



Tampa Field Office Newsletter
January, 2004
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Free Web Clinic for HUD Partners in Tampa on March 16, 2004

Free Grant Writing Seminar for Non-Profit Organizations on February 25-26, 2004

EACH WORKSHOP HAS LIMITED SPACE!
DETAILS & REGISTRATION FORMS AT END OF NEWSLETTER

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Message from the Field Office Director

On behalf of the entire Tampa Office Staff we would like to wish you a Happy and Healthy New year ! In keeping with this traditional time of change, we are complementing our traditionally mailed newsletter with the introduction of our first electronic newsletter. Please add yourself to our email list as indicated later in this publication.

In this issue, you will find a variety of useful information about recent grants, past and future conferences, regulatory updates and other helpful items. This new calendar year promises to be one built upon the successes of 2003. In many areas, both programmatic and geographic, HUD and its partners have assisted countless customers to improve their housing situations. The Tampa Field Office has endeavored to reach out to its partners across the Tampa Bay Area to strengthen existing relationships as well as forge new bonds with private organizations and governmental entities. We anticipate reaching goals that will make safe, affordable housing a reality for everyone in our 12 county service area. Together, we will achieve even greater accomplishments in the year ahead !

Karen Jackson Sims
Field Director

President Bush Nominates *Alphonso Jackson* for Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development



WASHINGTON - President Bush recently announced his nomination of Alphonso Jackson to become the 13th Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. As HUD's Deputy Secretary for nearly three years, Jackson will continue the Administration's housing and community development agenda begun under former Secretary Mel Martinez, who resigned in December.

"He is an experienced executive in the public and private sectors - a man who knows the issues facing HUD and knows how to get things done," said President Bush. "Alphonso is a friend and one of the most experienced and respected authorities on housing policy in America who will be a superb Secretary of Housing and Urban Development".

Bush Administration Announces Record \$1.27 BILLION To Help Homeless Individuals and Families

\$9.25 Million for West Central Florida

Tampa - Nationwide, thousands of local programs that house and serve the homeless are being awarded nearly \$1.3 billion in grants announced by Housing and Urban Development Acting Secretary Alphonso Jackson. In Florida, funds total nearly \$52 million. Never before has any federal agency awarded so much financial assistance to help the homeless. HUD's grants include a record **\$9.25 million** awarded to Continuums of Care (networks of service providers to the homeless) in the Tampa Field Office jurisdiction. They include:

Tampa/Hillsborough	\$4,084,445
Pinellas County	\$2,776,005
Sarasota/Manatee	\$1,275,068
Polk/Hardee/Highlands	\$1,116,544

White House Conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives A Great Success !

TAMPA - On Friday, December 5, 2003 the White House hosted the ninth session in a series of regional conferences on the Administration's Faith-Based and Community Initiative. The conference educated grassroots organizations about partnering with the Federal government to provide essential social services to those in need. Over 1,200 leaders from faith-based and community organizations joined U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, Governor Jeb Bush, and Jim Towey, Director of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Participants learned about various federal funds and how to apply for them. In a pre-recorded video, President Bush welcomed the conference attendees, highlighting the vast potential of the charitable and faith-based sector to assist the disadvantaged in our country.

"President Bush came to office with the belief that government can fund compassion, but it is the citizens who provide it," said Attorney General John Ashcroft. "Charities, grassroots organizations and faith-based groups fill needs that government, no matter how well-intentioned or generously funded, cannot fill".

Mr. Towey stated "We aim to strengthen and support the good work of faith-based and community organizations by taking the mystery out of partnering with the federal government," "Grassroots groups touch the lives of the poor and distressed in compassionate and inspiring ways with lasting, positive results. We must encourage and expand the important work of these groups."

Participants at the conference gained insight into government funding opportunities, grant application tips and the requirements for faith-based organizations to receive government funds. Participants learned more about specific partnership opportunities directed at serving the homeless, hungry, at-risk youth, prisoners, those with HIV/AIDS, welfare-to-work families and those who suffer from addiction. The White House hosted the conference with support from the Departments of Education, Agriculture, Justice, Labor, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development and the Agency for International Development.

