News of Note:

- Emergency Homeowner Loan Program rolled out in MA, ME, VT, NH
- HUD Secretary Announces Disaster Assistance for MA storm victims
- HUD Secretary announces disaster assistance for Vermont storm victims

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HUD Celebrates Neighborworks Week

HUD helped celebrate Neighborworks Week with a ribbon cutting at Community Works Rhode Island’s Broad St. Revitalization Project in Providence. The project is a $7 million, four-site, mixed-use, green development with 25 units of affordable family housing, 4000 square feet of commercial space and 600 square feet of community space. Pictured at the ribbon cutting from left are Richard Godfrey, RI Housing; Barbara Fields HUD Regional Administrator; U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse; Providence Mayor Angel Tavares; State Representative Grace Diaz; Carrie Marsh, CommunityWorks; Deborah Boatright and Robert Burns of Neighborworks. (Photo by Gretchen Ertl Photography)

Emergency Homeowners’ Loan program launched in MA, ME, NH, VT

Homeowners who are at risk of foreclosure due to involuntary unemployment, underemployment due to economic conditions or a medical condition may qualify for assistance under the EHLP program. **The application deadline is July 22, 2011.** Homeowners are encouraged to apply now to find out if they qualify for this new mortgage assistance program. For information on the program go to WWW.FINDEHLPr.org or call toll free at 855-FIND-EHLP (346-3345)
Seeing ‘Green’ in Boston

Above: HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan (center) views interior construction work with Congressman Mike Capuano (left) and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino (second from left) at Castle Square Apartments in Boston’s South End. Castle Square is undergoing the largest Deep Energy Retrofit in the country utilizing $6.7 million in HUD Recovery Act Green Retrofit Program funding. The retrofit is expected to slash energy usage by 72 percent. A Deep Energy Retrofit is defined as a renovation with energy savings greater than 50 percent.

For more information go to Castle Square

Homeless grants announced

Above: Regional Administrator Fields announces $1.2 million in new grant funding to help prevent, end homelessness in Rhode Island. The Regional Administrator made the announcement along with U.S. Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) during a press conference at Rhode Island Housing.

NOFA News

View the latest 2011 Notices of Funding

Secretary Donovan meets with HUD regional staff during Boston visit

Above: David Bank (left) and Michael J. Murphy (right), economists in Region 1’s Boston office received the 2011 Greater Boston Federal Executive Board Award for Creativity and Innovation. The two were recognized by Secretary Donovan during his recent visit to Boston.

Left: Secretary Donovan is joined by staff from Region 1’s Multifamily Program Office during a construction tour of Castle Square Apartments in Boston’s South End. From left Maurice Barry, Sheila Galicki, Joe Crisafulli, Secretary Donovan, Joe McNealy, Kim Cuscuna and Cedric White.
Boston, Taunton celebrate HOPE VI Awards

Left: HUD Region 1 Administrator Barbara Fields and Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA) tour Fairfax Gardens public housing development in Taunton, MA. The Taunton Housing Authority was recently awarded a $22 million HOPE VI grant to revitalize the Fairfax Gardens community.

Below: From left Bob Cwieka, HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing and HUD Regional Administrator Barbara Fields join students from the Michael J. Perkins School in South Boston to announce a $22 million HOPE VI grant to the Boston Housing Authority to support the second phase of the redevelopment of Old Colony public housing development. For additional information go to HOPE VI

Breaking ground at Thayer Commons, VT

Above: Thayer Commons, a 139-unit Smart Growth development in Burlington’s new North End celebrated a ground breaking recently. The development will have three components: affordable family rental units for families built by Housing Vermont and Champlain Housing Trust; affordable elderly rental units built by Housing Vermont and Cathedral Square Corporation; and market-rate rental units. HUD HOME funds of $500,000 and EDI Grants of $430,000 are part of the two nonprofit financing packages.

Shown from left to right: Nancy Owens, Housing Vermont; Deborah Boatwright, NeighborWorks; Nancy Eldridge, Cathedral Square Corp.; Senator Patrick Leahy; Michael Monte, Champlain Housing Trust; Gus Seelig, Vermont Housing & Conservation Board; and Burlington Mayor Bob Kiss.

In Memory: Russell Archibald
HUD FHEO

On Sunday, May 15th, Russell Archibald, Equal Opportunity Specialist in the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, passed away of a heart attack. He had been working with HUD for more than 23 years and had a tremendous passion for fighting discrimination. We honor Russell for his service to HUD.
HUD’s mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. For more information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov and espanol.hud.gov.

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Did You Know?
The Home Program is the largest federal block grant to state and local governments designed exclusively to produce affordable housing for low-income families. Since 1992, approximately 650 local governments have completed over one million affordable homes for low-income families.

The State of Vermont and the City of Burlington were honored with HUD’s prestigious “Door Knocker” award for their work in producing affordable housing. The award was given for promoting long term affordability for King Street Housing in Burlington. Pictured from left, Gus Seelig; Bob Shumeyko; Shap Smith; VT Governor Shumlin; Lawrence Miller; Burlington Mayor Bob Kiss; Ann Kroll, Vermont Dept. of Economic Housing and Community Development (VDEHCD); Jennifer Hollar, VDEHCD.

"Whether it's saving a homeless veteran from a life on the streets or designing a transit-oriented, energy efficient development that revitalizes a blighted neighborhood, these governments prove that working together, we can make a real difference."

HUD Secretary Donovan

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts was presented with a HUD Door Knocker award for its work with the Gordon H. Mansfield Veterans Community Village in Pittsfield, MA, that serves formerly homeless veterans. Pictured, from left, Mercedes M. Marquez, HUD Assistant Secretary Community Planning and Development, Tina Brooks, Undersecretary, MA Dept. of Housing & Community Development, Jack Downing, Soldier On, Pittsfield, MA, Robert Shumeyko, HUD Regional Director of Community Planning and Development.

The City of Somerville, Mass. was presented with a HUD Door Knocker award for Producing Sustainable Housing for St. Polycarp Village Apartments.

Pictured from left to right are: Dana LeWinter, Director of Housing, City of Somerville; HUD CPD Assistant Secretary Mercedes Marquez; Courtney Koslow, Senior Project Manager, Somerville Community Corporation; Jeremy Wilkening, Director of Real Estate Development, Somerville Community Corporation and Robert Shumeyko, HUD New England Regional CPD director.