



Northwest Notes Newsletter

FY 2011, Quarter 2

April 24, 2011

The Director's Corner

FFY 2011 Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act 2011, "HUD Appropriations Act" enacted April 15, 2011, includes a number of PHA program funding opportunities. FY 2011 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Policy Requirements and General Section to HUD's FY2011 NOFAs for Discretionary Programs, was issued March 28, 2011. HUD will publish a list of programs available in FY2011 on its website at: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail and on the Grants.gov Web site at <http://www.grants.gov/search/>

This year, HUD plans to publish NOFAs as they are approved for publication. Be prepared for these and other opportunities for which your PHA may qualify. Applicants are urged to sign up for the funding opportunity notification subscription service at http://www.grants.gov/applicants/email_subscription.jsp to receive any changes to the General Section or to HUD's FY2011 NOFAs.

On behalf of Office of Public Housing team members in the Seattle, Portland & Anchorage offices, we hope this newsletter is helpful to you. Let me know if there are items you would like to see in future newsletters.

Harlan Stewart
 Director, Office of Public Housing
 Region X, Northwest/Alaska Office



Recovery Act in Action

Since the King County Housing Authority received about \$28.4 million from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) in 2009, KCHA has been working diligently to address the backlog of deferred capital repairs, as well as implement new energy efficiency measures to its public housing buildings. With costs totaling near \$55 million, the improvements to Birch Creek apartment complex reached each of the 262 units spread over 32 buildings. After the renovations finished in June 2010, the Birch Creek public housing community reopened with fresh, new, and not to mention energy efficient look.

The once dingy and sterile exteriors of the former Springwood Apartments reemerged with newly designed exteriors featuring patios, new siding, and pitched roofs. To foster more open space within the development, KCHA demolished two of the buildings and partially demolished two others. In their place, a large outdoor recreation center was created and both landscaping and yards were improved with new shrubs and trees. The community also shares two state-of-the-art

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Recovery Act in Action (Continued)



centers: The Kent Family Center, which houses a clinic and Head Start classrooms, and the Springwood Youth Center, which contains a gym, classrooms, computer center and kitchen.

Not only did the exterior and community amenities get a massive upgrade, but also the individual units received serious renovations. Each of the one to five bedroom apartments got new wall finishes, fixtures, doors, cabinetry, countertops, trim and flooring. Washers, dryers, and half bathrooms were also added to the newly remodeled units. In addition, new ventilation and

heating systems, improved insulation, and new fire alarm and sprinkler system were added to improve the comfort and safety of each unit.

The renovations were designed by Kovalenko Hale Architects and carried out by Synergy Construction who served as the general contractor. Throughout construction, 887 people from the local community were employed. The project itself has also received a 4-Star Built Green rating. ■

Housing Choice Voucher Family Self Sufficiency (HCV FSS) Awards Announced

On March 24, 2011, HUD announced that 31 PHAs across Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington would be awarded a total of \$3,598,297 to fund more than 60 HCV FSS coordinator positions. These coordinators will work closely with low-income HCV tenants to link them with educational and job training opportunities to increase economic self-sufficiency. For a list of grantees and more information, visit: <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/states/alaska/news/HUDNo.2011-03-24>. ■

REAC Learning Tools Now Available

In order to improve customer service and to facilitate greater communication with clients throughout the United States, the Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) has released a series of learning tools to help others understand the various aspects of REAC responsibilities and processes. These learning tools are generally under 30 minutes and cover specific topics. The REAC videos can be accessed at any time and are posted on HUD's new YouTube.com channel. The links to the videos can be found on: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/react/training/learningtools. ■

Current topics include:

Physical Assessment Subsystem (PASS) -

- Database Adjustment
- Technical Review
- Scoring
- Inspection Review
- Physical Inspection Review/Timestamp Analysis
- Reverse Auction Process (RAP)

Technical Assistance Center (TAC)

- Customer Service Help Desk

HUD Publishes General Section of 2011 NOFA

On March 28, 2011, the HUD published the General Section of the Fiscal Year 2011 Notice of Funding Availability for its discretionary programs. The General Section can be found at <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=2011gensec.pdf>. The General Section outlines the policy requirements applicable to all Fiscal Year 2011 NOFAs. Any prospective applicants for HUD's competitive funding opportunities should be familiar with the General Section of Fiscal Year 2011 NOFAs, as well as the Program Section of the individual NOFAs. ■

Arts and culture education program provides enrichment for low-income children

The Housing Authority of Portland's Hillsdale Terrace, a 59-unit, family-oriented public housing apartment community, sits nestled in a shady basin surrounded by tidy, middle class neighborhoods. Isolated in many ways from their more well-to-do neighbors, children living in the Terrace sometimes miss out on the exposure to new ideas and enrichment activities available to their peers that are so critical to individual growth and development.



