



Choice Neighborhoods

e-news about transforming housing, people and neighborhoods

Issue 81 | May 2019

[Announcements](#) | [Funding Opportunities](#) | [Events and Tools](#)
[Research and Publications](#) | [Grantees in the News](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FY19 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants NOFA

HUD is making available up to \$5,000,000 for Planning Grants and Planning and Action Grants. Planning Grants are two-year grants that assist communities with severely distressed public or HUD-assisted housing in developing a successful neighborhood transformation plan with support for implementation. Planning and Action Grants are three and a half year planning grants that pair planning with action. Applications are due on Monday, June 10, 2019. The [Choice Neighborhoods program](#) NOFA and application package are available on grants.gov.

Choice Neighborhoods is Hiring

HUD has posted open [job positions](#) for Neighborhood and Community Investment Specialists in the Choice Neighborhoods Office. Positions are GS 11 – 13 and are open until May 16, 2019. Neighborhood and Community Investment Specialists will be responsible for managing Choice Neighborhoods grants in addition to other program tasks. Working in teams (each member with a particular expertise in housing, people or neighborhood) grant managers are responsible for coordinating directly with grantees, developers, human service providers, city officials and others to ensure the success of these neighborhood transformation initiatives.

HUD Strong Families Event Opportunities

The HUD Strong Families initiative is promoting the relationships between fathers, mothers, and children through family friendly events and programming during the months of May and June. PHAs are encouraged to host events that advance health, education, and economic empowerment with the support of community partners and sponsors. Register your community-oriented events [here](#) and find useful tools and resources on the Strong Families [webpage](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

HomeServe Cares Foundation Grant

The [HomeServe Cares Foundation](#) (HSCF) is awarding grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000 with additional funding available each quarter between April 2019 and March 2020. Target areas for HSCF funding include programs that support assistance towards utility and rent assistance, low-income income housing upgrades, park improvements,

and others. Nonprofits, municipalities, and other government agencies are eligible to apply. [Applications](#) are due by May 15, 2019.

Community Economic Development Grant Funds

The Administration for Children and Families will award approximately \$13.1 million in [Community Economic Development](#) (CED) discretionary grant funds to Community Development Corporations for innovative projects that enhance job creation and business development for low-income individuals. Successful CED projects will recruit individuals and ensure job placement for at least one year after the end of the grant period. **Two bonus points will be added to applications for projects serving Choice Neighborhoods and other select, place-based designations.** [Applications](#) are due by June 3, 2019.

Environmental Workforce Development & Job Training Program

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has announced a [new funding opportunity](#) for programs that recruit, train, and place local, unemployed, and under-employed residents with the skills needed to secure full-time employment in the environmental field. EPA anticipates awarding 20 proposals of up to \$200,000 each. Eligible applicants include local and state government entities, regional councils, and nonprofit organizations. Prospective applicants can download the PowerPoint from a previously recorded webinar [here](#) and view FAQs [here](#). Proposals are due June 10, 2019 on [grants.gov](#).

Comprehensive Community-based Adult Reentry Program

The Bureau of Justice Assistance is accepting applications to implement or expand on reentry programs that demonstrate strong partnerships with corrections, parole, probation, law enforcement, and other reentry service providers. Successful applicants will receive awards of up to \$1,000,000 each based on their specific [grant category](#). Eligible applicants are limited to nonprofit organizations with a documented history of providing comprehensive, evidence-based reentry services. All [applications](#) are due by June 11, 2019.

New Funding for Family Self-Sufficiency Programs

HUD's [Family Self-Sufficiency \(FSS\) program](#) is providing grants of up to \$1,000,000 to Public Housing Authorities to support the salaries and training needs of FSS Program Coordinators. FSS Coordinators develop local strategies that ensure HUD housing residents have greater access to financial education, literacy, empowerment, and coaching programs. The selection committee anticipates making 10-12 awards. [Applications](#) are due on June 13, 2019. Potential applicants may submit questions to fss@hud.gov.

Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is seeking applications for strategic planning and implementation of juvenile reentry projects that provide comprehensive reentry services before, during, and after a young person's release from confinement. Eligible applicants include local governments in partnership with interested service providers and nonprofit organizations. OJJDP estimates a maximum of 9 awards of \$750,000 each. Applicants should review the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) before applying. Potential applicants can register [here](#) for a solicitation webinar on May 20, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. ET. All [applications](#) are due by June 24, 2019.