Home for the Holidays: Partnership in Action

Consistent with HUD's emphasis upon ending chronic homelessness in the next ten years, Tampa Field Office staff provided service to many customers in need during this past December. One person, who was living in a car despite being a full-time private sector employee, simply earned too little to afford market rents. After consulting with HUD staff due to her ineligibility for emergency housing, contact was made with Tampa Housing Authority (THA) staff who were able to find a permanent residence for this ambitious person. Many thanks to THA for their partnership with HUD in resolving this customer's lack of affordable housing.

Tampa Housing Authority Breaks Ground on The Oaks at Riverview

On October 28, 2003 HUD and a host of other local organizations provided remarks at the Groundbreaking Ceremony for The Oaks at Riverview. The Oaks represents the Tampa Housing Authority's second HOPE VI grant (\$19.9M) awarded in November, 2001. The old Riverview Terrace Public Housing Complex will be replaced with 346 units including subsidized rentals for families and seniors as well as market and affordably priced homeownership units. The program included remarks from Mayor Pam Iorio; THA commissioners; THA Executive Director Jerome Ryans; the Mid City Urban Development Team; the Housing Finance Authority of Hillsborough County; the Seminole Heights Neighborhood Association; and public housing residents. After comments, speakers proceeded to dig ceremonial first shovels of dirt.

HUD Announces \$44 Million to Increase Self-Sufficiency Among Elderly and Disabled Public Housing Residents

\$2.2 Million for Florida

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development recently awarded \$44,368,243 in grants that will be used to help public housing residents become economically self-sufficient and give elders and people with disabilities supportive services to allow them to live independently.

“These grants provide assistance across-the-board to families, the elderly and persons with disabilities,” said HUD Acting Secretary Alphonso Jackson. “Grant recipients now have the resources to provide public housing residents services that will lead to self-sufficiency and allow the elderly and those with disabilities to continue their independent lifestyles.”

The Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency (ROSS) Program grants are awarded to public housing authorities (PHAs), resident organizations and non-profit organizations acting on behalf of residents. These grants link public housing residents to services that lead to employment and leadership within their community that may lead to self-sufficiency. ROSS grants also provide support services to elders and persons with disabilities who live in public housing.

This funding promotes self-sufficiency for families by providing job and business development training; developing methods to link residents to jobs with specific employers in specified fields; creating credit unions; and providing support services such as child care, transportation, and family counseling. Elders and persons with disabilities will benefit from this funding through personal assistance with daily activities; transportation to medical appointments, and essential shopping trips. It also establishes health and wellness programs in the community.

Tampa Bay Area grant recipients include:

Housing Authority of the City of Tampa (Resident Service Delivery Models for the Elderly—RSDM)	\$300,000
Housing Authority of the City of Tampa (Resident Service Delivery Models for Families)	\$350,000

Homeownership Supportive Services

Funding for Supportive Services allows public housing authorities to offer home-buying counseling and other supportive services to achieve homeownership by public housing residents. In addition to guidance on housing options, services may also include: financial readiness; budgeting; home repairs; educational advancement and employment services.

Tampa’s local grantee was:

Lakeland Housing Authority

\$250,000



**HUD Awards Over \$30 Million To Help Elders and People with Disabilities
Continue to Live Independently -- Florida Receives \$925,794**

In early December, HUD announced \$30.9 million in service coordinator grants. These awards will assist more than 23,000 low-income elderly and residents with disabilities living in federally supported housing. Specific assistance will include programs to identify and receive health care, healthy meals and other critical support services.