Youth residents of Hillsdale Terrace constructing and testing model wind turbines with community partner YWCA Learn Links.

In mid-2010, HAP's resident services team at Hillsdale Terrace, in collaboration with its community partner the YWCA Learn Links, saw an opportunity to open up new horizons for the nearly 150 children living in the apartment community. As Portland's quest for green living took hold throughout the city, talk of "living sustainably" became a dominant focus at school, in stores, at work and around the neighborhood. With low-income families often shut out of the "green" conversation HAP's program sought to take the mystery out of sustainability and its often confusing and foreign vocabulary. A summer long program introduced kids to what "green" is, where we see it, and how it benefits us. As a group, they trooped all over town learning about green building, energy efficiency and conservation. By summer's end, they had the ability to talk like the experts when it comes to bioswales, rain harvesting and green roofs.

With the Terrace kids hooked on the discovery of new ideas, HAP took on a second challenge: taking the mystery out of art. With school funding for art teachers and programs all but eliminated at the elementary school level in Portland, art education has been more accessible at better-funded schools with active parent populations but not always within reach of kids living in poverty.

"Too often, art is only available to children whose parents have the means to pay for it," said Rosanne Marmor, Resident Services program manager. "We believe there is a direct connection between youth doing better in school and having access to art. Art helps children work together and build community as they share experiences related to creating and exploring color,

form and function in their natural environment."

Knowing that artistic expression can unleash pride in one's accomplishments, HAP used a portion of its HUD ROSS grant funds to engage the services of Free Arts NW. The volunteer-driven nonprofit has crafted a program for kids living in Hillsdale Terrace to learn what art is, how it

can help them learn and how they can release their creative energy.

Free Arts NW is the Northwest affiliate of the national nonprofit Free Arts, which has a 30-year track record of empowering youth through projects in the arts that facilitate personal growth and community integration. Free Arts NW is committed to providing arts, mentorship and community to youth in need. The group has taken field trips to the Portland Art Museum to learn more about art appreciation and taken that learning back to their "studio" at Hillsdale Terrace to begin creating their own artwork.

Founded by certified art therapists Kristina Bella and Sylvia Hartowicz, Free Arts NW is based on four core principles to provide an enriching experience for kids: belonging, accomplishment, interdependence and generosity. In the end, it is about helping kids learn to feel safe in their creative exploration, be proud of their work, and treasure the experience of giving back and sharing their gifts with the community.

"Creating art is a great way to engage children," says Bella. "It gives them a voice and confidence that empowers them to go to the next level. At Hillsdale Terrace, the children take pride in their creations and enjoy a sense of community by showcasing their work with others. It honors who they are and what they have to offer and that doesn't happen enough in children's lives." Through this non-traditional approach, HAP has a successful new model for exposing low-income children to the types of arts and cultural experiences that are happening in other parts of the community. ■

EIV Updates

Upcoming Training



Enterprise Income Verification

The Office of Public and

Indian Housing (PIH) is planning to offer Updated Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) System 9.2 training in Washington DC and via webcast for all PIH EIV system users on Monday, May 2, 2011 from 10am to 2pm PST. For those viewing the webcast and not able to attend the live broadcast, the webcast will be archived at <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/press/multimedia/videos>. All PIH EIV system users will be required to completed the Updated EIV System training by October 30, 2011.

Registration is not required to view the webcast. Training materials will be posted at the following website: http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/rhiip/training#3. Note that this training does not apply to Multifamily (MF) EIV users. ■

Trainings Posted to HUDs YouTube Channel

The webcasts for Initial and Updated PIH EIV training sessions are now posted on HUD's new YouTube Channel, <http://www.youtube.com/HUDchannel#p/u>. This includes the calendar year 2010 PIH EIV trainings. The following trainings are available:

- 2010 Initial EIV System Training (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nk3leSKHlJ8>):

This training provides Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) with a comprehensive understanding of the Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system and how to use EIV to streamline the income verification process and reduce administrative errors and improper payments within HUD rental housing assistance programs. All new EIV system users are required to complete this training prior to obtaining access to the EIV system.

- 2010 Updated PIH EIV System Training & Security Awareness Training (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5dkieCyamU>):

This training provides Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) with updates made to the Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system 9.1.1 as of the September 27, 2010, system release date. This training also provides guidance related to HUD-published EIV guidance and effective use of EIV's Debts Owed to PHAs and Terminations module to report outstanding debts owed and program non-compliance information on former tenants of HUD rental housing assistance programs. All EIV system users are required to view this training. Individuals who will handle or view EIV information are required to view only the Security Awareness segment of this training.