Supportive Housing for the Elderly

HUD has issued a NOFA for \$50 million towards the [Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly](#) program. HUD expects to grant 30 awards ranging from \$50,000 to \$5 million to develop much-needed affordable housing for low-income elderly residents. Eligible applicants must be 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporations. [Applications](#) are due August 28, 2019 with award announcements by November 30, 2019. Please note Section 202 units cannot be considered replacement housing for the purposes of Choice Neighborhoods.

EVENTS AND TOOLS

Creative Placemaking Leadership Summits

[The National Consortium for Creative Placemaking](#) is hosting regional Creative Placemaking Leadership Summits through the end of 2019. [Upcoming summits](#) consist of seminars, workshops, coaching and networking opportunities to develop skills in the placemaking field catered to specific regions.

Design Matters Learning Platform

Enterprise Community Partners has launched the [Design Matters Toolkit](#), an affordable housing design learning platform and resource center sharing core practices of design leadership – mission, design, and impact. The toolkit trains stakeholders to create clear project visions, respond to cost constraints, and advocate for design decisions that meet the needs of affordable housing residents.

Anti-Sexual Harassment Campaign and Training

The [Call HUD: Because Sexual Harassment in Housing is Illegal](#) campaign aims to help protect tenants from sexual harassment by landlords, property managers and maintenance workers in HUD-assisted housing. HUD is offering sexual harassment prevention [training modules](#) to PHA residents, staff and other housing providers to help end discriminatory harassment in housing.

Arts and Culture Planning: A Toolkit for Communities

The American Planning Association Arts and Planning Interest Group has assembled a [toolkit](#) of resources to support communities and planners integrating arts, culture, and design into their planning efforts. *Arts and Culture Planning* provides step-by-step guidance for communities to: define the local meaning of “arts and culture”; identify, tally, and understand available resources; and assess the strengths, weaknesses, and gaps in the local arts landscape.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

New Rules for Opportunity Zones

The U.S. Department of Treasury has issued the [second round](#) of regulations on the Opportunity Zones tax incentive. The added guidance provides clarity on the treatment of gains on long-term investments, ownership and operation of the business, and what constitutes Qualified Opportunity Zone Business Property. The White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council will review proposals on different methodologies for assessing designated Opportunity Zones. [Comments](#) on the new regulations are due by June 16, 2019. Read the full document [here](#).

Cities Connecting Children to Nature

The [Cities Connecting Children to Nature \(CCCN\)](#) initiative promotes equitable access to nature for youth living in urban areas. The CCCN [Municipal Action Guide](#) shares strategies to engage municipal leaders in nature-rich cities, transform schoolyards into

green space, and launch campaigns to increase understanding and promote health and well-being through nature-based programming.

New Study on Community-Based Juvenile Justice Strategies

The [Promoting a New Direction for Youth Justice](#) report shares strategies to prevent and address harmful or illegal behavior by youth living in disenfranchised communities. The Urban Institute report includes case studies on localities that achieved lower youth incarceration rates and illustrates how state and federal funding streams can be paired with new tax and budget strategies, pay-for-success models, Opportunity Zones, and anchor institutions to address the needs of youth and families.

Lessons from Promise Neighborhoods and Related Education Initiatives

A recent Mathematica Policy Research [blog post](#) highlights lessons from several education place-based initiatives. The blog features a [report](#) on 5 Promise Neighborhood grantees – including how they designed and implemented their programs, the services they chose to offer, and their early successes and challenges – as well as case studies on [Detroit's efforts to strengthen informal early child care settings](#) and Harlem Children's Zone's [community-based health initiatives](#).

GRANTEES IN THE NEWS

A Diverse Community for Paseo Gateway

The Paseo Gateway neighborhood in Kansas, MO received [recent coverage](#) for bringing new housing and development to the historic northeast corridor. The result of a \$30 million Choice Neighborhoods grant and \$90 million in private donations and contracts, 300 new units will be available to community residents.

NC City Adopts Choice Neighborhoods' Community Initiative

A [local article](#) describes how Fayetteville, NC is adopting a community improvement training initiative used in the Choice Neighborhoods New Bern community. The Community Voices program in New Bern was the result of the Choice Neighborhoods planning grant and recruited citizens to engage in civic, social, and political processes, many of whom achieved new leadership roles in their communities following the program.

[Previous Newsletters](#)

[Subscribe](#)

[Choice Neighborhoods](#)

[Submit ideas for future Choice Neighborhoods newsletters.](#)