Greetings and welcome to the HUD Southeast Regional Highlights review of fiscal year 2013. This sample of highlights focuses on some of the major accomplishments in our region on a state by state basis. While it is indicative of the type of work we do it is not all inclusive.
As you review the highlighted stories you are also invited to go to the respective state website link and explore and learn how HUD is helping to bring meaningful platforms of hope to those we serve, while also being good stewards of the environment. When visiting the state websites, note that there are helpful topics which may be of benefit to you, your family, and your community. You may also follow what is going on in your state, the region and nationally by following us on Twitter @HUDSoutheast. All in all we are excited about what we have accomplished this year and are looking forward to an even more productive and meaningful 2014. Your feedback about this review is important to us so feel free to contact us with your thoughts at GA_Webmanager@hud.gov. Thank you for reading this HUD Southeast Regional Highlights review of fiscal year 2013 and we appreciate the opportunity to share our stories with you.

–Ed Jennings, Jr.
Alabama
It Took a Long, Long Road to Get Here

Many of the residents of the original Rosedale Community that was destroyed by the storms of April 2011 could tell you stories of that terrifying day, when lives hung in the balance and nothing short of a miracle kept so many residents from harm. Anyone looking at the rubble in the days after the storms knew what a miracle it was that so few lives were lost. But those days were also the beginning of a long, long road to recovery. – Read full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Alabama site
Contact AL Office Director: Micheal German

Jacksonville, Florida
Oakland Terrace, a new center of gravity for Jacksonville’s Eastside

Oakland Terrace, a subsidized rental housing complex located in a distressed Jacksonville neighborhood, has been home to 60 families for decades. Built in 1973, it had seen better days, was slowly deteriorating, and was in danger of being closed. By 2009 the conditions weren’t appropriate and HUD could no longer allow residents to live in the units. While alternatives were being considered, Jacksonville–based, nonprofit housing developer, Ability Housing of Northeast Florida presented a plan to renovate the units. – Read full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Florida site
Contact Jacksonville Office Director: Paul Ausley
Miami, Florida
Opening Brings Back Memories

Orlando, Florida
SunRail Will Make a Difference for Central Florida Residents

Holidays were always special during my childhood growing up in West Palm Beach, FL for all the reasons they are for most people but also because my family shared those special days every year with another family that we were very close to. Every year we would drive across town to get together with our friends, the kids playing in the yard or watching TV while the grown-ups got dinner ready. That tradition lives on more than 30 years later as we still get together, two families to celebrate, but the location has long since changed from the little house on Cherry Rd. – Read full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Florida site
Contact Miami Office Director: Armando Fana

In 2011, HUD awarded a $2.4 million grant to the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council to create a vision for the future that enables growth while preserving natural areas and protecting wildlife and agricultural production, supporting healthy sustainable communities of all sizes, and ensuring a vibrant economic and social life. Part of the grant is being used to develop a comprehensive plan for sustainable transit-oriented development, centered on future SunRail stations. – Read full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Florida site
Contact Orlando Office Director: Paul Ausley
Tampa, Florida
I'm coming back for a cup of coffee

Call it serendipity or an answer to prayers, but today I saw this sign near the elementary school: “Lacoochee Loves HUD” and I knew we are finally moving forward. Lacoochee, one of the most impoverished communities in Pasco County in Central Florida, is rising today as a testament of what can happen when a community works together and partners with local, state and federal officials. – Read full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Florida site
Contact Tampa Office Director: Karen Jackson-Sims

Georgia
Attractive Affordable Housing in Atlanta

The City of Atlanta is successfully restoring the Edgewood neighborhood to its former beauty and incorporating green building design through HUD’s Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). The goal of the program is to stabilize communities that have suffered from foreclosures and abandonment. Now, with the assistance of NSP, Edgewood is in the midst of a community makeover. – Read full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Georgia site
Contact GA Regional Administrator: Ed Jennings
Kentucky
HUD Helps Break Ground on Energy-Efficient Sheppard Square

HUD Louisville Field Office Director Krista Mills joined Mayor Greg Fischer, Congressman John Yarmuth, Louisville Metro Housing Authority (LMHA) Executive Director Tim Barry and a host of other officials and the public for the groundbreaking of the HUD HOPE VI project Sheppard Square. Once complete, there will be 454 new units including single family homes, townhouses and apartment buildings, which will be available by 2015. The entire development, from reusing demolition materials to ensuring that the project is LEED certified, focuses on ways to make the most of energy efficiency. – Read the full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Kentucky site
Contact KY Office Director: Krista Mills