- 2010 Refinement of Income & Rent Rule and Effective Implementation of the PIH EIV System Training (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L7_lfctQ9Ac):

This training provides Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) with guidance on how to implement new HUD regulatory requirements related to disclosure of social security numbers by applicants and participants of HUD rental housing assistance programs and mandated use of HUD's Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system to reduce administrative errors and improper payments within HUD rental housing assistance programs. This training also provides guidance related to streamlined income verification procedures and effective use of the various functions of the EIV system. All EIV system users are required to view this training. ■

New Technical Assistance Email

Beginning April 11, 2011, the new email address for PIH EIV Technical Assistance will be EIV_Help@hud.gov. For questions and inquiries requiring help beyond the assistance provided by the local HUD Field Office, please use the above email. ■

To receive the most updated PIH EIV tips, guidance, and training opportunities via email, subscribe to the PIH RHIIP mailing list by visiting the following website: <http://www.hud.gov/subscribe/signup.cfm?listname=Public%20and%20Indian%20Housing%20Rental%20Housing%20Integrity%20Improvement%20Project&list=PIH-RHIIP-L>



Be an Energy Star!

For timely tips on reducing seasonal energy costs and a directory of energy saving ideas, visit:

<http://www.energystar.gov/>



Section 8 Homeownership Closings as of 04/11/2011

State	No. of Closings
Alaska	46
Idaho	133
Oregon	127
Washington	228
HUB Total	534



Subscribe to this Newsletter

Our Northwest Notes Newsletter is intended to provide helpful information and share knowledge about Public Housing programs throughout the Northwest/Alaska Public Housing family. You can [subscribe to receive this Newsletter via email](#), or manage an existing email subscription. If you missed any prior publication, you can access it at:

<http://www.hud.gov/local/shared/working/r10/ph/newsletter.cfm?state=wa>

Recently Published Guidance



E-Memos (electronic memoranda)

Seattle HUB

Issued	Purpose
04/15/2011	Financial Training for PHA Board Members
04/15/2011	Healthy Neighborhoods Webinar: Environmental Health
04/07/2011	Notification of HUD Environmental Review Training: Tiered Reviews for Rehabilitation
04/01/2011	State of Washington—Disability Lifetime Reductions
03/16/2011	Acquisition and Relocation Training for HUD Grantees
02/18/2011	Medical Marijuana Memo to PHAs
02/07/2011	February and March Calendar Year (CY) 2011 Obligation Public Housing Operating Fund
01/18/2011	State of Washington—TANF, SFA, and RCA Reductions
01/04/2011	“Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Made Easy” Webinar

Portland FO

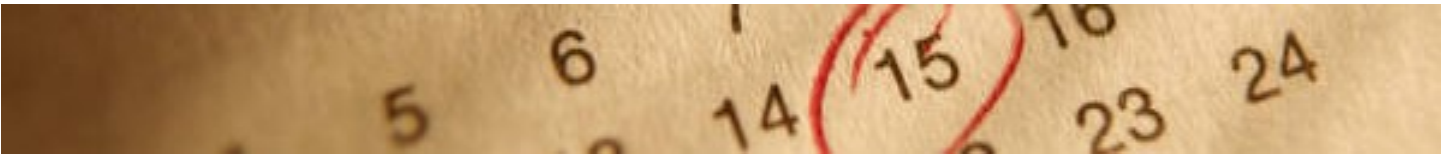
Issued	Purpose
04/15/2011	Financial Training for PHA Board Members
04/05/2011	State of Washington Disability Lifeline Reductions
03/14/2011	Acquisition and Relocation Training Sessions
03/07/2011	Fathers’ Day 2011
03/04/2011	Medical Marijuana Memo
02/16/2011	PH FY 2011 Quarter 1 Newsletter
02/09/2011	Caring for the Mind Webinar
01/12/2011	Healthy Neighborhoods Webinar: Resources for Medication Safety

