

Using CDBG Funds for Building Improvements

November 10, 1987

Ms. Violet E. Miller
First Vice-President
Jeffersonville Senior Citizens, Inc.
Post office Box 283
Jeffersonville, New York 12748

Dear Ms. Miller:

On August 19, 1987, you wrote to Secretary Pierce about a plan to construct a wall in the building occupied by the town hall and the senior center which would separate these two uses. The building was constructed using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to pay for a portion of the cost. Since the CDBG program is administered by my office, your letter was referred for a response.

Sullivan County, which is responsible for the use of the funds, provided money to help construct a portion of the building, which was to be used as a senior center. CDBG funds can be used to provide space for senior citizen activities, but not for general government activities.

It was apparent to HUD staff who monitored the project that the combined space in the building was being used by both the town hall and the center. I can understand how you believe this arrangement poses no problem locally, but the infringement of the town hall on space that was provided using CDBG funds is prohibited by Federal regulations governing the CDBG program.

Any solution which will assure that the senior center will occupy a designated and discrete area within the building and allow only eligible uses to occupy the space would be acceptable. The County's planned solution to the problem is to build a permanent wall separating the town hall's space from the senior center.

If your or the town officials can suggest a better solution you should contact the County of the New York Regional Office of HUD which is located at 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York 10278. The Regional Director of Community Planning and Development is Ms. Joan Dabelko. Her telephone number is (212) 264-2885. She or a member of her staff would be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

(signed)

Jack R. Stokvis
General Deputy
Assistant Secretary