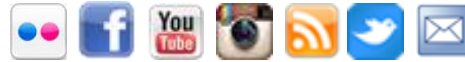




REGION III HUDLINE NEWS

May/June/July 2014



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A MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR



Department of Opportunity

In a July 9 statement released by President Barack Obama on the confirmation of Julián Castro as the 16th Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the President stated, “Julián is a proven leader, a champion for safe, affordable housing and strong, sustainable neighborhoods. I know that together with the dedicated professionals at HUD, Julián will help build on the progress we’ve made battling back from the Great Recession—rebuilding our housing market, reducing homelessness among veterans, and connecting neighborhoods with good schools and good jobs that help our citizens succeed. Julián has lived the American Dream in his own life, and I’m confident he will help Americans across our country seize their own piece of that dream for themselves and their children.”

The President’s sentiments were readily confirmed when I heard Sec. Castro address HUD’s employees in his first town hall. He characterized HUD as the Department of Opportunity. He said, “When we leave the office every day, we must judge our success by one standard—how well we secured new opportunities for the people we serve. Our mission is to make opportunity real in people’s lives.” Our new Secretary clearly identifies with HUD’s mission—which is why I am so excited about sharing the work that we are doing in Region III with him—and with our *Region III HUDLine News* readers.

Not One, But Two Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants

You can imagine our excitement when we learned that Region III would be receiving not one, but two Choice Neighborhood Implementation Grants of the four awards made on June 30. Simultaneous celebrations occurred that day in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, PA along with other award announcements in Columbus, OH and Norwalk, CT. Pictured above left at left, I joined HUD’s Jenn Jones for a brief conversation with Rep. Chakta Fattah and U.S. Senator Robert Case during the North Central Philadelphia tour. At right center, Federal Housing Commissioner Carol Galante gathers a few of the Larimer/East Liberty neighborhood activists as they toured the revitalized and thriving adjacent East Liberty Business District. You’ll find more about both events on our Eastern and Western Pennsylvania pages.

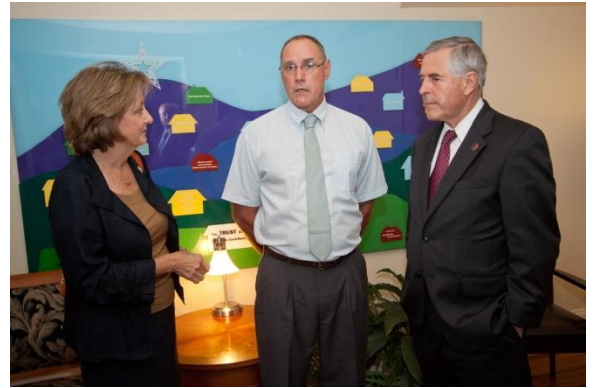


Boosting prosperity and quality of life with place-based efforts is one of Sec. Castro’s four key priorities. When he was Mayor of San Antonio, the City’s East Side was the only neighborhood in America to receive implementation grants from Choice Neighborhoods, Promise Neighborhoods and The Byrne Criminal Justice Program. The Secretary values comprehensive community development and looks to equip more local leaders with the tools they need, like Choice grants, to advance their vision.

Ending Homelessness

Just a few weeks ago, I had the pleasure of joining First Lady Michelle Obama at the White House as she officially announced the creation of the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness by the end of 2015. Through the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness, leaders across the country will marshal federal, local and non-profit efforts to end veteran homelessness in their communities. Ending veteran homelessness means reaching the point where there are no veterans sleeping on our streets—and every veteran has access to permanent housing. On June 4, the First Lady announced the commitment of 77 mayors, four governors and four county officials to meet that goal. Since that announcement, the number of commitments by elected officials has more than doubled. I am very proud to say that 23 leaders have signed on in the Mid-Atlantic alone. Eliminating veteran homelessness by December 2015 is within reach, but not without the support of local communities.

The Mayors of the Cities of Roanoke and Salem were the first to sign on to the Mayors Challenge in Virginia. Governor Terry McAuliffe also pledged his support. “It is the Commonwealth’s duty and honor to provide housing to veterans who have risked their lives for our protection,” stated Virginia State Senator John Edwards in his remarks during a press event and tour at Roanoke’s Trust House. “It is our turn to protect our veterans by ensuring they have housing.” During the tour, the Senator (pictured at right) and I had an opportunity to meet with one of the veterans who had been experiencing homelessness before receiving assistance from the nonprofit. For more on this story, see the Virginia update.



As Secretary Castro gave his first speech at the National Alliance to End Homelessness as they convened in Washington, DC, he made it very clear that ending homelessness remains a top priority for HUD. He has pledged to continue to look for new ways to target resources to those most in need and has urged communities to do the same.

Happy Anniversary to CDBG!

As a country, we have been celebrating several significant milestones this year. First, we cheered as the Federal Housing Administration turned 80 years old in June. Then, in July, we began commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Now, we are shining the spotlight on HUD’s Community Development Block Grant Program as it marks 40 years of being a catalyst for economic and community growth.

Having worked in all levels of government as well as the private and nonprofit sectors, I have seen firsthand the outstanding contributions this program has made to improving lives through housing and community development. I began my career with Delaware’s New Castle County Department of Community Development and Housing. And, I’m proud to say that I have been a champion for community development ever since.

The CDBG program has invested \$144 billion in communities nationwide since 1974—funding job creation and retention activities to housing assistance and improvements in local public facilities. More than \$27 billion of that funding has been awarded to the Mid-Atlantic region. Thanks to these dollars, communities across the region have been able to celebrate the groundbreaking and grand opening of critically needed affordable housing developments. On this 40th anniversary, I congratulate my colleagues in the public, private and nonprofit sectors for their tireless efforts in housing and community development. I look forward to our continued work in building better neighborhoods for the future.

Secretary Castro believes that our nation is at its best when everyone has a fair shot—he refers to the work that we can do as “leveling the playing field.” HUD will vigorously fight for every family’s right to fair, affordable housing. All Americans, no matter what their background, must be able to pursue the American Dream.

It has been and will be a pleasure to serve with two very inspiring leaders. I look forward to continuing the good work of the Obama Administration and HUD in our mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. I hope you enjoy our expanded edition of *HUDLine News*!

Jane C.W. Vincent, Region III Regional Administrator

NEWS YOU CAN USE

In recognition of the accomplishments of the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HUD has launched the [CDBG Program's 40th Anniversary page](#) which contains FAQs, funding allocation summaries and other resources related to CDBG. HUD encourages grantees to tweet about how CDBG helps your community with the hashtag #CDBGturns40, or email stories to CDBGturns40@hud.gov.

HUD is hosting a series of **Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) training workshops** this summer. From September 30 through October 2, training will be held at HUD Headquarters in Washington, DC. Attendees will learn important changes in the 2013 HOME Final Rule and how CHDOs and their Participating Jurisdiction (PJ) partners can develop strategies to build and demonstrate the capacity needed to maintain CHDO status and receive HOME CHDO set-aside funds. For more information visit the [CHDO Workshop News page](#). To register, visit hud.gov.

In June, HUD announced a **second round of grants totaling \$140 million to nearly 900 local homeless assistance programs across the country**. Provided through HUD's Continuum of Care Program, the funding announced will ensure additional permanent and transitional housing renewal projects are able to continue operating in the coming year, providing critically needed housing and support services to those persons and families experiencing homelessness. The grant announcement included 436 new local projects aimed at providing permanent supportive housing for persons experiencing chronic homelessness through a Housing First approach and to "rapidly re-house" families with children that are living on the street or in emergency shelters. [View a complete list of all the state and local homeless projects awarded funding](#). Earlier this year, HUD awarded \$1.6 billion in the first round of funding to more than 7,100 existing local homeless programs operating across the U.S. That funding ensured that the local projects communities deemed most essential would remain operating in the coming year, providing critically needed housing and support services to those persons and families experiencing homelessness.

HUD continues to receive many important questions from communities regarding the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program through the **HUD Exchange Ask A Question (AAQ)** portal. HUD has posted new CoC Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), including the applicability of the Term "Family" in HUD's Equal Access Rule on Recipients of ESG and CoC Program Funding under the [ESG FAQs](#) page and the [CoC Program FAQs](#) page on the [HUD Exchange](#). If you have questions about the rule, you may submit a question to LGBTfairhousing@hud.gov.

[Thousands of veterans and minorities are applying for jobs](#) at the **Housing and Urban Development Department as part of a major hiring push by the agency in fiscal 2014**, according to officials. HUD is on track to hire 1,000 people by the end of this fiscal year, through a combination of internal and external candidates, said Michael Anderson, the department's chief human capital officer in an interview with *Government Executive*. By early July, HUD had hired 474 people. Another 600 positions are in various stages of the hiring process at this point, Anderson said. For current openings, visit usajobs.gov.

The U.S. Senate confirmed **Gustavo Velasquez Aguilar as HUD's new Assistant Secretary for the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity**. Gustavo's distinguished career has been marked by the pursuit of justice and the defense of civil and human rights for people from all walks of life. Most recently, Gustavo served as the Executive Director of the Latino Economic Development Center. Before that, he was the Director of the Washington, D.C. Office of Human Rights and also served as the Director of the District of Columbia's Office of Latino Affairs and at Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Inc. where he was first the Division Director of Children, Youth and Families, and then Operations Director.

