The President's declaration allows HUD to offer expedited foreclosure relief and other assistance to certain families living in these counties.

Barbara Fields and Vermont Field Office Director Tony Flora from the new Vermont Field Office, joined by Secretary Shaun Donovan, visited the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) grant projects in Stowe and Montpelier. The BHPC is heeding Secretary Donovan's call to action, with Vermont's NSP grants already having led to the rehabilitation of over 140 homes and the creation of a community gathering place.

NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE WITH REP. PETER WELCH

President Obama issued a disaster declaration for the Rhode Island and Connecticut coastal areas impacted by Hurricane Sandy. This allows additional federal assistance to the states. Newport and Providence were among the communities this week that received Food Pantry grants.

DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

HUD New England employees from the Boston and Providence Field Offices joined regional partners at two events this week. At the MAINE FIGHTS VETERANS HOMELESSNESS event, local partners from NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley, the Our Neighbors' Planning Association, and the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry were enhanced by the presence of HUD employees from the Connecticut Field Office. The event included a community service project at the Maine Stand Down event, aimed at providing assistance to homeless veterans.

HUD FUNDS AT WORK: OLNEYVILLE AND SANDYWOOD FARMS

The Office of Policy Development & Research has published a new Comprehensive Housing Market Analysis Report for the City of Waterbury, Connecticut. The report provides current market trends and projections that will be used to leverage HUD funding to help Waterbury revitalize Veterans Memorial District and further grassroots efforts to stabilize Olneyville neighborhood. The grant will be used to support the creation of an enabling fund, to finance the acquisition, rehabilitation, or preservation of more than 20 affordable homes. The report also recognizes the efforts of local partners such as the Connecticut Department of Housing, the Waterbury Public Housing Authority, and Connecticut Regional Planning Council, as well as HUD employees, including the US Interagency Council on Homelessness.

BONNEY BROOK APARTMENTS BREAK GROUND

Hammond Neighborhood Revitalization Corp. to celebrate completion of a new affordable family rental housing project. The project, funded through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), is a revitalization project as a whole, and the City of Worcester. The grant will be used to support the acquisition, rehabilitation, or preservation of 30 units, with the completion of the 30th unit recognizing excellence in supporting affordable housing.

The final stop on the tour was to Anthony House in Portsmouth. Anthony House is the first permanent supportive housing project for veterans in New Hampshire. The project was financed with HUD Community Development Block Grant and New Markets tax credits in addition to funding from the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority; and a HUD Pre-Permanent Financing. The project received a sustaining real estate, has transformed the residential arts and agricultural community. The tour of the residential arts and agricultural community provided HUD employees a tour of the project.

The Bonney Brook Apartments project will include 64 efficient units on seven floors.

The Boston Foundation recognized the partnerships in multi-housing projects in recognition of the choice projects grant award. HUD’s New England Multifamily Program Office was the number 1 endorsed by the US Interagency Council on Homelessness. In addition, Julie has been a leader in Connecticut by helping residents deal with critical Federal public housing properties all over Connecticut, particularly in Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport. Julie has played a critical role in preserving and redeveloping critical Federal public housing properties all over Connecticut.