

Choice Neighborhoods

monthly news about transforming housing, people, & neighborhoods

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HUD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Choice Neighborhoods Receives Record Funding Amount for FY22

President Biden signed the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) budget on March 15, 2022. For FY22, the Choice Neighborhoods program was appropriated \$350 million. This is the highest funding amount provided to the program since its first appropriation in FY10, and a \$150 million increase over the FY21 budget.

With this appropriation, HUD will issue FY22 Choice Neighborhoods Planning and Implementation Grant Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs). The Planning Grants NOFO will be issued this spring to provide funding to create a comprehensive neighborhood Transformation Plan. Of note, the FY22 budget authorizes up to \$10 million for Planning Grants – double the amount available in prior years. The Implementation Grants NOFO, which provides grants to fund activities within a comprehensive Transformation Plan, will be published later this year. The current award amount for an Implementation Grant is up to \$50 million, with up to 15 percent available for resident supportive services. The FY22 budget increases the amount available for supportive services to up to 20 percent of the total grant award.

This historic investment will enable housing authorities, cities, and partners to revitalize distressed neighborhoods, develop new mixed-income housing, and provide tailored supports to those living in HUD-assisted housing. For more information, visit www.hud.gov/cn. Future NOFOs will be posted on the Choice Neighborhoods website, with the full application package available on www.grants.gov upon publication.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Community Placemaking Grants.

U.S.-based nonprofits and government agencies can apply for funding, technical assistance, and capacity building to shape public spaces via this [solicitation](#) from Project for Public Spaces. Selected recipients will receive grants totaling \$40,000. Applications are due April 15, 2022, and recipients will be announced in June 2022.

Drug-Free Communities Support Program.

The Drug-Free Communities Support Program was designed to establish and strengthen collaboration to support the efforts of community coalitions working to prevent youth substance use. This [solicitation](#) from the U.S. Department of Health and

Human Services is open to independent school districts, city or township governments, nonprofits, and other organizations. An estimated \$31,250,000 is available for funding with an award ceiling of \$125,000; it is anticipated that approximately 50 awards will be made. The closing date for applications is April 11, 2022. The estimated award date is August 30, 2022.

Growth Opportunities.

The Growth Opportunities Program prepares justice-involved youth and young adults for the world of work through placement into paid work experiences.

This [solicitation](#) from the U.S. Department of Labor is open to special district governments, city or township governments, nonprofits, and other organizations. An estimated total of \$85,000,000 in program funding is available with an anticipated award ceiling of \$4,000,000 and an expected 22 awards. The closing date for applications is April 21, 2022.

EVENTS & TOOLS

Webinar on Preventing Pedestrian Deaths.

Tuesday April 12, 2022, at 1 p.m. EDT. Join this [webinar](#) to learn why many pedestrian deaths are avoidable and what communities can do to reframe the problem, make improvements, and help save lives.

Faircloth-to-Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Conversions.

View this [resource packet](#) and [fact sheet](#) to learn more about Faircloth-to-RAD conversions and how your agency can use this program to create new affordable housing units.

Webinar for Housing Counselors on Building an Eviction Diversion Program.

This HUD-sponsored [webinar](#) provides housing counselors with information, tools, and resources to build or refine an eviction diversion program and help residents attain housing stability.

Toolkit to Build Safe Main Streets.

This comprehensive [toolkit](#) from Main Street America and Project for Public Spaces provides guidance to 1) evaluate streets and transportation through the lens of placemaking, 2) balance the needs of mobility and other street activities, and 3) build stronger relationships with other decision-makers and the community.

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Moving from Engaging to Organizing With Arts and Culture Strategies.

This brief, third in a series of six published by PolicyLink, describes the changes, insights, and lessons learned that take place when arts and cultural strategies are employed in community development and planning activities.

Our Homes, Our Communities: How Housing Acquisition Strategies Can Create Affordable Housing, Stabilize Neighborhoods, and Prevent Displacement.

This report describes what an equitable housing acquisition strategy is, why they should be implemented, and what local capacity, policy, and financial tools are needed for successful implementation.

Housing and Health: Building Partnerships to Support Public Housing Residents.

The National Center for Health in Public Housing and the National Nurse-Led Care Consortium collaborated to create this case study to highlight successful partnerships established to improve the health of public housing residents.

Recruiting and Developing Leadership in Community Development: Key Ingredients for Success.

Prepared by NeighborWorks America, this report addresses equity issues that have arisen in the community development sector creating barriers to recruitment, retention, and leadership development, particularly for people of color and people from the communities in which NeighborWorks organizations and community development corporations are located.

Developing Two-Generation Approached in Communities.

This final report from the Urban Institute shares the successes of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Family-Centered Community Change initiative, which was designed to integrate two-generation strategies into existing place-based community initiatives in three neighborhoods with low economic resources.

The Case for Healthy Places: Improving Health Outcomes Through Placemaking.

This report on healthy placemaking initiatives, developed by Project for Public Space, provides evidence-based guidance, recommendations, and case studies in five key areas: social support and interaction, play and active recreation, green and natural environments, healthy food, and walking and biking.

GRANTEES IN THE NEWS

Choice Neighborhood Planning Grantee District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) Breaks Ground on New Affordable Housing.

DCHA announced in a recent [press release](#) that it broke ground on the first phase of the \$83 million Kenilworth Courts redevelopment project, which began approximately 10 years ago with a Choice Neighborhoods planning grant. This is DCHA's first RAD Faircloth project.

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