The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) published a Mortgagee Letter reminding lenders participating in **the agency's Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) Program to make certain senior borrowers are fully informed of all their options when applying for reverse mortgages**. [FHA's Mortgagee Letter](#) also reinforces the agency's prohibition against misleading or deceptive advertising and that this prohibition extends to misleading or deceptive descriptions of the HECM program. FHA's guidance is intended to protect HECM borrowers from misleading advertising and presentations that appear to limit their options rather than informing them of the full range of available HECM offerings.

On June 26, [the Treasury Department announced new efforts](#) by the Obama Administration to further stabilize the housing market. During his remarks at the **Making Home Affordable (MHA) Fifth Anniversary Summit**, Secretary Jack Lew announced an extension of the MHA program to December 31, 2016, allowing American homeowners more time to take advantage of the suite of programs aimed at helping them avoid foreclosures and address homes that are "underwater." Sec. Lew also unveiled a new financing partnership between the Treasury Department and HUD aimed at supporting FHA's multifamily

mortgage risk-sharing program. With the new Treasury-HUD partnership, the Federal Financing Bank will use its authority to finance FHA-insured mortgages that support the construction and preservation of affordable rental housing.

On June 24, HUD announced that **Brotman Enterprise, LLC, a Philadelphia-area real estate company, will pay \$25,000 as part of a Conciliation Agreement resolving allegations that its agents discriminated against African-American prospective renters.** The Brotman employees allegedly steered white testers posing as rental applicants to neighborhoods they described as safer, while directing black testers to areas agents considered “rough.” The case came to HUD’s attention when the National Fair Housing Alliance (NFHA), a national fair housing organization that receives HUD funds to combat housing discrimination, filed a complaint with HUD alleging that Brotman Enterprise was unlawfully denying housing opportunities to African American home seekers. Specifically, NFHA alleged that agents from the company, based in Feasterville-Trevose, northeast of Philadelphia, steered black testers to one of its properties in a high-crime, less desirable neighborhood, while telling white testers about a different property in an area they considered to be safer. Under the terms of the Conciliation Agreement, Brotman Enterprises, LLC, will pay the National Fair Housing Alliance \$25,000 in damages, get fair housing training for all of its leasing agents and managers, and establish a non-discrimination rental policy.

Economic conditions in the Mid-Atlantic region during the first quarter of 2014 improved at a moderate rate from the first quarter of 2013, according to the HUD PD&R Regional Report for Region 3: Mid-Atlantic. The unemployment rate declined in every state in the region compared with the corresponding rate a year earlier. The population in the region increased from July 2012 to July 2013 (the latest data available) by 146,400, or 0.5 percent, to 30.39 million. Sales housing market conditions improved during the first quarter of 2014, and the volume of home sales and sales prices increased in every state and the District of Columbia. Apartment market conditions were mixed, ranging from slightly tight to soft. Multifamily construction activity increased for the second consecutive year in the region. To read the complete report, visit huduser.org.

Procurement & Contracting: Five Ground Rules for Executive Directors and Commissioners is the topic of the June edition of HUD’s *Integrity Bulletin* published by the Office of Inspector General. According to the Bulletin, “Although the majority of public housing agencies (PHA) comply with these rules and regulations, we are issuing this bulletin to assist you in identifying weaknesses in procurement and contracting procedures.” To sign up to receive OIG publications and email updates, visit hudoig.gov.

This summer, **FHA’s National Servicing Center will offer a free webinar for FHA-Approved Servicers and FHA-Approved Housing Counselors.** On August 20 from 2 to 4 p.m., [HUD Loss Mitigation-Home Retention Options](#) will provide guidance on HUD’s Loss Mitigation Home Retention Options – Special Forbearance, Loan Modification and FHA’s new Homeowners Armed With Knowledge (HAWK) Program. A valid company email address and the FHA 5-digit Lender and/or Agency ID are required to register. Simply click on the link to register. For additional information, please email Stacey.A.Brown@hud.gov.

The Justice Department, HUD and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), along with 49 state attorneys general and the District of Columbia’s attorney general **reached a \$968 million agreement with SunTrust Mortgage Inc. (SunTrust) to address mortgage origination, servicing, and foreclosure abuses.** The joint agreement is the result of extensive investigations by federal agencies, including the Department of Justice, HUD and the HUD Office of the Inspector General (HUD-OIG), CFPB and state attorneys general across the country and includes recoveries for both improper mortgage origination and servicing practices. Visit the newsroom at justice.gov for details.

In a ground-breaking cross-agency collaboration, HUD and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) produced the first-ever dataset of HUD-assisted households that includes Medicare and Medicaid claims data. HUD and HHS looked specifically at data on people aged 65 and older. Although the data do not describe individuals, they can be used to study trends. The findings of the study, [Picture of Housing and Health: Medicare and Medicaid Use Among Older Adults in HUD-Assisted Housing](#), **underscore the critical role that HUD plays in providing housing to some of the most vulnerable Americans.** Of the 12 jurisdictions studied, up to 93 percent of HUD-assisted households appeared in both datasets. Approximately 68 percent of HUD-assisted Medicare beneficiaries were enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid and about 90 percent of Medicare beneficiaries had Part D (drug) coverage, with most receiving subsidies through the Low Income Subsidy Program. In addition, the report finds that HUD-assisted older adult households have more chronic conditions and higher Medicare spending than unassisted older adult households in their areas.

Youth aging out of foster care face unique burdens as they transition to adulthood with limited emotional and financial supports. HUD recently published the results of a research study, [“Housing for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care,”](#) that reviewed the housing challenges former foster youth face and the programs available to this population.

The **Administration's goal is to stabilize the housing market and provide security for homeowners.** To meet these objectives in the context of a very challenging market, the Administration developed a broad approach implementing state and local housing agency initiatives, tax credits for homebuyers, neighborhood stabilization and community development programs, mortgage modifications and refinancing, housing counseling, continued FHA engagement, support for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and increased consumer protections. In addition, Federal Reserve and Treasury Mortgage-Backed Securities purchase programs have helped keep mortgage interest rates at record lows for more than a year. **The latest data show progress among key indicators, including growing equity, a rebound in the sale of new and existing homes after a harsh winter, and a continued downward trend in foreclosures.** The National Scorecard and accompanying release can be found at hud.gov/scorecard.

HUD recently released its **update to the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Properties Placed in Service database.** HUD annually collects information, from state housing finance agencies that administer the LIHTC program, on properties placed in service. This update adds 633 properties and 44,992 units placed in service in 2012, plus 558 projects and 65,107 units placed in service between 1987 and 2011 that were not included in the previous updates. The database contains useful data for researchers on a total of 39,094 LIHTC projects and 2.5 million affordable housing units. To learn more, visit huduser.gov.

Most of the single-family homes built in 2013 included central air conditioning and at least a two-car garage according to a joint report issued by HUD and the U.S. Census Bureau. The [Annual 2013 Characteristics of New Housing Report](#) reveals details on single- and multi-family housing completed and sold last year. Each year, HUD and Census conduct a national construction survey that offers national data on the characteristics of new privately owned residential structures, such as square footage, number of bedrooms and bathrooms, type of wall material, and sales prices. Many characteristics are available at the region level.

Determining how best to allocate limited funds in neighborhoods with different distress levels and investment needs is a critical component of efforts to combat vacancy and redevelop cities. Strategies are emerging for evaluating degrees of neighborhood distress and targeting responses that reflect a community's unique market conditions. In [Targeting Strategies for Neighborhood Development](#), HUD's *Evidence Matters* explores efforts in Baltimore, MD, Philadelphia, PA and Richmond, VA as these cities meet this challenge.

The **OneCPD Technical Assistance program is expanding across HUD and is being renamed** the *Community Compass Technical Assistance* program, reflecting HUD's goal to help customers navigate challenges and point them in the right direction to best serve their communities. *Community Compass* is focused on equipping communities with the knowledge, skills, tools, capacity, and systems to implement HUD programs and policies successfully. The OneCPD Resource Exchange website has become the [HUD Exchange](#). In the coming months, the HUD Exchange will be expanded to provide customers and partners with program, policy, and reporting system information, resources, and assistance for programs across HUD, as it currently does for Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs. Please note that all existing URLs or links for the website will still work. If you have any questions or comments, please submit them via the [Contact Us](#) form.

HUD announced that it is permitting developers of federally funded construction projects to use an alternative design standard to meet the accessibility requirements under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. With a few exceptions, **developers may use the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 2010 Standards (2010 Standards) for accessible design as an alternative to the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS)** when undertaking new construction or alterations to existing structures. For details, visit hud.gov.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released [EnviroAtlas](#), a **web-based interactive tool that integrates over 300 data layers to help decision makers** understand the implications of planning and policy decisions on natural ecosystems and the communities who depend on these ecosystem services.

