that was included in the governor's budget for fiscal year 2013. Governor McDonnell said, "Over the past few years we have made significant progress toward our goal of reducing statewide homelessness, but there is still much more we can accomplish together. The grants are another example of our concerted efforts to address the housing needs for persons who experience chronic homelessness and those with disabilities." **The grants will create 19 housing units for chronically homeless and disabled persons in Gloucester County, Fairfax County and Newport News.** Read the news release [here](#).

Housing Virginia has launched "Playbook," a web-based system that allows easy access to a comprehensive array of information on affordable housing programs in place in each Virginia locality. Playbook offers a statewide inventory of local and regional affordable housing programs and policies, and catalogs programs into 18 different housing program categories from inclusionary zoning policies to financing strategies. Learn more about Playbook [here](#), and register upcoming training webinars.

Do you want to keep up with the latest information about affordable housing in Virginia? See the newest issue of the Housing Virginia Newsletter "Start Here!" at [Housing Virginia March 2013 Newsletter](#).

Upcoming Events & Notices

- **April 15** – Final registration ends for the [Virginia Association of Housing Counselors](#) 2013 Annual Spring Conference. Final registration ends Monday, April 15.
- **April 19** – Last day to register for Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project (SERCAP) 2013 Water Is Life! Conference & Luncheon on May 3 in Roanoke. To register, email [Lauren Mason](#) or call 540-345-1184, ext. 125.
- **April 22 through 25** – The [Virginia Association of Housing Counselors](#) 2013 Annual Spring Conference. The Conference offers training and certification of new housing counselors and educational workshops on topics of vital interest to those in the profession. Registration ends April 15.
- **April 22 through 27** – The Partnership for Housing Affordability will host the 6th Annual Affordable Housing Awareness Week (AHAW). Join 15 local housing nonprofits as they work together to increase awareness about housing affordability in new and innovative ways. Learn more about it [here](#).

- **April 23**, 10 a.m. to Noon – Piedmont Housing Alliance hosts “Is There a Fair Housing Gap in the Charlottesville Area?” at the Charlottesville’s City Council Chambers. This panel presentation and interactive discussion will identify fair housing gaps and initiatives to promote equal housing opportunity. For more information and to register, call 434-817-2436.
- **April 24**, 1 to 3 p.m. – Piedmont Housing Alliance hosts “Fair & Accessible Housing Seminar for People with Disabilities & Advocates” at the Independence Resource Center, 815 Cherry Avenue, Charlottesville, VA 22903. For more information and to register, please call PHA at 434-817-2436.
- **DUE May 1** – Applications for the Virginia [Neighborhood Assistance](#) (Tax Credit) Program.
- **May 1** – Succession Planning workshop hosted by Housing Virginia and BB&T in Leesburg. Email Anna Strahs Watts at anna@hdadvisors.net to register.
- **DUE May 3** – Proposals to present 90-minute workshops at the [Virginia Statewide Neighborhoods Conference](#) to be held in Virginia Beach in Sept. Please send proposals to: Brittany A. Bailey, VSNC Workshop Chair, City of Norfolk, Huntersville Neighborhood Service Center, 830 Goff Street, Norfolk, VA 23504. Email Brittany.bailey@norfolk.gov with any questions.
- **May 13 & 14** – Free Capacity Building and Grantwriting two-day workshop in Hampton. Registration is required. Please contact anne.davis@hud.gov to register.
- **May 14** – Succession Planning workshop hosted by Housing Virginia and BB&T in Staunton. Email Anna Strahs Watts at anna@hdadvisors.net to register.
- **DUE May 15** – Applications to the Competitive Loan Pool and the Homeless Reduction Grant Program of the [Virginia Housing Trust Fund](#). Organizations must be registered with CAMS in order to submit an application. [Click here to access CAMS](#). For assistance with application-related questions, contact [Shea Hollifield](mailto:Shea.Hollifield) at 804-371-7031. For technical questions related to using CAMS, [email camshelp@dhcd.virginia.gov](mailto:email.camshelp@dhcd.virginia.gov). Application information for the foreclosure rehabilitation and foreclosure counseling components of the Trust Fund will be announced within the next several weeks.
- **May 17** – Free Capacity Building and Grantwriting one-day workshop in Mathews. Registration is required. Please contact anne.davis@hud.gov to register.

