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## Secretary Donovan Highlights AG Settlement in Massachusetts

On Monday August 27th Massachusetts Attorney General, Martha Coakley and HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan toured two rehabilitated homes in Brockton, MA as part of their promotion of anti-foreclosure initiatives in conjunction with the nationwide mortgage servicing settlement.

Secretary Donovan also attended two roundtable events alongside Attorney General Coakley, Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray,



and Regional Administrator Barbara Fields as well as other stakeholders.

The Secretary stressed the importance of making refinancing options available to more homeowners. The Secretary praised the work that is being done in Boston to assist those who are struggling.

Click [HERE](#) to view a video of Brockton Mayor Linda Balzotti, Attorney General Coakley, and Secretary Donovan from Brockton, MA.



## HUD FHEO partners with Suffolk University, City of Boston to Combat Housing Discrimination

HUD’s Assistant Secretary for the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity joined Boston Mayor Thomas Menino and Suffolk University Law School Dean Camille Nelson to sign a partnership agreement that will provide training and resources to combat housing discrimination in Massachusetts. Attorney General Martha Coakley also attended the event which included the first training sessions for participants



from around the region. Click [HERE](#) for coverage via WWLP—22 News

## HUD NEW ENGLAND STATE WEB SITES

[Connecticut](#)

[Maine](#)

[Massachusetts](#)

[New Hampshire](#)

[Rhode Island](#)

[Vermont](#)

## CONNECT WITH HUD



## City of Fitchburg Rebuilds for a Brighter Future

HUD Regional Administrator Barbara Fields toured several properties with Fitchburg Mayor Lisa Wong.

Together, they toured properties that were renovated or constructed utilizing HUD funds



Administrator Fields commended the city's use of federal funds to revitalize Fitchburg's downtown area and provide affordable housing to the community.

## HUD Cleans Up After Irene

On July 17, 2012, A team from the Manchester, NH Multifamily Program Center that included Mark Seltzer, Diana Huot, Mark Chapman, Craig Hennessey, Carl Nichols and Justin Tonne joined with our housing partners, Vermont Housing Finance Agency (VHFA)

to clean up debris along the storm damaged White River in Stockbridge, Vermont.

Stockbridge's Route 107 was the highway that collapsed during the August 28, 2011 Hurricane Irene storm. Three homes were washed away in this area and many more still vacant and uninhabitable. The Town of Stockbridge and the White River Partnership helped coordinate the event and organized the cleanup effort.



## Brewer Housing Authority Groundbreaking

Officials broke ground on Chamberlain Place senior housing in Brewer, Maine. The \$3.4 million, HUD supported project features 32 rental units and is expected to create 50 to 100 jobs and much needed affordable housing for seniors in Maine.



L-R: David R. Merritt, AIA – Architect; David Doolittle, VP, People's United Bank; William D. Burney, HUD Field Office Director; Jerry W. Goss, Mayor, City of Brewer; Albert Gipson, Chair, Brewer Housing Authority Board of Commissioners; Stephen B. Mooers, CEO, Penquis Housing, Inc.; Gordon Stitham, Executive Director, Brewer Housing Authority; Dan Brennan, Director of Development, MaineHousing; William Shanahan, President, Northern New England Housing Investment Fund; Walter Shannon, Field Operations Manager, Nickerson & O'Day, Inc.

## Regional Administrator Highlights HUD's Foreclosure Resources on WBZ's 'Centro'



WBZ's Host of 'Centro', Yadires Nova-Salcedo, sat down with Regional Administrator Barbara Fields to discuss the issue of foreclosures in Massachusetts.

Watch [HERE](#)

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## Connecticut Holds Mortgage Loan Assistance Event

On July 10th, a state sponsored mortgage loan assistance event was held at The University of Connecticut for distressed homeowners.

The free event was held allowed homeowners the option to meet one-on-one with their mortgage lender. More than 15 lenders/loan servicers attended, along with Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and HUD-approved housing counselors.

The event was highly successful, with over 600 homeowners looking for mortgage relief attending.