Rather than working to end homelessness through affordable housing strategies, some cities have focused on policies that criminalize homelessness, taking a disproportionate toll on minority populations. In response to this, the **National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty filed a report with the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination**, calling on the Committee to express its concern and to recommend that the United States take the steps necessary to reduce these racially discriminatory violations of housing rights. Endorsed by over two dozen organizations and individuals, the report is part of the process leading up to the review of the United States on its compliance with its obligations under the [International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination](#) (Race Treaty). On July 8, Law Center staff members participated in a government consultation with the Departments of Housing & Urban Development, Justice, State, and others focusing on the Race Treaty.

Hurricane Season started on June 1. It only takes one storm to cause widespread flooding and destruction. Individuals and families should have an emergency kit of supplies, starting with three days' of bottled water and non-perishable food; a battery-powered and/or hand-crank radio to hear emergency information. Other items to include are flashlights and extra batteries, a first aid kit and an extra supply of prescription medicines. A written family emergency plan is important as well. For more information on making a family plan and putting together an emergency supply kit, go to Ready.gov.

HUD FEDERAL REGISTER RULES, NOTICES & FUNDING

Proposed Rules

[Streamlining Requirements Applicable to Formation of Consortia by Public Housing Agencies](#)

[Federal Housing Administration \(FHA\): Adjustable Rate Mortgage Notification Requirements and Look-Back Period for FHA-Insured Single Family Mortgages](#)

[Manufactured Housing Program Fee: Proposed Fee Increase](#)

Rules

[Federal Housing Administration \(FHA\): Refinancing an Existing Cooperative Under Section 207 Pursuant to Section 223\(f\) of the National Housing Act](#)

[Removal of HOPE for Homeowners Program Regulations](#)

[The Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 \(HERA\): Changes to the Section 8 Tenant-Based Voucher and Section 8 Project-Based Voucher Programs](#)

[HUD Implementation of Fiscal Year 2014 Appropriations Provisions on Public Housing Agency Consortia, Biennial Inspections, Extremely Low-Income Definition, and Utility Allowances](#)

[Removal of Regulations Transferred to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau](#)

[Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in Federally Assisted Programs and Activities](#)

Notices

[HUD Environmental Review Online System \(HEROS\) Announcement of OMB Approval Number: Environmental Compliance-Recordkeeping Requirements](#)

[Public Housing Assessment System \(PHAS\) Capital Fund Final Scoring Notice: Reinstitution of Five Points for Occupancy Sub-Indicator; Correction](#)

[Mortgage and Loan Insurance Programs Under the National Housing Act-Debenture Interest Rates](#)

[60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Authority To Accept Unsolicited Proposals for Research Partnerships](#)

[Federal Property Suitable as Facilities to Assist the Homeless](#)

[30-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Policies and Procedures for the Conversion of Efficiencies Units to One Bedroom Units](#)

[60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Energy Efficient Mortgages \(EEMs\)](#)

[Mortgagee Review Board: Administrative Actions](#)

For the complete listing, visit the [Federal Register](#).

Funding Notices

DUE Aug. 6 – [Notice of Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2014 Opportunity to Register and Other Important Information for Electronic Application Submission for the FY 2014 Component of the 2013 Continuum of Care Program Competition](#)

DUE Aug. 12 – [Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants](#)

DUE Aug. 18 – [HOPE VI Main Street Grant Program](#)

DUE Aug. 18 – [Resident Opportunity and Self Sufficiency \(ROSS\) Service Coordinators Program](#)

DUE Aug. 25 – [Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Grants Section 4](#)

DUE Aug. 29 – [Healthy Homes and Lead Technical Studies Grant Programs Full Application](#)

DUE Sept. 4 – [Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program \(SHOP\)](#)

AROUND THE REGION, DELAWARE

Maria L. Bynum, Field Office Director
(302) 573-6300, hud.gov/delaware

Housing Counseling Nets New First-Time Homebuyer

Delaware Governor Jack Markell celebrated [Homeownership Month in the State Capital](#) in June with a proclamation and the announcement that the state's first time homebuyers tax credit program will be extended through 2016. The program entitles first-time buyers who purchase a home in Delaware as their primary residence to take a federal income tax credit up to \$2,000 every year as long as the homebuyer occupies the home and has the mortgage loan. One of the beneficiaries of the program, Andrea MacCannell, is grateful to the Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) which administers the program. "I wouldn't be able to buy my home and invite my parents to celebrate my mom's 70th birthday here with me in the states. Having a home—thanks to DSHA's programs—means the world to me. The feeling of independence is priceless," said MacCannell. MacCannell was able to take advantage of DSHA's Homeownership Loan Program and downpayment and closing cost assistance in addition to the First-Time Homebuyer Tax Credit. "June is Homeownership Month, a time to celebrate something that's central to this thing we call 'the American Dream.' We applaud Governor Markell for championing the Delaware First-Time Homebuyer Tax Credit and [DSHA] Director Anas Ben Addi for extending the program through 2016 so that more First State first-time homebuyers like Andrea MacCannell can pursue the dream of homeownership," stated HUD's Jane C.W. Vincent, pictured center with Director Addi, Andrea MacCannell, NCALL's Executive Director Joe Myer and Governor Markell.



"June is Homeownership Month, a time to celebrate something that's central to this thing we call 'the American Dream.' We applaud Governor Markell for championing the Delaware First-Time Homebuyer Tax Credit and [DSHA] Director Anas Ben Addi for extending the program through 2016 so that more First State first-time homebuyers like Andrea MacCannell can pursue the dream of homeownership," stated HUD's Jane C.W. Vincent, pictured center with Director Addi, Andrea MacCannell, NCALL's Executive Director Joe Myer and Governor Markell.



HUD Funding Helps At-Risk Teens Gain On-the-Job Training

A beautiful three-bedroom house with a porch sits in a West Minquadales neighborhood waiting for a first-time homeowner to move in and turn it into a home. On land purchased by the New Castle County (NCC) Department of Community Services through HUD's Neighborhood Stabilization Program, the County used funding through HUD's HOME program and labor from members of their Challenge Program to construct the modular home. Seventeen-year-old James Beavers along with other Challenge members helped to build the porch, side door steps and closets and install the windows. While touring with officials, Beavers said the experience led him to pursue certification as an electrical engineer. NCC's

Challenge Program provides at-risk youth with vocational training in the construction trades, assistance in earning a high school diploma or GED and post-graduate job placement. NCC Executive Tom Gordon, County Councilman Jea Street, Challenge Program Board Chairman Charlie Copeland, County Community Services General Manager Sophia Hanson and the Challenge Program members gather on the new porch. Photograph courtesy of Taya Dianna Sheppard.

"Welcome Home" to the New Residents of the Ministry of Caring's Bethany House II

On June 20, Regional Administrator Vincent joined Delaware Governor Jack Markell, City of Wilmington Mayor Dennis Williams and leadership of the Ministry of Caring and many supporters welcomed five women to their new home at Bethany House II in Wilmington. Bethany House II represents what HUD has learned works for many who have faced the challenges of living on the streets—permanent housing. But, Bethany House II will provide even more than lodging—the residents living at the newly renovated townhouse will find help and encouragement to overcome the obstacles they have faced. They will find guidance in navigating the many supportive services to help them lead happy and productive lives. Candidates for entry into Bethany House II are drawn from the women living with disabilities sheltered at the Ministry of Caring's Mary Mother of Hope House I, an emergency shelter for single women, or Hope House Transitional Residence for single women. Bethany House II serves women who, because of their disabilities, are unable to compete for limited affordable housing. In FY 2012, HUD's Continuum of Care Program provided \$182,584 to fund Bethany House II, which included funding for rehabilitation, operating, supportive services and administration costs. Prior to the official ribbon cutting, resident Kimberly Miller (pictured at left) proudly showed Director Maria Bynum her new room.



Disaster Planning and Coordination

With the 2014 Hurricane Season underway, Delawareans are urged to prepare themselves, their families, their homes and businesses for severe tropical storms and hurricanes. Keeping communities and residents as safe as possible requires advanced coordination and cooperation among federal, state, county and local emergency managers and organizations like the Red Cross. That's why the [Delaware Emergency Management Agency](#) (DEMA) convened a workshop July 29 to discuss resources available to help disaster victims find long term and/or permanent housing. The American Red Cross and Public Health agencies identify and place disaster survivors in shelters or temporary housing initially. HUD provides funding and assistance as the stricken community rebuilds homes, businesses and infrastructure. "We have learned from the superstorms of the last several years that we need to coordinate, plan and prepare for the worst," said Regional Administrator Jane C.W. Vincent. "The workshop was an opportunity to do that long term planning to permanently house displaced families in the months following a storm like Sandy." Pictured left to right are Don Knox and Tony Lee of DEMA, Ken Rathje with the Federal Emergency Management Association and HUD's Nadab Bynum and Jennifer Bert.



A Storied Past and a Shining Future

The [Arc of Delaware celebrated their diamond anniversary](#)—60 years of serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities—with an evening honoring long-time supporters and friends. Tony Glenn, Executive Director of the Delaware Foundation for Reaching Citizens with intellectual disabilities, was recognized with the Distinguished Community Service Award, pictured here with Delaware State Housing and Social Services Secretary Rita Landgraf. The Arc of Delaware, founded in 1953, is a statewide, nonprofit organization devoted to improving and enhancing the quality of life for more than 30,000

Delawareans with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The Arc of Delaware supports its mission and its clients by providing housing, employment, case management and outreach, advocacy, self-advocacy and social programs. Through [HUD's Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities program](#), the ARC receives funding to develop and subsidize rental housing with the availability of supportive services for very low- and extremely low-income adults with disabilities. For further information about the Arc, please visit www.arcde.org or call the Mid-Del Committee of The Arc of Delaware at (302) 736-6140.

