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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **FY19 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants Competition Finalists Identified**

HUD has identified five applicants as finalists to compete for FY19 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants. The finalists, selected from a pool of 25 applicants, will compete for individual grants of up to \$35 million. HUD anticipates announcing awards no later than April 2019. The finalists are: Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority / City of Cleveland, OH; Fort Worth Housing Solutions / City of Fort Worth, TX; Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles / City of Los Angeles, CA; Housing Authority of the City of Winston-Salem / City of Winston-Salem, NC; and Philadelphia Housing Authority / City of Philadelphia, PA.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Four FY2021 NEA Art Grant Opportunities Available**

The NEA has four different art grant programs available: The [Grants for Arts Projects](#) supports projects that celebrate creativity and cultural heritage. The [Challenge America](#) grant program supports projects that extend the arts to underserved populations. The [Research Awards](#) fund research that investigates the value and impact of the arts on American life. The [Our Town](#) program provides grants for creative placemaking. Eligible applicants for all of these funding opportunities include local, state, or tribal governments, nonprofits, and schools. Organizations can only apply for one grant, but may also apply for each research award. The funding opportunities range from \$10,000 to \$200,000. Application due dates – Research Awards: Mar. 30; Challenge America: April 9; Grants for Art Projects: Feb. 13 and July 9; and Our Town: TBD.

### **Grants for Innovative Teacher Preparation Programs Open**

The Early Educator Investment Collaborative has just published a [grant opportunity](#) for two year grants ranging from \$200,000 to \$5 million, with a total funding amount of \$10 million available. The grants are designed to support partnerships for the expansion of innovative teacher preparation programs in state/tribal nation early childhood education (ECE) systems. Eligible partnerships are either a lead applicant four-year institute of higher education that offers a bachelor's degree program for lead teachers and/or a state/territory/Tribal Nation. Letter of Intent applications are due March 2, 2020

## EVENTS AND TOOLS

## **EDA Launches Tool and Guidelines to Help Communities Attract Opportunity Zone Investments**

On January 14, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and Indiana University's Kelley School of Business [announced](#) the launch of the USA [Opportunity Zones tool](#). This new web-based tool combines map-based location information with economic and demographic data. In addition, EDA has updated its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies Content [Guidelines](#) which outline how communities can further promote the economic attractiveness of their region by emphasizing Opportunity Zones as key investment ready locations.

## **Urban Institute Debuts Opportunity Zone Community Impact Assessment Tool**

With support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Urban Institute (UI) developed the [Opportunity Zone Community Impact Assessment Tool](#) to assess the potential social impact of a local development project using evidence-based indicators. The tool is available for any stakeholder interested in the social impact of an eligible investment in an Opportunity Zone. Access to the tool and a companion user guide are available on the Urban Institute website. The user guide provides information about the tool, including how to interpret project scores, how UI derived the indicators, and where to find additional resources.

## **RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS**

### **Building Affordable and Integrated Housing for People Living with Disabilities**

This January, HUD published a [case study](#) featuring an affordable scattered-site housing development entitled Access Housing in Chicago. Due to the scattered-site model, Access Housing serves the needs of people living with physical and mental disabilities as well as the surrounding community. Access Housing residents live independently and are integrated into the general population, while use of the scattered sites helps target distressed or vacant properties for revitalization, helping to avert or reverse blight.

## **GRANTEES IN THE NEWS**

### **Woodhill Homes Cleveland Public Housing Stories – Past, Present, and Future**

Woodhill Homes is one of the oldest public housing developments in Cleveland and the nation. In 2018, the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority was awarded a Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant to reimagine Woodhill Homes and the neighborhood around it. Through 2020, ideastream's Justin Glanville is telling the [stories of the neighborhood and its people](#) — past, present and future.

### **Choice Neighborhood's Successes Highlighted in New Orleans**

The Times-Picayenne recently featured an [article](#) highlighting the successes of the Iberville neighborhood in New Orleans which received a \$30.5 Choice Implementation Grant in FY2010/11. The project leveraged approximately \$565 million in additional government and private funds for the area now referred to as the Bienville Basin.

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