

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

AND

NATIONAL JOBS PARTNERSHIP

Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a formal partnership between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and National Jobs Partnership (NJP) to facilitate the planning and implementation of a nationwide series of training initiatives to assist Faith-based and community-based organizations outreach to low and very-low income residents on employment, training and business contracting opportunities through the Section 3 program of the Housing Act of 1968.

Both HUD and NJP expressly recognize and acknowledge that the successful implementation of this MOU is mutually beneficial to both organizations. Availing HUD resources, either directly or collaboratively with HUD grantees or HUD assisted housing providers will enable the NJP and its local associations to outreach to a greater number of low and very low-income residents on training and employment opportunities. Similarly, facilitating the delivery of NJP programs to public housing developments and other HUD assisted communities will help ensure the efficiency and efficacy of HUD supported community and supportive services initiatives to help transition families to homeownership. The staffs of HUD and NJP commit to working collaboratively and diligently to jointly achieve the objectives of this MOU.

Background

HUD is a cabinet level agency of the government of the United States of America. HUD was established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965. HUD's mission is to provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing and suitable living environments for every American, fight for fair housing, increase affordable housing and home ownership, reduce homelessness, promote jobs and economic opportunity, and empower people and communities to restore the public trust. In furtherance of its mission, HUD administers a variety of federally funded community development and neighborhood revitalization initiatives, including among others, the HOPE VI program, the Resident Opportunity and Self-sufficiency (ROSS) Program, and the Community Development Block Grant Program. HUD both directly and through urban cities and counties, local public housing authorities and other HUD grantees, works collaboratively with a variety of community-based organizations, including the NJP to deliver economic opportunity programs to the American public. The Section 3 program is a means by

which HUD fosters local economic development, neighborhood revitalization, and individual self-sufficiency. Section 3 is the legal basis for providing jobs for residents and awarding contracts to business in areas receiving certain types of HUD financial assistance. Recipients of HUD financial assistance and their contractors and sub-contractors are required to provide economic opportunities, to the greatest extent feasible, to Section 3 residents consistent with existing Federal, state and local laws and regulations.

The NJP is a national Faith-based organization in partnership with communities and businesses. NJP's mission is to bring churches and businesses together to mentor, train, and employ our country's neediest citizens, moving them from dependency to self-sufficiency as productive citizens of the community and to true wellness. The NJP currently has representation in over 32 communities with a support-base of housing authorities, local elected officials, contractors, and community residents. The role of participating churches is to work cooperatively and take on the mission of outreach, mentoring, and supporting each neighbor they sponsor through the NJP program. The role of participating businesses is to provide jobs, the key ingredient to the success of the program. These businesses agree to list their openings with the NJP and seek to employ qualified graduates and assist new employees to make the transition into the workplace. Through the NJP, businesses recruit honest, reliable, and hard working employees to fill pressing workforce gaps with the support and guidance of their church sponsor. The community benefits by empowering people to become productive, tax-paying citizens who support their family and community.

Responsibilities of HUD

1. HUD will jointly develop a letter with the NJP from Assistant Secretary Peoples and the National Director of NJP to be distributed to all local NJP and HUD offices announcing the partnership between NJP and HUD.
2. HUD will jointly sponsor with the NJP, one-day training seminars with local representatives of NJP, housing authorities, Faith-based Organizations, Contractors, and residents on the Section 3 program. The NJP and HUD will jointly select target cities/towns for the training.
3. HUD will actively seek opportunities to engage outreach, education and marketing of the Section 3 program to promote training and employment opportunities for low and very low-income residents to transition families to self-sufficiency and homeownership.
4. As appropriate, the Assistant Secretary for FHEO will co-author, in collaboration with the NJP National Director, articles describing successful job training and employment initiatives in HUD assisted communities.
5. As appropriate, HUD headquarters staff will inform NJP of the names and addresses of local housing authorities receiving funding under HUD program to enable NJP to inform local NJP affiliates of potential opportunities to forge community-based partnership with the newly awarded HUD grantees in an effort to enhance HUD funded initiatives and the Section 3 program.

6. HUD staff will serve as presenters at national meetings of the NJP when appropriate. HUD will also provide advice and assistance on an as needed basis to NJP affiliates.
7. As appropriate, the Department will ensure that local NJP affiliates are invited to HUD sponsored training events and conferences conducted on a national or local level on the Section 3 program to keep the NJP abreast of program changes.

Responsibilities of NJP:

1. As appropriate, NJP will serve in an advisory capacity to HUD on critical issues concerning training, employment or contracting opportunities.
2. The NJP will jointly development with HUD a letter from A/S Carolyn Y. Peoples and the NJP National Director to be distributed to all NJP affiliates and local HUD offices announcing the partnership between NJP and HUD.
3. NJP will jointly sponsor with HUD, one-day training seminars with local representatives of NJP for housing authorities, Faith-based Organizations, Contractors, and residents on the Section 3 program. The NJP and HUD will jointly select target cities/towns for the training.
4. NJP will invite the leadership of HUD to deliver keynote addresses describing HUD program initiatives at major NJP conference and training events.
5. NJP will provide examples of successful NJP initiative on training, employment and self-sufficiency initiatives of residents residing in public housing development and other HUD assisted communities to be used on HUD's website.
6. The NJP will highlight the HUD-NJP partnership on their website and will hyper-link to the HUD home page.

Financial Expenditures

No provision of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be construed as obligating either HUD or NJP to specific expenditures during the term of this agreement. HUD will not provide preferential treatment to the NJP.

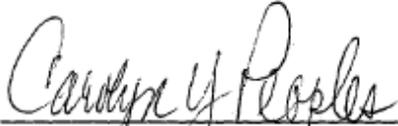
Amendment and Review

The NJP National Office and HUD Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity will serve as liaison to assist in the review and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU will be reviewed periodically, but not less than annually, and may be amended as agreed to in writing by both parties.

Effective Date and Termination

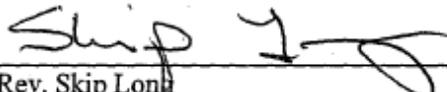
NJP and HUD shall inform their respective affiliates and administrative offices about this Memorandum of Understanding. This MOU shall become effective upon the signature of the authorized officials of the respective parties. It shall remain in effect until terminated by mutual agreement or ninety days advance written notice by either party.

Signature of Each Party:



Assistant Secretary Carolyn Y. Peoples
Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

April 4, 2003
Date



Rev. Skip Long
National Executive Director
National Jobs Partnership

April 4, 2003
Date