Giving Hope, Housing and Help to People with HIV

The [annual meeting of the Delaware HIV Consortium](#) in May brought together providers from across the State to celebrate their accomplishments and renew their passion and vision for helping those with HIV improve their quality of life. HIV/AIDS service providers have a shared purpose to guide people to get tested for HIV, to get those who test positive into medical care to prevent the transmission of the disease, to work to keep them in HIV medical care and to encourage them to keep them taking their prescribed medications to increase their chances of suppressing the virus. Consortium members believe that by following this treatment cascade—those with HIV may help prevent the spread of the virus—and help stop the epidemic. Since 1998, the Delaware HIV Consortium has been providing housing assistance to low-income individuals with HIV. According to Dianne Casey, Director of Housing Programs for the Consortium, HUD's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program provides the primary funding for the Consortium's housing program. Last year, 131 households—212 individuals—were housed through this program; 88 percent with extremely low incomes. There is currently a waiting list. According to an annual consumer survey, 84 percent would be homeless or at-risk of experiencing homelessness if they no longer received assistance. During the meeting, Casey highlighted the Consortium's 12-year collaboration with Connections, Inc. to house women with HIV in a HOPWA-funded permanent supportive housing program in Wilmington, DE. More than half of the women housed have been able to maintain employment and enrollment in school.

Events & Announcements

- **Sept. 9, 1 to 7 p.m.** – Delaware Attorney General's Office/DSHA Delaware Housing Workshop, Modern Maturity Center, 1121 Forrest Avenue, Dover, DE. For more information, call (800) 220-5424 or e-mail Consumer.protection@state.de.us.
- **Sept. 17 & 18** – PennDelAHMA Fall Management Event, Dover Downs, Dover, DE. For information and to register, visit <http://www.penndelahma.org/>.
- **Oct. 7** – Governors Conference on Housing, Dover, DE. For information, visit <http://destatehousing.com/DirectorsOffice/events.php>.



Marvin W. Turner, Field Office Director
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DC Housing Authority Opens Affordable Assisted Living Facility

The District of Columbia Housing Authority opened its [first, state-of-the-art, affordable assisted living facility](#). The \$5 million, three-story affordable assisted living facility located at 2905 11th Street, NW, is a working model for future similar endeavors. The renovation and construction of the 14-unit building was made possible by a combination of funding, including more than \$2 million in grants from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Department of Housing and Community Development, and DCHA's subsidiary, D.C. Housing Enterprises. DCHA is now one of a

limited number of housing authorities certified as a Medicaid provider, allowing the facility to provide 24-hour service for its low-income residents. Because of the lack of affordable assisted living options in the District, DCHA came up with this model that combines rental subsidies from HUD, Medicaid reimbursements, and other revenues to provide these crucial, wrap-around services for public housing residents. Providing the level of services necessary for residents no longer able to thrive on their own was cost prohibitive until DCHA was able to work with the Department of Health Care Finance to obtain a Medicaid provider's certificate and subsidy. New residents, community members and officials pose in front of DCHA's new assisted living facility.

New Affordable Housing Available for Families

On July 10, So Others Might Eat (SOME) dedicated a new affordable housing program that will provide 28 apartments for families experiencing homelessness. Named in honor of [Harry and Jeanette Weinberg](#), the housing opens on the heels of a [report](#) that family homelessness increased by 25 percent in the District between 2013 and 2014. SOME fully renovated the historic Augusta and Louisa Apartment Buildings, located at 1151 New Jersey Avenue, NW, to create the housing in partnership with the DC Department of Housing and Community Development, DC Housing Finance Agency, DC Housing Authority, NEF, Capital One, Citibank, The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Inc. and other donors. HUD's HOME funds contributed \$900,000 to the effort. SOME will provide on-site supportive services to help resident families to stabilize their lives and become self-sufficient, including case management, financial literacy training, money management counseling, employment resources and supports, after-school programming and academic services. Amy Kleine, Donn Weinberg and Rachel Duden of The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation join Fr. John Adams, President of SOME (second from right) at the [dedication](#). Photo courtesy of SOME.



District Field Office Hosts Tour for International Housing Officials

On July 10, Director Marvin Turner, along with the HUD Office for International and Philanthropic Engagement, hosted officials from the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) of Trinidad and Tobago for a tour of HUD initiatives in the District. Led by HUD's Associate Regional Counsel Russell Conlan, the delegation began their visit with a tour of the Washington Navy Yard redevelopment. Capital Riverfront Business Improvement District (BID) Vice President Tammy Shoham, pictured at left, provided an overview of how the BID functions and its responsibilities and programs in the area. The tour continued with the redevelopment of the

Arthur Capper/Carrollsborg public housing community, a 23-acre site revitalized with a \$34.9 million grant award from HUD. Additional highlights included stops at the Foundry Lofts, the 172-unit Senior Building and Capitol Quarter Townhomes. The visit concluded with a briefing by Headquarters' Alexa Rosenberg on HUD's Choice Neighborhoods Program.



2014 Housing Fair a Big Success! DC Resident Wins House Lottery

Thousands of people from all over the Washington metropolitan region poured into the Sports and Learning Complex in Largo on June 14 to attend the annual Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development will host the 2014 Housing Fair, entitled "Prince George's County: A Great Place to Live!". And for one lucky attendee, Catherine Gantt, a 36-year-old District of Columbia resident, it will be! Gantt was the winner of this year's House Lottery. "It's always exciting and heart-warming when our agency can fulfill its mission and provide quality, affordable housing to an area resident," said Eric C. Brown, Director of the Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development. The House Lottery home

located in District Heights, MD, is a spacious four bedroom/three bathroom home on a cul-de-sac and situated on over a 1/4 acre lot landscaped with flowers and fruit trees with a large fenced yard. It features granite countertops and new Energy-Star stainless steel kitchen appliances, new chocolate kitchen cabinetry, custom ceramic tile design in the master bath, a rear deck and off-street parking. The home was renovated using HUD Neighborhood Stabilization Program and HOME funding. Each year, housing fair attendees have an opportunity to meet mortgage lenders, realtors, rental property managers, housing counselors, banks, non-profit organizations and various government agencies. The Fair also hosts workshops on financial literacy, avoiding housing scams, first-time home buyer programs, managing your money and will host major mortgage bank servicers to discuss options with homebuyers trying to avoid foreclosure. Volunteer Eunice Beli-John (pictured) provided information on assisted housing opportunities.

SheVet Resource Expo Offers Support & Assistance

The DC National Capital Area Office and the National Resource Society for Women Veterans, Inc., a 501(c)3 organization, co-hosted the SheVet Resource Expo on May 30 at Howard University. More than 80 veterans and vendors enjoyed a day of workshops on benefits and claims, federal employment, fair housing for the disabled, landlord and tenant rights, credit counseling, homeless prevention, money management, mortgage loans and an array of other programs and services. Opening with a military color guard and a welcome from District of Columbia Department of Labor Manager Nancy Glowacki, those attending were inspired by mid-day speakers White Swan Consulting President Shannon Sennefelder, and Deborah Scott Thomas, President & Chief Executive Officer Data Solutions & Technology Incorporated, United States Air Force, Colonel (Ret.). Both Ms. Thomas and Ms. Sennefelder, pictured above left to right, encouraged the veterans to not feel defeated in the face of challenges in civilian life. Both speakers applauded the availability of resources at one location. A veteran experiencing homelessness decided attend at the last minute and was able to meet with representatives of H.O.P.E. – HUD Approved Housing Counseling Agency. Veterans who attended the federal employment workshop received a workbook that explained how to write a successful federal resume. Carolyn Marie Feisal shared a testimonial on the SheVet Facebook page, "You really did a good job to assist women veterans with complex military issues where we were not treated as invisible. I was actually heard and got some concrete suggestions to assist me in my claim." For more information about upcoming events, visit www.shevetexpo.com.