WEST VIRGINIA

Peter C. Minter, Field Office Director
302-347-7000, hud.gov/westvirginia

West Virginia Field Office Staffers Support Local Soup Kitchen

As part of a community support project, Charleston Field Office staffers came together to donate cereal to a local soup kitchen. Since 1978, Manna Meal Soup Kitchen has fed over 1.25 million individuals. They serve two meals a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year to those who are hungry in Charleston. Meals are balanced and plentiful for those who are hungry—no questions asked. They seek to provide a safe haven for their guests, who include women, men, teenagers, families and seniors. Manna Meal is solely dependent on the financial generosity of individuals, religious communities, corporations and businesses. They do not receive any governmental funding. Attendance daily ranges from 125 for breakfast to 225 for the lunchtime meal. Multifamily Project Managers Clara Midkiff, Cindy Bauer and Cheryl Hayes (not pictured) were joined by Field Office Director Pete Minter, Senior Management Analyst Evie Williams and Support Services Specialist Charlotte Puryear for a group photo before they delivered their collection to Manna Meal.



Upcoming Events

- **April 17**, 9:30 a.m. to Noon – Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living is sponsoring a series of workshops including Fair Housing: It’s Not An Option, Its The Law at the Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling, WV. This workshop will focus on the federal and state Fair Housing Acts and include information on what constitutes discrimination and who are the protected classes. To register, please call 304-296-6091 or visit www.wvfairhousing.org.
- **April 26**, 9 a.m. to Noon – Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living is sponsoring a series of workshops including Tenants and Landlords: Rights and Responsibilities at the Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center, Charleston, WV. This workshop will focus on the new state landlord/tenant manual developed with the support and assistance of the WV Office of Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, WV Senior Legal Aid and other partners. There is no cost to attend.

To register, please call 304-296-6091 or visit www.wvfairhousing.org.

- **April 29 & 30**, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Effective Advocacy Strategies for You Conference will feature a fair housing presentation and presence by the Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living, Stonewall Jackson Resort, Roanoke, WV. For more information about the two-day event, call Helen Panzironi at 304-293-4692 ext. 1154.
- **April 29 & 30**, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. – West Virginia Human Rights Commission Fair Housing Conference. Details to follow.

OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- **April 17** – Applications are due for the U.S. Department of Labor grants for programs to serve [Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Young and Adult Women](#).
- **April 17** – Applications are due for U.S. Department of Labor Grants for [Intermediary Organizations serving Juvenile Ex-Offenders in High-Crime, High-Poverty Areas](#).
- **April 30** – Concept Papers are due for [Foundation for Financial Planning](#) Community Outreach grants.
- **April 30** – Applications are due for the [Presbyterian Hunger Program](#) grants.
- **May 2** – Applications are due for the U.S. Department of Labor [Training to Work - Adult Re-Entry Program](#) grants.
- **May 14** – Applications are due for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) [Substance Abuse Treatment for Racial/Ethnic Minority Women at Risk for HIV/AIDS](#) grants.
- **May 23** – Applications are due for [Dollar General Stores' Youth Literacy](#) grants.
- **May 24** – Applications are due for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [Assets for Independence](#).
- **May 24** – Applications are due for the Bikes Belong [Community Partnership Grant](#) program.
- **May 31** – Applications are due for the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA), the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST-MEP) [Make it in America Challenge](#) grants.
- **June 14** – Applications are due for the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth [LeTendre Scholarships](#).
- **Ongoing** – The U.S. Department of Labor is accepting applications for ["Stand Down"](#) grants that will provide an estimated 10,000 homeless veterans with opportunities to reintegrate into society. The grants are being awarded under the department's [Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program](#).
- **Ongoing** – Applications are being accepted for the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration's (EDA) [Planning Program and Local Technical Assistance Program](#) grants to create regional economic development plans designed to stimulate and guide the economic development efforts of a community or region.
- **Ongoing** – [Wells Fargo Homeownership](#) grant program to help local nonprofit housing organizations create sustainable homeownership opportunities for low-to-moderate-income people.
- **Ongoing** – The Surdna Foundation offers funding to nonprofit organizations that seek to help communities build wealth in a sustainable manner. Letters of Inquiry are accepted year around. For more information, click [here](#).
- **Ongoing** – Lowe's [Toolbox for Education](#) program is now accepting applications. Only the first 1,500 applications will be considered for this year's funding round.

REGION III HUDLINE NEWS

We welcome your feedback and invite you to share your news with Lisa A. Wolfe at lisa.a.wolfe@hud.gov. If you know anyone who would like to receive *Region III HUDLine News*, please feel free to share. To subscribe to the *Region III HUDLine News*, visit REGION-III-NEWS-L@hudlist.hud.gov. We safeguard our lists and do not rent, sell, or permit the use of our lists by others, at any time or reason.

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