Local grantees include:

Palm Ave Baptist Towers, Inc. (Tampa)	Heritage Presbyterian Housing, Inc. (Largo)
Casa De Palma \$238,813	Heritage Presbyterian \$115,276

**Florida Receives \$759,388
for Housing Counseling Grants**

Nearly 730,000 individuals and families will have a greater opportunity to find housing or keep the homes they have because of more than \$37 million in housing counseling grants.

It is estimated these grants will assist more than 430,000 people to either become first-time homeowners or remain homeowners after their purchase. The grants were awarded to 17 national and regional organizations and approximately 350 state and local housing counseling agencies. These organizations will provide counseling services and will help meet the Bush Administration's goal of increasing minority homeownership by 5.5 million families by the end of the decade.

These grant recipients will help program participants realistically evaluate their readiness for a home purchase, understand their financing and down-payment options, and navigate what can be an extremely confusing and risky process. President Bush is proposing to increase HUD's Housing Counseling grant program to \$45 million next year - a 12.5 percent increase. The organizations that provide counseling services help people become or remain homeowners or find rental housing. In addition, HUD-funded housing counseling agencies assist homeless persons to find the transitional housing they need to move toward a permanent place to live.

Based on past experience, HUD anticipates the counseling grants will enable approximately 257,000 would-be homeowners to learn how to improve their credit, strengthen money management skills and avoid predatory lenders and other unscrupulous practices. Another 175,000 existing homeowners will learn how to avoid delinquency and default, restructure debt and maintain their home. In addition, nearly 213,000 individuals and families who will receive HUD-funded counseling are renters. Counseling services will help them find housing closer to their jobs or health care as well as teach them about tenant rights. Finally, an estimated 16,000 homeless individuals and families will learn how to find emergency services and secure transitional housing.

Grant Awards for the Tampa Office Jurisdiction include:

Consumer Credit Counseling Service of The Florida Gulf Coast, Incorporated
Tampa, FL \$87,100

CCCS of the Florida Gulf Coast was formed over 25 years ago as a nonprofit organization to provide financial counseling and education. CCCS has 16 offices located throughout its five-county service area. During fiscal year 2002, the agency successfully counseled 5,499 clients with issues pertaining to housing, resulting in 326 new homeowners.

Manatee Opportunity Council, Inc.

Bradenton, FL \$43,240

Manatee Opportunity Council, Inc., a private nonprofit, has been a HUD-certified Housing Counseling Agency since the early 1970's, providing services on behalf of indigent, low-income individuals and families since 1968. It serves Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Desoto and Hardee Counties, and is also the case management agency for the HUD funded Manasota Homeless Project, serving Manatee and Sarasota Counties.



Goodwill Industries-Manasota, Inc.

Sarasota, FL \$40,000

The Goodwill Industries-Manasota, Inc., provides housing counseling services to the citizens of Manatee, Sarasota, Hardee and Desoto Counties. They have served the area for the past 25 years. Goodwill Industries-Manasota, Inc., provides one-on-one counseling in homebuyer education, mortgage default/loss mitigation, post purchase, rental assistance, money management, fair housing, and homeless counseling.

In addition to housing counseling, Goodwill Industries-Manasota, Inc., makes available to each customer, as needed, resources including, but not limited to, food pantry and clothing referrals, job placement services, and transportation services. During fiscal year 2002, Goodwill Industries-Manasota, Inc., successfully counseled 174 clients with issues pertaining to housing.

Manatee Coalition For Affordable Housing, Inc.

Bradenton, FL \$18,315

Manatee Coalition for Affordable Housing, Inc. has been providing homeownership education since its inception in 1991. It has a solid track record of helping very low and low-income families to become homeowners. The agency's housing counseling services include homebuyer education, pre and post-purchase counseling, and marketing and outreach initiatives. Additionally, Manatee is a member of the Ward 5 Quality Assurance Team that is made up of community nonprofit agencies whose mission is to establish a forum through which information about local community needs can be discussed and exchanged. During fiscal year 2002, the agency successfully counseled 532 clients resulting in 54 clients purchasing housing.



