

Department of Housing and Urban Development – Alphonso Jackson, Secretary Office of Public Affairs, Washington, DC 20410

HUD No. 07-XXX Sheila Ashley (414) 297-3214, X8014 www.hud.gov/news/ FOR RELEASE Thursday October 11, 2007

## HUD AWARDS \$212,000 TO HELP WISCONSIN'S ELDERLY AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES CONTINUE TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY AT HOME

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development today announced a \$212,000 Service Coordinator grant to provide Wisconsin's low-income frail elderly and residents with disabilities in federally supported housing with assistance to identify and receive health care, meals and other critical support services.

"HUD is helping older Americans and those with disabilities get the housing they need and these grants will help provide the services that will help them to remain in their homes, connected to their communities and friends, rather than face unnecessary institutionalization," said HUD Regional Director Joe Galvan.

The grants are directed to owners of privately owned multifamily housing developments that receive money from HUD to house low-income individuals. The owners or their management companies then either hire or contract service coordinators with backgrounds in providing social services, especially to the frail elderly and people with disabilities, to assist their residents with special needs.

The Wisconsin grant was awarded to Iowa County Housing, which provides 67 rent assisted apartments for elderly low-income households in Iowa County.

HUD notes that as the U.S. population ages and the number of older Americans grows, there will be an increased need for programs to help the elderly continue living independently in their homes.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there were 37 million people age 65 years or older in the U.S. in 2006, and it estimates that by 2050 that number will climb to nearly 87 million.

Each year HUD provides rental assistance in privately-owned housing to approximately 1.5 million elderly low-income households so that they may live in decent, safe and affordable homes.

HUD is the nation's housing agency committed to increasing homeownership, particularly among minorities; creating affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans; and supporting the homeless, elderly, people with disabilities and people living with AIDS. The Department also promotes economic and community development and enforces the nation's fair housing laws. More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at <a href="www.hud.gov">www.hud.gov</a> and <a href="espanol.hud.gov">espanol.hud.gov</a>.