Events & Announcements

- **DUE Aug. 15** – Women Veterans are invited to make their wartime stories a permanent part of history through the Library of Congress American Folklife Center's Veterans History Project. To participate or for further information, contact Selena Mendy Singleton at (301) 516-7601 or selena.singleton@mail.house.gov. For more information on the Veterans History Project, visit <http://www.loc.gov/vets/>.
- **Sept. 20, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** – Buying a Home After Foreclosure/Short Sale/Bankruptcy and a First Time Home Buyers Fair, Suitland Community Center, 5600 Regency Lane, District Heights, MD 20747. Learn about HUD's Back-to-Work and Homeowners Armed with Knowledge (HAWK) programs and Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's programs for first-time homeowners. RSVP by Aug. 18 to 4MDDISTRICTRSVP@mail.house.gov. For more information call (301) 516-7601 or go to www.donnaedwards.house.gov

MARYLAND

Carol B. Payne, Field Office Director
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Baltimore Author and Local Partners Participate in FPM Region III Meeting

At a recent meeting in Baltimore, Office of Field Policy and Management (FPM) staff from across Region III gathered to discuss a wide range of topics. Local partners from Morgan State University, the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice and the Upton Community Development Corporation provided strategies on how to engage and support communities. They stressed the importance of relationship building, giving FPM invaluable insight into the perspective of local communities. The highlight of the two-day meeting was a bus tour of West Baltimore. Tour stops included the Baltimore Field Office's community needs assessment area, high-profile HUD-assisted properties and historical sites. Former Baltimore Sun reporter Antero Pietila joined the tour and afterward discussed his book, "Not in My Neighborhood." Pietila, pictured here with Director Payne (left) and Regional Administrator Vincent, shared his background as well as his research and experiences. He summed up his reason for writing the book by saying he wanted to fill some of the pages in Baltimore's history. Published in 2010, the book chronicles residential segregation in Baltimore's history and provides an in-depth look at discriminatory real estate practices dating back to the 1880s. In April, FPM hosted a region-wide discussion on the book.



Mayor Rawlings-Blake Launches Growing Green Design Competition

City of Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake joined the Planning Department's Office of Sustainability to officially launch the Growing Green Initiative, a City-led effort to use sustainable, innovative, and cost-effective practices for stabilizing and holding land for redevelopment, reusing vacant land to green neighborhoods, reducing storm water runoff, growing food and creating community spaces that mitigate the negative impacts of vacant properties. As part of the **Growing Green Initiative, the Mayor announced a design competition (deadline August 15) to identify creative ideas for transforming vacant lots in Baltimore City.** A partnership between the City of Baltimore, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Chesapeake Bay Trust, teams

of community groups, city agencies, designers and technical experts will use the Green Pattern Book as a design guide to develop creative greening projects for vacant land in their communities. A community partnership led by the Franklin Square Community Association used grant funding and donations to turn a vacant lot into a beautiful community garden with sunflower-themed murals and beautiful landscaping. The Garden is a Community Managed Open Space that treats storm water from nearby buildings with rain gardens and sunflower beds. Winners of the competition will be provided with the resources to fully design and construct their winning ideas and will be required to provide an ongoing maintenance plan. For more information, visit www.baltimoresustainability.org/growinggreen.

Opportunity Collaborative Releases Study on Jobs

More than 140 people attended the release of the Opportunity Collaborative "Study of Barriers to Employment Opportunities in the Baltimore Region" on Monday, June 2, in Anne Arundel County. Hosted in partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, the event featured a presentation of the study by author Chris Seals and a panel discussion by local transportation and workforce development experts. The Opportunity Collaborative is staffed and coordinated by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council and supported by major funding from a FY2011 HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grant. An increase in workforce development strategies and resources, improved support for job seekers and better public transportation are among several proposed strategies that would help more than 81,000 unemployed adults in the Baltimore region find work, according to a several industry experts. "The region is on the right track with its workforce strategies. What's needed is more of them," said Seals, labor economist and senior vice president for RDA Global Business Market Research. "The Opportunity Collaborative is developing a toolkit for employers to help seekers build job readiness skills." There are six barriers to employment opportunities for those living in the Baltimore region, including transportation and housing, according to the study. Eighty-two percent of those seeking jobs face three or more of those barriers. To read the complete report, visit www.opportunitycollaborative.org.

The Greens at English Consul Opens with Much Fanfare

Enterprise Homes, Inc. held a grand opening celebration at its newest gem in its crown of elderly affordable developments in the Baltimore area—The Greens at English Consul. Federal, state and local dignitaries joined Enterprise and Wells Fargo Bank, Bank of America, the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, AGM Financial Services and HUD’s Director Payne for the grand opening celebration. The Greens at English Consul is a new \$14.6 million development that features 90 apartments affordable to seniors earning up to 60 percent of the area median income. Located in the Lansdowne/Baltimore Highlands neighborhood of Baltimore County, Md., the four-story building is in close proximity to transit, retail, services and the Lansdowne Senior Center. Amenities include a fitness room, activity/computer room, laundry, TV lounge, community room and hospitality suite. On site social services is part of the servicing and is designed to support independent living. Joining Director Payne were HUD’s Bob Iber, Yvette Jackson, Onawa Simmons, Alexander Johnson, Margaret Burley, Linda Albro and J.C. Shay.



BFO FOD Represents State Health Secretary at National Conference

At the invitation of Maryland Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene Josh Sharfstein, Director Carol Payne represented the State at the annual National Unity 2014 Conference for Community Health Workers (CHW) from across the country. Held in Baltimore, this year’s event was entitled “CHWs: Innovative Solution to Addressing the Triple Aim (Better Health, Better Care, Lower Cost).” Maryland State Senator Verna Jones-Rodwell of Baltimore City, Delegate Shirley Nathan-Pulliam of Baltimore County and Mary Kay Kohut, President of the Delmarva Foundation for Medical Care, Inc. joined Director Payne as presenters. Topics included certification and training; leadership development and sustainability; promising practices; integrating CHWs into ACA and Health Reform and Innovation in reaching vulnerable populations. Director Payne’s groundbreaking cardiovascular project in Baltimore public housing became a national model in the use of CHWs for that innovative work.

MMP is Hitting a “Homerun for Homeowners”

Maryland Secretary of Housing and Community Development Raymond Skinner and Deputy Director Bill Ariano hit the airwaves to tell listeners about special deals available through the Maryland Mortgage Program (MMP). Speaking on WEAA’s “Wealthy Radio with Deborah Owens,” Secretary Skinner talked about the Maryland HomeCredit program that allows eligible buyers federal income tax credit of up to \$2,000 a year for the life of their mortgage. Disabled veterans may qualify for an even lower rate. Owens, a financial expert with 20 years of experience in the investment industry and author of three critically acclaimed books, cited that “DHCD is hitting a homerun for homeowners and making great strides to ensure that homeownership is not a privilege but a right in Maryland.” As the state’s premiere homeownership program, MMP has kept the American dream alive for more than 11,400 qualified, hardworking families since the program began during the O’Malley-Brown administration.

Baltimore Neighborhoods Celebrates 55th Year of Operation

Director Payne represented HUD at the 55th anniversary celebration of Baltimore Neighborhoods Inc. BNI promotes justice in housing for all people in the State of Maryland through fair housing and tenant-landlord programs and public information activities. Services provided by the Fair Housing Program include testing for discriminatory housing practices, monitoring and investigating complaints, promoting legislative action, conducting fair housing seminars, training and workshops and providing information resources and referrals to federal, state and local partners. BNI has conducted over 200 fair housing tests of Maryland housing providers and received approximately 20,000 inquiries for rental housing information and guidance concerning the rights and obligations of both tenants and landlords in the state.

Events & Announcements

- **Aug. 13 through 16** – Maryland Association of Counties Convention, Roland Powell Convention Center, Ocean City, MD. For more information, visit www.mdcounties.org.
- **Sept. 8 through 10** – Maryland Association of REALTORS® Conference. For more information visit www.mdrealtor.org
- **Oct. 16 through 18** – National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO), Baltimore, MD. For information and to register, visit <http://www.nahro.org/2014-national-conference-exhibition>.

PENNSYLVANIA – EASTERN REGION



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First Lady and Iraq War Veteran Announce Initiative to End Veteran Homelessness

First Lady Michelle Obama announced the creation of the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness during a White House event on June 4. Iraq war veteran Chris Fuentes of Philadelphia joined her in making the announcement. Having once slept in her car, Fuentes shared her journey through homelessness. Another veteran told me about the HUD-VASH [HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing] program and said that I didn't have to be living like that. On the day I found out I was approved, I cried. It felt like a big weight was lifted off my shoulders." She recalled how she

applied for another program called Supportive Services for Veterans Families, explaining, "They helped me to locate an apartment, and gave me the security deposit and rent I needed to move in. And when I moved in, I was able to reunite with my daughter. Today, thanks to these programs, we have a home again." Regional Administrator Jane Vincent, National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans Director Vincent Kane, Project HOME Program Coordinator Jeanne Ciocca, Iraq war veteran Chris Fuentes and Veterans Multi-Service Center Executive Director Tim Meserve posed for a photo at the event.

Her success story is just one example of how communities across the country are using the power of federal, local, and non-profit resources to create permanent supportive housing. The Mayors Challenge seeks to gain the support and commitment of local officials to end veteran homelessness by the end of 2015. In the mid-Atlantic region, 26 mayors and county officials have pledged their commitment, including Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe. "I'm excited by the enthusiasm local mayors are showing for ending veteran homelessness in their communities," said HUD Regional Administrator Jane C.W Vincent. "Thank you to all the elected leaders who have already signed up. I encourage more to pledge their support." Read more about the [Mayors Challenge](#); to sign up, local officials should send an email to mayorschallenge@hud.gov.