Mississippi
Saving the Santa Maria

Santa Maria Del Mar was home to more than 200 elderly residents who enjoyed the property located on the beach in Biloxi, MS. Owned by the Catholic Charities Housing Association of Biloxi, it was destroyed in August of 2005 by Hurricane Katrina. After its destruction the owners requested permission from HUD to rebuild, but far from the beach, inland, and move the existing mortgage and subsidy to the new place. – Read the full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Mississippi site
Contact MS Office Director: Jerrie Magruder
North Carolina
Durham Housing Authority
Engages Residents to Revitalize Southeast Central Durham

Puerto Rico
NSP – Success and Opportunity for Homeowners

March 5 and 6, 2013 Curt Davis and Emily Williams of the HUD North Carolina Office of Field Policy and Management joined the Office of PIH in HUD Headquarters, along with staff of the Durham HA and local stakeholders to launch the Choice Neighborhoods project and provide onsite technical assistance in Durham, NC. October 12, 2012, HUD awarded the Durham Housing Authority a $300,000 Choice Neighborhoods grant support development of community-driven transformation plan revitalizing public housing in SE Central Durham. – Read the full story here.

Visit the HUD @ North Carolina site
Contact NC Office Director: Curtis Davis

Seven municipalities around the island received NSP grant funds; these communities have been adversely impacted by the economic and housing crisis the island is facing, which has resulted in countless foreclosed or abandoned properties and structures. As a whole, the recipient municipalities received more than $19 million which translated into 78 families with beautiful new homes, a wonderful community park in Guanica, and the rehabilitation of the former San Jose Theater into the new San Jose Community Center. – Read the full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Puerto Rico/USVI site
Contact PR Office Director: Efrain Maldonado
South Carolina
HUD Helps Make Possible Behavioral Health Medicine Clinic in Eau Claire Community

The Eau Claire Cooperative Health Centers (ECCHC) announced the grand opening of its first Behavioral Health Medicine Clinic on the campus of the James E. Clyburn Health Center in the Eau Claire community of North Columbia. The City of Columbia provided $350,000 in HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to ECCHC for the construction of the new 2,700 sq. ft. behavioral health facility to serve low income families in need of out-patient mental health services. – Read the full story here.

Visit the HUD @ South Carolina site
Contact SC Office Director: Larry Knightner

Knoxville, TN
HUD Assists with Affordable Rental Housing in Cleveland, Tennessee

Most recently Howard Roberts and Kim Cox, of HUD's Knoxville Multifamily Office attended the grand opening of the Retreat at Spring Creek II, HUD's newest single-room occupancy (SRO) apartment project in Cleveland, Tennessee. The project includes 112 market rate units developed by TDK Development/Construction. There is also a sister project under construction in Johnson City, Tennessee that will provide 248 units. – Read the full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Tennessee site
Contact TN Office Director: Ed Ellis
Memphis, TN
Sustainability is a Fair Housing Issue

Recently in Memphis, Tennessee Paul Young, Director of the Memphis Shelby County Office of Sustainability, was a featured speaker at the Second Annual Fair Housing Month Commemoration at the Cecil Humphrey Law School in Memphis on April 12. His talk focused on the Fair Housing and Social Equity concerns that are built into The Mid-South Regional Greenprint and Sustainability Plan. The plan, briefly, aims to establish a unified vision for a region-wide network of greenspace areas, or Greenprint, connected by walkable and bikeable pathways. This effort is funded by a HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant in the amount of $2,619,999 that his office applied for and received in late 2011. – Read the full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Tennessee site
Contact Memphis Office Director: John Gemmil

Nashville, TN
HUD Reaches Out to Serve Nashville's Homeless

Recently, the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County hosted Project Homeless Connect (PHC), a one-day, one-stop event to provide people experiencing homelessness with access to a broad range of services. Nashville HUD Field Office staffers Iris-Ann Nguyen and Shivona Brownlow set up a display and hosted a HUD booth at the event, held at the Tennessee State Fair Grounds. Altogether there were 118 people that visited the HUD table, and most of those individuals were seeking housing assistance. HUD staff provided lists of privately-owned Section 8 apartments in Davidson County and surrounding counties, as well as, answered questions concerning resources to support individuals and families trying to secure affordable housing. – Read the full story here.

Visit the HUD @ Tennessee site
Contact Nashville Office Director: Ed Ellis
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Contact the HUD Southeast Regional Office:

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