Those who attended said they found "[the] experience very helpful



in reducing the overwhelming sense of the whole process" and that the well organized, friendly staff was able to assist in issues where homeowners have been turned away before or not known where to go for information and help.

## 'First Realty' Holds 20th Annual Olympiad

On Friday, August 3, children from 10 affordable and mixed income apartment communities in Massachusetts and Rhode Island met at Bridgewater/Raynham High School to compete in the First Realty Management 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Olympiad.



L-R: Jan Brandin—Chief Operating Officer Frank Cetvetello—Vice President of Property Management, Joe McNealy, Maurice Barry, Joe Crisafulli, and Nancy Hogan—Vice President of training and government relations



Boston Mayor, Tom Menino cuts  
the ribbon at West Fenway  
Apartments

## West Fenway Undergoes Energy Efficient Upgrade



Boston Mayor Thomas Menino celebrated alongside residents of the West Fenway Apartments as he cut the ribbon on the newly renovated development.

The apartments, located at 110 Peterborough Street in the city's Fenway neighborhood are a 100% affordable 202 renovated development. The building holds 48 units originally built in 1990 by Fenway CDC.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development contributed \$433,000 in HOME funds through the DHCD for this project that houses elderly and

disabled tenants with 8 accessible units and 4 HIV/AIDS set-aside units.

Renovations to the development included energy efficient upgrades such as sprinkler units, accessibility upgrades, a common area, and a new roof equipped with a solar powered hot water system which has already saved over a 40% reduction in energy expenses.

Speakers at the ribbon cutting included: Executive Director Dharmena Downey, Boston Mayor Tom Menino, Arthur Jemison of DHCD and Marty Jones of MassDevelopment

## HUD Helps Revamp Springfield's Emerson Wight Park



Taylor Bryan and Springfield Mayor  
Domenic Sarno

The Department of Housing and Urban Development was recognized for its contribution of funds to revamp Springfield, MA's Emerson Wight Park.

HUD's Taylor Bryan accepted an award on behalf of HUD from Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno. Emerson Wight Park reopened in the city's South End neighborhood after undergoing \$1.2 million in park improvements

## Homeowner Help

WWW.HUD.GOV has a variety of resources for distressed homeowners—including this National Mortgage Servicing Settlement Public Service Announcement.



## Burnside Avenue Homes Refurbished for Homeless Men in Rhode Island

On Tuesday, August 21st officials broke ground on a \$1.9 million project that will provide housing for nine formerly homeless men in Rhode Island. The Burnside Avenue Homes, located in Woonsocket are expected to be completed this winter. Residents are expected to move in sometime in the spring of 2013.



Gretchen Ertl Photography

The project was made possible via funding from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), Rhode Island Housing, R.I. Housing Resources Commission, R.I. Local Initiatives Support Corporation, and City of Woonsocket and Corporation for Supportive Housing.

## Massachusetts Stand Down Provides Assistance for Hundreds of Homeless Veterans

HUD employees from the Boston Office joined Regional Administrator Barbara Fields to volunteer at Operation Stand Down, a two-day event that provided free services to homeless veterans or veterans at risk of becoming homeless. Volunteers of America Massachusetts is the lead agency for Stand Down and co-hosts it with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Some of the services offered included:

- Food & Clothing
- Veterans Affairs Benefits
- VA Boston Healthcare Registration
- Medical Services
- Eye Glasses
- Mental Health Counseling
- Housing Services
- Legal Assistance
- And much more...



## News of Note

### ◆ ROSS GRANTS:

[HUD Awards \\$35 Million to Promote Jobs, Self-Sufficiency for Public Housing Residents](#)

### ◆ RAD PROGRAM:

[HUD Issues Final Rule Aimed at Preserving Public, Other HUD-Assisted Housing](#)

### ◆ CHARGE ISSUED:

[HUD Charges New Hampshire Real Estate Agent and Company with Discriminating Against Families with Children](#)

### ◆ SECRETARY'S AWARD:

[HUD Announces Secretary's Award to the Boston Foundation](#)

### ◆ DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN:

[HUD Approves Vermont Disaster Recovery Plan](#)