\$30 Million Awarded to Revitalize North Central Philadelphia

Sen. Robert P. Casey Jr., Rep. Chaka Fattah and Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter joined HUD Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing Jemine Bryon in announcing a \$30 million Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant on June 30 to redevelop Norris Apartments in North Central Philadelphia. The city's Office of Housing and Community Development and the Philadelphia Housing Authority are leading the effort with strong support from Asociación Puertorriqueños en Marcha, Inc. (APM), Temple University and other local partners. North Central Philadelphia and Pittsburgh's Larimer/East Liberty neighborhood were among two other communities to receive funding to begin the process of transforming, rehabilitating and preserving public housing and privately owned HUD-assisted housing. The grants will bring comprehensive revitalization to blighted areas. "By working together with local and state partners, we will show why neighborhoods should always be defined by their potential – not their problems," said Bryon (pictured). "Together, we will work to ensure that no child's future is determined by their zip code." See [photos](#) of the neighborhood walking tour.



R-ICH to Raise Awareness of Trauma-Informed Care

In its continued efforts to develop effective approaches for dealing with homelessness, Region III's Regional Interagency Council on Homelessness (R-ICH) will place a spotlight on trauma-informed care at its quarterly meeting on September 30 in HUD's Philadelphia Regional Office. Jean Bennett, PhD, Regional Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Region III, will explain trauma-informed care and the importance of incorporating its sensitivities into all aspects of federal programs. Trauma-informed services take into account how trauma impacts people on a daily basis. According to SAMHSA statistics, 36 percent of people experiencing homelessness suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder and 41 percent from drug and alcohol dependence. Through its close collaboration with federal agencies, the R-ICH works to create solutions and awareness to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness.



USICH Holds Opening Doors Listening Session in Philadelphia

More than 40 partners from all levels of government and non-profit organizations attended the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness's Opening Doors Listening Session on July 14. The partners gathered in HUD's Philadelphia office to give their input and ideas for amendments to the federal strategic plan for preventing and ending homelessness. USICH is striving to further strengthen the document with new information and lessons learned through implementation, believing that every strategic plan should be a living document. Similar sessions were held in the District of Columbia, Tampa and San Diego. Comments and suggestions can be submitted [online](#).

PHA's Norris Apartments Win Regional Award

The Philadelphia Housing Authority's (PHA) LEED Gold Norris Apartments has been recognized for outstanding achievement by the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). The council includes housing and community development agencies in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and Washington DC. Located adjacent to Temple University's main campus, Norris Apartments is PHA's first-ever LEED certified development, and meets nationally accepted standards for planning, design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. Energy savings for the apartment units are projected at 29 to 39 percent, while the townhomes are projected to save 38 to 45 percent, compared to conventionally-built units. The density of the new development is much lower as well. PHA replaced 179 units, with 51 units in a mix of walkups and townhomes on the same block. The design includes a small pocket park in the center courtyard that provides green space for residents while limiting rainwater runoff into the city sewer system. Norris Apartments is a transit-oriented development near the Temple University Station, a hub for all of SEPTA's regional rail lines, and is ideally located near a variety of educational services and the commercial corridor of Broad Street. The development complements ongoing public and private development in the neighborhood and has attracted positive attention from students and private citizens who have inquired as to whether they could live at the new development. Photo of the playground at the Philadelphia Housing Authority's LEED Gold Norris Apartments located next to Temple University courtesy of NAHRO.



The cities of Harrisburg and York have been added to the National Resource Network, a new, \$10 million federal technical assistance program from HUD and part of the Obama Administration's Strong Cities, Strong Communities initiative (SC2). The Network provides comprehensive technical assistance to U.S. cities working to address their most pressing economic priorities. The cities will receive access to a first of its kind, "311 for Cities" service that will provide timely, on-demand access to expertise and technical assistance to address issues on economic growth and competitiveness, public safety, workforce development, housing, and transportation. A team of experts will provide on-the-ground assistance to a city for up to 12 months to assess local needs, provide recommendations, and help identify and execute on strategies that align with their economic recovery. The Network is administered and operated by a consortium consisting of Enterprise Community Partners, Public Financial Management, HR&A Advisors, New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and the International City/County Management Association. These firms have partnered with SC2 to execute this critical work, and bring decades of experience in helping cities to identify and attract new private capital, apply business solutions, and forge new partnerships between the private and public sectors. For more information, visit www.nationalresourcenetwork.org.

Events & Announcements

- **June 20** – U.S. Senator Robert P. Casey Jr. announced proposed legislation in West Philadelphia called the [Promise Zone Job Creation Act of 2014](#).
- **Aug. 14** – [Rebuilding Homeownership Forum \(Lackawanna & Luzerne Counties\)](#)
- **DUE Aug. 14** – LISC's [Expanded boundaries for Creative Placemaking Request for Proposal](#) for community-based organizations for funding for new, community arts and cultural programs or projects that engage residents, elevate place and build community in LISC's targeted neighborhoods of Eastern North Philadelphia and West Philadelphia.
- **Sept. 12** – [Place Matters: Partnerships Between Institutions of Higher Education and their Local Communities](#), Albright College, Reading, PA.

PENNSYLVANIA – WESTERN REGION



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East Liberty/Larimer Neighborhoods Demonstrate “WE’RE ALL IN”

Larimer community leader Betty Lane’s t-shirt said it best, “This is our community WE’RE ALL IN” as she held onto the \$30 million HUD Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant check to at the Kingsley Center in Pittsburgh on June 30. As part of HUD’s overall plan for revitalizing neighborhoods of concentrated poverty, Choice Neighborhoods funds are intended to transform distressed public and assisted housing into sustainable, mixed-income housing with connection to key assets and services and to support positive outcomes for families living in the

development and in the neighborhood. “HUD’s Choice Neighborhoods Initiative supports local visions for how to transform high-poverty, distressed communities into neighborhoods of opportunity,” said Federal Housing Commissioner Carol Galante who made the announcement. “By working together, with local and state partners we will show why neighborhoods should always be defined by their potential—not their problems. Together, we will work to ensure that no child’s future is determined by their zip code and expand opportunity for all.” In his remarks, City of Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto confirmed the grant’s potential impact. “This is huge. This isn’t big,” he said. “This isn’t a small development or even a large development that’s happening. And housing is only one little part of it. We’re not just building housing. We’re rebuilding a community. And this never would’ve happened if the community wasn’t a force for it from the beginning.” Larimer was one of only four communities out of 44 to be awarded the competitive grant. Joining Lane (second from left) for the ceremonial photo are Allegheny County executive Rich Fitzgerald; Caster Binion, executive director of Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh; HUD commissioner Carol Galante; U.S. Congressman Mike Doyle; Caroline Peaks, Larimer Consensus Group and mayor Bill Peduto. See [photos](#) of the event and tour.

Iconic YMCA Gets a Much Anticipated Lift as McKeesport Downtown Housing

Longtime resident Herman Roser fought back tears as he spoke about the much anticipated historic rehabilitation of the YMCA in McKeesport. The 96-year-old World War II veteran expressed gratitude that a treasured community asset was not destroyed, but put to great re-use through the herculean efforts of Action Housing, one of Pittsburgh’s Better Buildings Challenge members, and its partners. HUD and the McKeesport Housing Authority are administering operating support to McKeesport Downtown Housing, while PNC is the equity investor and the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency allocated the Low Income Housing Tax Credits. The Pittsburgh Foundation, Richard King Mellon Foundation, Allegheny County Department of Human Services and Allegheny County Department of Economic Development also contributed to the \$10,400,000 for the rehabilitation. McKeesport Downtown Housing, an 84-unit complex and former YMCA features Passive House design and now serves as a supportive housing facility. County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, PHFA Executive Brian Hudson, Human Services Director Reggie Young, United Way Executive Director Bob Nelkin, HUD CPD Director John Tolbert, Action Housing Director of Housing and Neighborhood Development Linda Metropulos and Action Housing Board President Michael Dear greeted supporter Herman Rosner at the July 8 ribbon cutting.



Mercer County Housing Authority (MCHA) and Keystone SMILES/AmeriCorps are **collaborating this summer to teach young residents the many benefits of community supported agriculture**. Four MCHA family properties and one site for seniors will have community supported gardens. AmeriCorps volunteers will teach residents about the “organic cycle” from planting seeds to harvesting their crop. As an inter-generational component to this education project, elderly residents will teach the youngsters how to cook fresh vegetables and the basics of canning and preserving what they grow. Kudos to the local companies that donated services and supplies to make this summer program possible including Rien Construction, Glancy’s Landscaping Services, Lowes, Agway, Cottage Gardens, DJ’s Greenhouse and Lakeview Fertilizer. At right, MCHA’s young

residents of learn gardening skills as Keystone SMILES/AmeriCorps Volunteers demonstrate how to plant and nurture seedlings.