HUD Awards \$17.6 Million in Fair Housing Grants to Continue Fight Against Housing Discrimination



Florida Receives \$1.5 Million



On January 12, 2004 HUD announced it had awarded \$17.6 million in grants to fair housing groups in 39 states and the District of Columbia as part of the Bush Administration's efforts to curb housing discrimination. Included in the announcement was \$1.5 million for organizations in Florida.

Bay Area Legal Services received \$128,846 and will become the first HUD-partnered provider of Private Enforcement for housing discrimination victims in the Tampa/Hillsborough County area of Florida.

HUD Announces Higher FHA Home Loan Limits To Help More American Families Become Home Owners

WASHINGTON - Housing and Urban Development Acting Secretary Alphonso Jackson recently announced that the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) has increased its single-family home mortgage limits by more than three percent.



Effective January 1, 2004, FHA will insure single-family home mortgages up to \$160,176 in low cost areas and up to \$290,319 in high cost areas. The loan limits for two, three, and four unit dwellings also increased. The FHA is sending letters to thousands of mortgage lenders and brokers to make them aware of the higher rates that can help families.

“These higher loan limits will help the FHA mortgage insurance program keep pace with the robust housing market while contributing to the Bush Administration's commitment to create 5.5 million new minority homeowners by the end of the decade,” said Jackson. “The new limits will help create more homeowners, more construction, more jobs, and more economic growth.”

Low-income and first time homebuyers are attracted to FHA-insured loans because the agency requires only a three-percent down payment. The new loan limits are part of an annual adjustment HUD makes to account for rising home prices. Under federal law, loan limits are tied to the conforming loan limits of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, federally chartered corporations that buy and package mortgages.

NOTE: A complete schedule of FHA mortgage limits for all areas is available at

<https://entp.hud.gov/idapp/html/hicostlook.cfm>

Are You on Our Mailing List?

In an effort to keep customers well informed, the Tampa Field Office makes available the following publications:

Tampa Field Office Newsletter

If you need general information about programs, funding, public announcements and local activities, send your request via email to william.j.kalbas@hud.gov or call 813.228.2026 x-2112 to provide your email or postal address.

Tampa Office of Multi-Family Housing E-Letter

If you are in the multi-family housing industry (owner, manager, funding source, etc.) and would like to be on an electronic newsletter mailing list, email: alan.coupland@hud.gov.

Atlanta Homeownership Center Internet News

Those interested in single family housing news may visit the following internet site <http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/talk/atfallnews.pdf>

HUD Elves Make Delivery



Employees in the Tampa Field Office joined in the spirit of giving through an office food collection for the holidays. After much deliberation, Metropolitan Ministries was selected to be this year's recipient of a wide variety of non-perishable food products for distribution to families in need. Pictured are HUD employees Pat Foubert, Jose Parrilla and Joanne Wysocki who volunteered to bring over 40 pounds of food and several toys to the Metropolitan Ministries collection center off Florida Avenue in Tampa.

Tampa Field Office Employees Renew Commitment to Mentoring



TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN, a private organization which helps children from low-income families achieve academic and personal excellence, is once again receiving volunteer assistance from five Tampa Field Office employees. The program represents a partnership between Take Stock in Children, the Hillsborough Education Foundation and the Hillsborough County School District have partnered to provide this scholarship and mentor program for eligible students.

Tampa HUD employees provide individualized attention to students by being caring role models in local area schools. This second year of involvement by the Tampa Field Office allows each employee to spend several hours weekly with his/her student. Congratulations to both volunteers and students on another successful year of community involvement!



Free Web Clinic For HUD Partners in Florida

Event Date: Tuesday - March 16, 2004

Event Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 9:15 a.m.)

Description: HUD is offering great training opportunities to help you use the Internet to do your work. HUD's Departmental Web Managers teach these popular classes on how to design and manage a public service website that works. And the best part? They're FREE!

