

**A Message from Mercedes Márquez,
Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development to All Formula Grantees**

I am pleased to announce that the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 allocations for the Office of Community Planning and Development's (CPD's) formula programs have been posted on HUD's website at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/about/budget/budget10/>. The CPD formula programs provide funding for housing, community and economic development activities, and assistance for low- and moderate-income persons and special populations across the country. FY 2010 funding for these programs was included in Public Law 111-117, signed by President Obama on December 16, 2009.

I would like to highlight two important matters for this funding cycle. First, the Department urges grantees to consider the needs of returning veterans and their families in the design and administration of these formula programs. Our fellow Americans have served our nation on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan and countless other places around the globe. Many veterans are returning to our communities with wounds and injuries that may make it difficult for them to find housing or support themselves and/or their families. I ask that you consider their sacrifice and ensure that these men and women receive every appropriate consideration in the use of these funds at the local level.

Second, it is important that HUD have complete performance measurement data for its formula grant programs to report to Congress, the Office of Management and Budget, and the public at large. Grantees must report outcome indicators for all open activities in the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS) to assess their performance toward achieving their objectives and outcomes in their Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report.

We have a challenging journey ahead, but I believe with your help we can successfully meet those challenges. I look forward to working with you. If you or any member of your staff has questions, please contact your local CPD office director.