Mt. Nazareth Commons Breaks New Ground

With the theme of “tearing down walls to build new ones,” community and civic leaders joined leadership and representatives of Presbyterian SeniorCare, Presbyterian Senior Living and the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth for a groundbreaking ceremony at Mt. Nazareth Commons in Pittsburgh, PA. Presbyterian SeniorCare, in partnership with Presbyterian Senior Living, will transform the former Motherhouse in the North Hills into a vibrant senior living complex with 42 apartments for low- to moderate-income adults 62 years of age and older. The property, an \$8 million makeover funded in large part by tax credit financing, is expected to be move-in ready in the fall 2015. Investors include Enterprise Community Investments, Inc. and First Niagara Bank. Additional funding partners are the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, Allegheny County Economic Development and HUD. The transformation of the interior of the building will allow current services housed within the convent walls to continue. Over 200 children, who decorated the “wall” for the event, attend daycare at the Mt. Nazareth Learning Center which offers both intergenerational and volunteer opportunities for the older adults who live at Mt. Nazareth Commons. Residents will also have the opportunity to use services at the adjacent Holy Family Manor, including optional meal programs. Sporting hard hats, the attending leaders picked up sledgehammers and took a swing at the wall to signal the start of renovations. Photo (left to right): Jim Keating, Regional Team Leader, First Niagara Bank; Sister Cathy Fedewa, Assistant Provincial Superior and Sister Barbara Jean Wojnicki, Provincial Superior, Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth; Richard Fitzgerald, Allegheny County Executive; Ross Nese, Board Member, Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency; Jeff Davis, Chief Financial Officer, Presbyterian Senior Living; Alma Balonon-Rosen, Director, Relationship Management, Enterprise Community Partners; Stephen Proctor, President & CEO, Presbyterian Senior Living; Paul Winkler, President & CEO and Jim Pieffer, Senior Vice President, Presbyterian SeniorCare.



Digging In!

“One Homestead” is a coordinated community revitalization effort with Allegheny County and the Borough of Homestead that will produce affordable apartments targeted for working individuals, couples and families. With the support of HUD HOME funds of \$1,850,000 offered through the Allegheny County Department of Economic Development and with the benefit of low income housing tax credits, all of the units will be affordable to people whose incomes do not exceed 60% of area median income (AMI). Half of the units have projected rents targeted to those whose income is 50% or less of AMI, with three units of affordable housing at 20% AMI for mobility impaired residents. Total development costs for the Steel Valley Revitalization Plan were \$14,719,504 resulting in three



distinct and separate sites for affordable rental housing. On Amity Street, 18 new townhouse units in four separate buildings and three loft apartments and a rental office at the old post office building and the construction of a new 30-unit apartment building on 8th Avenue. Funding partners include: Bank of New York Mellon, Keystone Communities/PHFA, Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Corporation, Redevelopment Capital Assistance Program-Commonwealth of PA, RBC Capital Markets-Tax Equity Group and a.m. Rodriguez Associates. Mayor of Homestead Betty Esper triumphantly declared, “Homestead has a lot to offer and is a wonderful place to live! Let’s dig in.” State Senator Jay Costa (center) and community developers, funders, and supporters participate in the groundbreaking ceremony.

Events & Announcements

- **Sept 3 & 4** – Continuum of Care Start-Up Conference at the Federal Building in Pittsburgh, PA. For more information and to register, call (412) 644-5846.
- **Sept. 7 through 10** – PAHRA Annual Conference at the Omni William Penn Hotel in Downtown Pittsburgh. For more information and to register, visit pahra.org.
- **Sept. 12** – Homeless Education Network Meeting in the Liberty Room at the Allegheny County Dept. of Human Services in Pittsburgh, PA. For more information and to register, visit homelessfund.org.
- **Oct. 4, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** – Stand Down Pittsburgh, Shepherd's Heart Fellowship, 13 Pride Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. For information call (412) 481-8200 or email info@vlpwpa.org.
- **Oct. 16 & 17** – PAHMA Fall Conference at the Seven Springs Resort in Champion, PA. For information, visit pahma.org.



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Langston Park Breaks Ground for Virginia's First RAD Project

The Hopewell Redevelopment and Housing Authority (HRHA) became the first housing authority in Virginia to break ground on a Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) project on Friday, July 25. HRHA and its development partners celebrated the official groundbreaking for Langston Park Apartments as the first step toward revitalizing the neighborhood. Built in 1962 as a public housing development, the Langston Park Apartment complex consists of 30 units in sixteen two-story buildings. Once construction is completed, Langston Park will have 56 units in eight two-story buildings. "The new Langston Park will be a community with energy efficient homes, lots of green space, a new

community center and playground allowing neighbors to enjoy their community," added Carrie S. Schmidt, HUD Richmond Field Office Director. "RAD is a key component of HUD's affordable rental housing preservation strategy. It helps communities attract investments that will enable them to convert housing developments, such as Langston Park, into project-based rental assistance developments with more income levels and amenities than before." The RAD award has helped Hopewell to attract new investment into the City. Investors and partners in the Langston Park project include the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) funds, Virginia Housing Trust funds, private bank financing and a strong development partner, Community Housing Partners. The community partners participating in the actual groundbreaking included from left to right: Hopewell City Councilman Wayne Walton, City Councilman Roosevelt Edwards, Jr., Hopewell Vice Mayor Jasmine Gore, HRHA Chairman Linwood Crenshaw, HRHA Executive Director Steven Benham, HUD RFO Director Carrie Schmidt, Bank of America Executive Derrick Perkins, Bank of America, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Associate Director of Housing Willie Fobbs and Community Housing Partners Vice President of Development David Schultz.

City of Roanoke Highlights Work to End Veteran Homelessness

Virginia State Senator John S. Edwards, Regional Administrator Vincent and Director Schmidt joined City of Roanoke Council Member William D. Bestpitch and City of Salem Council Member Lisa Garst to highlight regional successes in "Joining Forces" to end homelessness on July 16 at the Trust House, home of the non-profit organization that provides transitional and emergency shelter to individuals, families and veterans experiencing homelessness. The officials and area advocates used the gathering to underscore the State of Virginia's and the Cities of Roanoke and Salem's commitments to the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. The Mayors of the Cities of Roanoke and Salem were the first to sign on in the Commonwealth. Governor Terry McAuliffe pledged his support on June 9

at the Ending Virginia Veteran Homelessness Summit in Richmond. In the last year, homelessness in the Commonwealth has declined 7.9 percent, with a 10.8 percent decrease in family homelessness and a 14 percent decrease in veteran homelessness. Much of that progress can be attributed to bipartisan support for permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing solutions. Carol Tuning, Bill Bestpitch, Ali Hamed-Moore, Sen. Edwards, Dr. Paula Prince and Tanyia Jones gathered before the [tour start](#).



New River Valley's Sustainable Community Enters Next Phase

Following the completion of [New River Valley's \(NRV\) Regional Plan](#), New River Valley Planning District Commission (NRVPDC) has passed the baton to its Community Foundation to continue with implementation. The Foundation has organized a giving campaign around the four major themes from the Grantee's Livability report and has already raised over \$64,000 from interested citizens. Clicking on a theme [here](#) brings up donation opportunities and data from the report. While visiting Radford on July 14, Regional Administrator Vincent, second from left, and Director Schmidt, far right, met with NRVPDC's Kevin Bush and Jessica Wirgau from The Community Foundation of the NRV about the new partnership.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Focus of Father's Day Events

Throughout the month of June, three Virginia housing authorities hosted “The Virginia HUD Father’s Day STEM Festival,” part of HUD’s “Reconnecting Families and Dads” which began in 2010. On June 14, the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority hosted a day-long event at the Grandy Village Learning Center. A two-day initiative by the Hampton Redevelopment and Housing Authority, “Building the Home; Reconnecting Fathers with Families,” was held June 14 and 21, at the Hampton University Harvey Library. The Richmond Redevelopment Authority’s “STEM’s Passion on the Raceway,” closed out the series at the Richmond International Raceway on June 28. The celebrations were designed to reaffirm the commitment to improve on the quality of life of youth by providing affordable housing, supporting responsible male involvement in their lives and affording them the opportunity to explore career and educational opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math—the STEM fields. Young participants toured exhibits, built robots and bridges and competed in a robotics tournament while their fathers participated in a panel discussion on fatherhood. Pictured at right, David K. Mineta, Deputy Director of Demand Reduction for the Office of National Drug Control Policy, led sessions in Hampton and Norfolk. For the complete story, visit hud.gov/Virginia.



Charlottesville, Virginia Embraces Housing First to Tackle Regional Homelessness

In March 2012, the city of Charlottesville, Virginia saw the completion of its first permanent supportive housing complex, The Crossings at Fourth and Preston. The 60-unit building provides housing for people experiencing homelessness and those earning less than 50 percent of the area median income. The development has adopted the Housing First model, in which people experiencing homelessness are provided with a stable place to stay before being connected to employment and health services. The results at The Crossings demonstrate the strength of the Housing First model. In its first year of operation, the development successfully housed 68 individuals, 40 of whom were previously living on the street. Ninety percent of the formerly homeless individuals have

not returned to homelessness, and individual incomes have risen by an average of 47 percent. With the success of The Crossings, civic and government leaders are now considering a permanent supportive housing development for families experiencing homelessness. For the complete story, see the new edition of [The Edge, PD&R's online magazine](#). In this photo, tenants tend the Crossings' garden that is irrigated with rainfall collected from the building's roof. Image courtesy of Virginia Supportive Housing.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the [Virginia Association of Housing Counselors](#) 2014 housing counseling award recipients including: Charlotte Davis, Total Action for Progress, Community Service Award; Lisa Yost, New River Community Action, Housing Specialist of the Year; Phyllis Harrison, Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Mountain Mover Commitment to Service; Hilliard House, Agency of the Year; and Piedmont Housing Alliance, Agency of the Year.