You'll get:

- Simple do's and don'ts about what to put on your web site
 - A step-by-step process for organizing your web site - including guidelines for making your web site accessible to people with disabilities
 - Low-cost/no-cost ideas for marketing your site
 - Tips on how to get technical support (including someone to do that computer work for you) *for free*
- But wait - there's more! We'll even throw in *free easy-to-use software* that you can use to build your site

Location: JOHN F. GERMANY LIBRARY (AUDITORIUM)
900 N. ASHLEY DR. TAMPA

This is the main (public) library in downtown Tampa. It is located in the northwest section of downtown Tampa near the Tampa Performing Arts Center and the Times Building.

How do I get there?

Public Transportation Contact Hillsborough Area Rapid Transit (HARTLINE) (813) 254-HART or www.hartline.org

Driving Downtown Tampa (Ashley Dr.) Exit 44 on Interstate 275. Parking is available for a reasonable fee (\$7.00) at City of Tampa's William Poe Parking garage, located just south of the library at Ashley Dr. and Cass St, or several privately-owned parking lots in the area.

Lunch: Bring your own or dine at a nearby restaurant.

Contact Name: Bill Kalbas

Contact email: William_J._Kalbas@hud.gov

Register Now! Space is limited. Seating on a first come basis Please use form on next page.

For more information, please call: 813-228-2026 Ext. 2112

Additional information on the web available at:

<http://www.hud.gov/library/bookshelf15/webclinics/index.cfm>



**Web Clinic for HUD Partners
REGISTRATION FORM**
(Please print and use one per person)

**Tuesday
March 16, 2004**

**JOHN F. GERMANY LIBRARY (AUDITORIUM)
900 N. ASHLEY DRIVE
TAMPA**

Event Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Registration begins at 9:15 a.m.)

**FAX or E-Mail YOUR RESPONSE TO THE HUD TAMPA FIELD OFFICE
by March 6, 2004**

fax 813.228.2431
e-mail : William_J._Kalbas@HUD.GOV

NAME: _____

TITLE:

ORGANIZATION:

**MAILING
ADDRESS:** _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

PHONE: (____) ____-____ **FAX:** (____) ____-____

E-MAIL: _____

QUESTIONS? (813) 228-2026 ext. 2112



FREE 2-DAY

GRANT WRITING TRAINING!!



LEARN THE ART AND SCIENCE OF GRANT WRITING FROM TRAINED HUD STAFF

You will receive personal instruction from key HUD staff on how to become more competitive for federal grant funds, securing a 501c3 designation, and the organizational structure necessary to secure government funds. This training will prepare you to apply for public funds, as well as corporate, and foundation funding.

Workshop Topics Include:

GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING TECHNIQUES	HOW TO ACCESS GOVERNMENT FUNDS
HUD PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO NONPROFITS	HUD COMMON FACTORS FOR AWARD
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF GRANT WRITING	WORKING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING	PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

And Most Importantly,

Participants will review a successful HUD Grant Application!

Who should attend: Faith- and Community-based organizations' staffs, including proposal writers, planners, board members, clergy and lay people.

February 25 and 26, 2004
Must be available for both days
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
(Brown Bag Working Lunch)

WITHOUT WALLS, AUDITORIUM
Without Walls International Drive - Tampa, FL 33607

SPACE IS LIMITED - REGISTER TODAY!

*For additional information call Fred Washington
(813) 228-2026, ext. 2119*

GRANT WRITING REGISTRATION FORM

"The Art and Science of Grant Writing" - RSVP by fax: 813.228.2431; by phone: 813.228.2026, ext. 2119; or electronically to janet_diaz@hud.gov .

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization _____

Phone: _____ Ext. _____ Fax: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____ E-Mail: _____

I need a reasonable accommodation: _____

Directions:

To view your map, click on this link or cut and paste this link into your browser's location bar. <http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?email=1&mapdat>

U.S. Department of Housing
And Urban Development
Timberlake Federal Building
500 E Zack Street, Suite 402
Tampa, FL 33602