



# “Building Communities Together”

A Networking Tool of HUD’s Center for Community and Interfaith Partnerships

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## Investments in America

On July 6, as part of his 6-city New Markets tour, President Clinton released a HUD report showing that America’s inner city neighborhoods - with \$331 billion in annual retail purchasing power - hold major economic potential for retail business growth. The HUD report is titled, “New Markets: The Untapped Retail Buying Power in America’s Inner Cities.” It concludes that retailers can find major profit-making opportunities in low- and moderate-income inner city neighborhoods, which it calls “undiscovered territories for many businesses.”

Under President Clinton and Vice President Gore, America is enjoying a time of remarkable economic expansion. The strength and historic duration of our current economic expansion has helped bring economic opportunity to millions of people once cut off from the economic mainstream. Wages are rising and welfare rolls are shrinking. The economy has created nearly 19 million new jobs since January 1993. Unemployment has dropped from 7.2 % to just 4.3 %. But there is more work to do, particularly in those communities that are economically underserved.

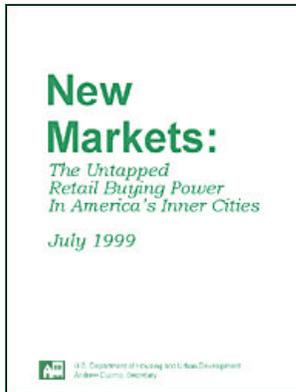
President Clinton’s trip has focused attention on America’s New Markets – Untapped Areas for Potential Investment. From July 5-8, President Clinton led a delegation of CEOs, Members of Congress and Cabinet secretaries on an unprec-

edented trip of untapped markets in the following communities including some of the most disadvantaged areas of the country: Appalachia; Mississippi Delta; East St. Louis, IL; Phoenix, AZ; Los Angeles and Anaheim, CA; and the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, SD.

“For years our government has worked to give Americans incentives to invest in emerging markets around the world,” the President said. “But we now know, as we look forward to how we can continue to create jobs and have economic growth without inflation, that our greatest untapped markets are here at home – at the least \$85 billion in untapped markets.”

Secretary Cuomo added, “Investing in the areas of our country that have been left behind is not only in their interest, it is in ours as well. If we are to keep our economy going, we need to keep it growing. We need new workers and new markets. We have both right here at home, and now is the time to take advantage of that.”

To see commitments the private and public sectors are making to America’s New Markets, please visit the White House website at [www.whitehouse.gov/WH/New/New\\_Markets/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/New/New_Markets/). To see the report, “New Markets: The Untapped Retail Buying Power in America’s Inner Cities,” go to [www.huduser.org/publications/newmarkets/contents.html](http://www.huduser.org/publications/newmarkets/contents.html).



## Summer CB

Lloyd LaMois, a Community Builder in the Richmond, VA Office, is serving with the Center for Community and Interfaith Partnerships during the summer. Mr. LaMois is working to coordinate the planning of a series of regional conferences announced by the Vice-President and focusing on the role of faith-based organizations in community development.

Lloyd comes to the Center with a wealth of experience with non-profits in Northern Virginia. A few of the activities in which he has been involved include: working with Catholics for Housing, Inc., where he guided the rebuilding of the membership base and managed the development of affordable housing; serving as Director of Religious Education for more than a decade for the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, VA; as a VISTA volunteer at an emergency shelter run by Catholic Charities; and acting as a Counselor with *So Others Might Eat* in Washington, DC.

Lloyd will be with the Center until late August. We welcome him to our staff and look forward to working with Lloyd this summer as well as into the future.

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On October 16, 1999, HUD will host the first national **Raise the Roof Day (RTRD)** — a day in which HUD and its partners will mobilize thousands of volunteers from Bangor to Boise, and Seattle to Shreveport. On that day, local governments, national and local non-profits, faith-based organizations, and citizens across the country will come together to fix up and repair homes of those in need and raise awareness about the critical need for affordable housing in America.

With Raise the Roof Day, we will be not only fixing homes, we will be building something much larger and lasting — a national awareness of the enormous need in this country for housing that is safe, decent, and affordable. 5.3 million households - 12.5 million Americans - live in

severely substandard housing or pay more than half of their income in rent, almost half are children and elderly, rents are rising at a faster pace than the average family's income, waiting lists for subsidized units or assisted housing are longer than ever.

Already, over 90 Mayors and County Executives have agreed to undertake projects through local non-profits or directly through city-run programs on October 16. A number of national organizations have signed on to partner with HUD on Raise the Roof Day including—Habitat for Humanity, Christmas in April, The Enterprise Foundation, Local Initiatives Support Corporation and Youthbuild.

Please join us if you want your city to organize a project and become a Raise the Roof partner. If you can pound some nails, wield a saw or carry water to thirsty workers, sign up as a volunteer in your community.

For more information, please visit the Raise the Roof website at [www.hud.gov/raiseroof.html](http://www.hud.gov/raiseroof.html) or call 1-888-404-3895.

## Important Resources

On **August 12-13, 1999** in Ashland, KY and Huntington, WV, the Department of Housing and Urban Development will convene a historic **Appalachian Summit** to explore ways to create jobs, spark economic development, increase the supply of affordable housing, expand home ownership, improve transportation, and invest in human capital in Appalachia.

Under Secretary Cuomo's leadership, the Summit is a partnership between HUD, USDA, DOL, DOT, the Appalachian Regional Commission, Governor Patton of Kentucky, and Governor Underwood of West Virginia. The objective is not simply to highlight available programs, but to con-

vene government leaders to listen to the people of the region and learn why existing resources are not being used to their full potential, and what additional resources and strategies are needed.

To learn more about the conference and how to register, visit HUD's website at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov), or call the Center for Community and Interfaith Partnerships at 202/708-2404 or 1-800-308-0395 or TTY at 1-800-483-2209.



## Featured Best Practice

On a very cold morning in the winter of 1979, the pastor of First Presbyterian Church in San Antonio, TX found a homeless man frozen to death on the church grounds. This tragedy triggered a heartfelt community response that eventually grew into the **San Antonio Metropolitan Ministry (SAMM)**. By January 1981, volunteers were operating an overnight emergency shelter in the winter months. After gaining support from several downtown churches, SAMM was incorporated in 1983. When it became apparent that homeless people needed comprehensive social services as well as shelter, SAMM developed its Continuum of Care model of service delivery.

With 17 enclosed family rooms, SAMM is the only place in town that serves single fathers with children in emergency shelter and single mothers with teenage sons. Services available on-site include meals, case management, health care, mental health care, job referral, immediate temporary employment, opportunity for spiritual nurturing and growth, respite child care, legal assistance, substance abuse support groups, and life skills training. These services are provided by partnering agencies and dedicated SAMM volunteers.

Complementing SAMM, the Community Ministries Center (CMC) is an innovative transitional living center that houses nine homeless families in a shared living environment. Ninety percent of families leaving the center are placed in permanent housing. 70 percent of families leaving the CMC remain in stable permanent housing one year later, and 60 percent of CMC families increase income or educational attainment.

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*This information has been edited from the John J. Gunther Best Practices on HUD's web site at <http://www.hud.gov/ptw/menu.html>.*