On May 7, [First Lady Dorothy McAuliffe](#) and the [Virginia Council on Women](#) in collaboration with the [Science Museum of Virginia](#), announced the winners of the Third Annual STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Essay Contest for high school junior and senior girls. The Council awarded scholarships to: First Place, \$10,000 scholarship award to Jennifer Louie of Chancellor High School, Fredericksburg, VA; Second Place, \$7,500 scholarship award to Jessica Sun of Chantilly High School, Chantilly, VA; Third Place, \$2,500 scholarship award to Melissa Angell of Osbourn Park High School, Manassas, VA; Fourth Place, \$2,500 scholarship award to Kaela Frazier of Bruton High School, Williamsburg, VA; Fifth Place, \$2,500 scholarship award to Brittany Huffman of George C. Marshall High School, Falls Church, VA. For details, visit governor.virginia.gov.

[Mason Neck State Park](#) in Lorton has won the [second-place award of \\$50,000 as one of "America's Favorite Parks,"](#) part of the Coca-Cola Company's [America is Your Park](#) campaign. The award will be used to launch a new outdoor challenge at Mason Neck to encourage visitors to enjoy their stay at the park and get active at the same time.

Events & Announcements

- **Oct. 29 through 31** – 2014 Virginia Governor's Housing Conference (VAGHC), Norfolk, VA. The Governor's Housing Conference is Virginia's largest and most comprehensive affordable housing event of the year. To register, visit <http://www.vagovernorshousingconference.com/>.
- **Nov. 11 through 13** – Mid-Atlantic Affordable Housing Management Association, Richmond, VA. For more information and to register, visit <http://mid-atlantichma.org/>.

WEST VIRGINIA

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New Apartment Complex in Charleston to Provide Affordable Housing for Persons Living with Disabilities

A groundbreaking ceremony for a new complex for low-income persons living with disabilities broke ground in downtown Charleston on May 20. The Thomas Patrick Maroney Unity Apartments was named for Pat Maroney, a longtime Charleston lawyer who represents labor unions throughout the state and is a former chairman of the West Virginia Democratic Party. The new 14-unit facility is for individuals who are generally able to live independently, but due to economic circumstances cannot do so. The proposed units are designed to serve these persons by promoting independent living in a safe and secure energy efficient housing environment that lies within close proximity to all necessary support facilities, including neighborhood shopping and medical facilities. The development is being funded through a number of sources to include HUD's Capital Advance program, West Virginia Housing Development Fund HOME funds program and donations from Human Resource Development and Employment, Inc. (HDRE). It is being developed by Unity Housing, Inc. and HRDE, both of which are non-profit organizations dedicated to providing decent, affordable housing for THE Mountaineer State's economically disadvantaged seniors and persons living with disabilities. HRDE has provided 15 new construction housing complexes and has acquired and rehabilitated three additional housing complexes—all dedicated to serving the elderly or persons living with disabilities. Pictured at the groundbreaking is Pat Maroney, with grandchildren Alden McMillion and Abby Messer at right and left, union leader Kenny Perdue, Secretary of State Natalie Tennant, RC General Contractors President Tom Reece, Director Pete Minter and Mark Spencer of Associated Architects, Inc.



On July 8, Regional Administrator Vincent welcomed the more than 150 attendees at the **Mid-Atlantic Affordable Housing Management Association's 10th Annual WV Affordable Multifamily Rental Housing Conference at the Charleston Civic Center in Charleston.**

Annually attracting housing officials and management executives from across West Virginia, the event featured speakers focusing on topics that managers must know to stay in compliance with oft-times complicated policies and regulations. Attendees played a game of "Fair Housing Jeopardy," learned about the changes to the Management Occupancy Report and all of the substantive changes with the new verification system for income, assets and expenses. The Mid-Atlantic AHMA is driven by its mission to seek to facilitate increased and better communication between management representatives and regulatory and federal entities that regulate how they do their jobs. For more information, visit <http://mid-atlanticahma.org>. Pictured at left is Mid-Atlantic AHMA President Alice Fletcher addressing the opening session.

On July 30, **Kanawha Valley Collective conducted their summer Point-In-Time Street Outreach Count.** The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. HUD requires that Continuums of Care conduct an annual count of homeless persons who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing and safe havens on a single night. The Kanawha Valley Collective has chosen to implement a summer Point in Time in addition to the HUD mandated Point in Time in January. For more information about the work of the Collective, visit <http://www.kanawhavalleycollective.org/>.

A new website, [Try This West Virginia](http://TryThisWestVirginia.com), is a "smorgasbord" of do-able, practical ideas that can help West Virginians turn their dreams of a healthier community into reality. According to the website, West Virginia is at or near the top of every awful chronic disease list. It doesn't have to stay that way. In 2012, West Virginia University researchers found that one in five West Virginia fifth graders already had high blood pressure; one in four had abnormal cholesterol levels. One in five kindergartners was obese and almost one in three adults was obese. The site was created for the children and families of West Virginia with grants from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation and KEYS 4HealthyKids to the West Virginia Healthy Kids and Families Coalition.

Events & Announcements

- **Aug. 21, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** – 2nd annual State of West Virginia Summit on Veteran Homelessness, Charleston Civic Center, 200 Civic Center Drive, Charleston, WV 25301. The Summit is designed to bring together leadership from federal, state and regional organizations to discuss what services currently being provided and how to work together to better serve this population. The outcomes of the meeting will contribute to the West Virginia Interagency Council on Homelessness' statewide plan to end homelessness. There is no charge to attend this event and Social Work CEUs will be offered. RSVP by calling (304) 529-9141 or by emailing leeann.bills@va.gov.
- **Sept 3 & 4** – West Virginia Housing Conference, Charleston, WV. For information and to register, visit http://www.communityworkswv.org/housing_conference/schedule_and_sessions.php.
- **Sept. 17 through 19** – West Virginia Association of Realtors Annual Conference. For information, visit <http://www.wvrealtors.com/home.shtml>.
- **Sept. 23 & 24** – 2014 Boots on the Ground Conference: Building Bridges to Treatment and Recovery, Camp Dawson, Kingwood, WV. The West Virginia National Guard and the State Surgeon's Office are proud to announce a behavioral health conference focusing on evaluation and treatment of Soldiers, Airmen, and Veterans of WV. You can learn more about the conference by [visiting the conference website](#). There, you can view the latest conference information and register. Registrations received by Aug. 5 will be entered into a drawing for a free Apple iPad. All registrations must be received by close of business on Sept. 5.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Ongoing Opportunities:

- The U.S. Department of Labor is accepting applications for ["Stand Down"](#) grants that will provide an estimated 10,000 homeless veterans with opportunities to reintegrate into society. The grants are being awarded under the department's Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program.
- [Wells Fargo Homeownership](#) grant program to help local nonprofit housing organizations create sustainable homeownership opportunities for low-to-moderate-income people.
- The Surdna Foundation offers funding to nonprofit organizations that seek to help communities build wealth in a sustainable manner. Letters of Inquiry are accepted year around. For more information, click [here](#).
- Kresge Foundation is accepting applications for funding for its [Advancing the Effectiveness and Resilience of Multi-Service Organizations](#) grant program.
- Kresge Foundation is accepting applications for funding for its [Healthy Environments](#) grant program.
- [The Coca Cola Foundation](#) offers grants to support programs that focus on: water stewardship; healthy and active lifestyles that lead to physical activity and nutritional education programs; community recycling; and education.
- The [Macy's Foundation](#) provides grants to organizations that are focused on women's issues.

Upcoming deadlines:

- **Aug. 15** – Applications are due for [The Home Depot Foundation Community Impact Grant](#) program.
- **Sept. 10** – The [100 Resilient Cities Challenge](#) seeks to find 100 cities that are ready to build resilience to the social, economic and physical challenges that cities face in an increasingly urbanized world. We can't predict the next disruption or catastrophe. But we can control how we respond to these challenges. We can adapt to the shocks and stresses of our world and transform them into opportunities for growth. If your city applies for the 100 Resilient Cities Challenge, it could be one of 100 cities eligible to receive funding to hire a Chief Resilience Officer, assistance in developing a resilience strategy, access to a platform of innovative private and public sector tools to help design and implement that strategy, and membership in the 100 Resilient Cities Network.
- **Dec. 31** – Applications are due for the [U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development](#) program. Eligible lenders may qualify for up to \$150 million in Section 538 loan guarantees to finance the acquisition, construction or rehabilitation of rural rental housing. Approved applications from prior years' notices will be the first to receive funding. Since 2009, USDA loan guarantees have provided 16,000 housing units to rural families.

REGION III HUDLINE NEWS

We welcome your feedback and invite you to share your news with Lisa A. Wolfe at lisa.a.wolfe@hud.gov. If you know anyone who would like to receive *Region III HUDLine News*, please feel free to share. To subscribe to the *Region III HUDLine News*, visit <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/subscribe/signup&listname=Region%20III%20News&list=REGION-III-NEWS-L>. We safeguard our lists and do not rent, sell, or permit the use of our lists by others, at any time or reason.