PIH Notices

Notice	Title
2011-17	Extension of Notice PIH 2010-08 (HA), Renewal of Project-Based Certificate Housing Assistance Payments Contracts
2011-16	Public Housing Operating Subsidy Calculations for Calendar Year 2011
2011-14	Guidelines for Undertaking Financing Unsecured by Public Housing Assets
2011-13	Implementation of the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) Interim Rule
2011-12	Reissuance of PIH Notice 2009-31 - PIH Implementation Guidance for the Buy American Requirement of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 including Process for Applying Exceptions
2011-11	Extension - Administering the Community Service and Self-Sufficiency Requirement (CSSR)
2011-10	Appeals under the Operating Fund Program for Calendar Year 2011
2011-09	Recapture Provisions for Native American Housing Block Grant (NAHBG) Funds Authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
2011-08	Extension--Guidance for Obtaining HUD Consent for Takings of Public Housing Property by Eminent Domain
2011-07	Guidance on IMS/PIC Development Sub-Module Reporting and Validation
2011-06	Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) Interim Funding for Tribes or Tribally Designated Housing Entities (TDHE) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2011
2011-05	Amendment to PIH Notice 2010-40 on Set-Aside Funding Availability for Project-Basing HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers
2011-04	Reissuance of PIH Notice 2009-12 - Information and Procedures for Processing American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Capital Fund Formula Grants
2011-03	Housing Choice Voucher Family Moves with Continued Assistance
2011-02	Extension: Guidance - Verification of Social Security Numbers (SSNs), Social Security (SS) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Benefits
2011-01	Rent to Owners in subsidized projects under the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program

Federal Register Notices

Document	Date Issued	Title
FR-5386-N-16	20110105	Privacy Act of 1974; Computer Matching Program Between the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS): Matching Tenant Data in Assisted Housing Programs
FR-5415-C-20	20110105	Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for HUD's Fiscal Year 2010; Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS)--Service Coordinators Program; Extension of Application Due Date
FR-5494-N-01	20110110	Announcement of Funding Awards for Fiscal Year 2010 for the Housing Choice Voucher Program
FR-5359-P-01	20110124	Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs--Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity
FR-5236-P-01	20110207	Public Housing Capital Fund Program
FR-5094-I-02	20110223	Public Housing Evaluation and Oversight: Changes to the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) and Determining and Remedying Substantial Default
FR-5498-N-01	20110323	Reallocation of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Capital Funds--Capital Fund Grant Program Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
FR-5420-N-04	20110311	Notice of Regulatory Waiver Requests Granted for the Fourth Quarter of Calendar Year 2010



Important Dates

Please Note: All dates subject to change. Refer to program websites for complete list of forms due!!!

FYE 3-31 PHAs

- 05-30-2011 SEMAP Certification due
- 05-31-2011 Unaudited FASS due to REAC

FYE 6-30 PHAs

- 04-14-2011 PHA Plan Submission
- 08-29-2011 SEMAP Certification due
- 08-31-2011 Unaudited FASS due to REAC

FYE 9-30 PHAs

- 06-30-2011 Audited FASS for FYE 09/30/2010 due to REAC
- 06-30-2011 IPA Audit due to FO
- 07-18-2011 PHA Plan Submission

FYE 12-31 PHAs

- 04-23-2011 MASS Certification due to REAC (extended due date)

All PHAs

- Monthly CFP obligated-expended data is submitted through eLOCCS. CFP work completion activities where pre-audit is required, are reminded to submit Final P&E Reports with AMCC to Field Office.
- Monthly Send complete copy of renewal Mod Rehab program HAP contracts with owners to FMC representative. Please include Attachment A. Contracts needed to request renewal funds and to release payments.
- Monthly VMS data collection (HUD 52681B submitted electronically). Ensure data is submitted timely and accurately. Failure to report timely could result in loss of Administrative Fees. Check VMS website for exact submission dates <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/hcv/fmd.cfm>
- Reminder Please continue to submit Year-End Settlement Statements (HUD-52681) for Section 8 Mod Rehab, SROs, and Mainstream (DV) vouchers ONLY. Submit to FMC (45 calendar days after FYE). Ninety days prior to FYB, submit complete budget (HUD-52673, 52672, 52663) for Mod Rehab, SRO, HOPE VI, Mainstream (DV code-5 year increments), to FMC representative.

ARRA

- 09-2011 PHAs must expend at least 60% of Competitive Grants
- 03-17-2012 PHAs must expend 100% of Formula Grants

Customer Service Center

Are you a Section 8 or Public Housing resident and have questions on rent calculations?

or

Do you need help finding Public Housing?



- Local Agency Contact Information
- PIH Guidebooks and Notices
- Public Housing, Section 8, Homeownership fact sheets
- Applicable References to Regulations (CFR)
- HUD Webcast

Call us now at
1-800-955-2232

or e-mail pihirc@firstpic.org

Monday–Friday 9am–5pm EST

fax 443-302-2084

These are just some of the customer services that the PIH Information Resource Center provides to the General Public, Public Housing/Section 8 Residents, and Housing Agency Staff.