

Putting Plans into Action:

Survey Results from Past Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grantees

What are Planning Grants?

It takes time and resources to create a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plan and to build a committed coalition of neighborhood stakeholders. Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants support the development of communitydriven plans to revitalize severely distressed HUD-assisted housing, increase investment in the surrounding neighborhood, and increase opportunities for residents.

- 1 Of the 89 Planning Grants HUD has awarded to date, 22 have successfully competed for Implementation Grants.
- 2 Since 2013, approximately 75% of Implementation Grant awards have been made to past Planning Grantees.
- 3 Many past Planning Grantees who have not pursued or received an Implementation Grant nonetheless have turned key pieces of their plan into a reality.

What is Choice Neighborhoods?

HUD's Choice Neighborhoods program competitively awards Planning Grants and Implementation Grants. The program focuses on three core goals:

- 1 Housing: Replacing severely distressed public and HUD-assisted housing with vibrant mixed-income communities, including one-for-one replacement of the distressed public and HUD-assisted housing units.
- 2 **People:** Increasing employment, health, and education opportunities available to residents.
- 3 Neighborhood: Stimulating critical investments in economic development and other neighborhood assets that benefit long-time residents.

As a Result of the Planning Grant:

36% REDEVELOPED HUD-ASSISTED HOUSING.

Of those, **50%** did so without an implementation grant.



Of those who have not redeveloped housing,

75%

ARE SCHEDULED TO START REDEVELOPMENT.

81% OFFERED NEW RESIDENT SERVICES.

Of those, **56%** did so without an Implementation Grant.



73% SECURED ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR RESIDENT SERVICES.

74% COMPLETED NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENTS.

Of those, **60%** did so without an implementation grant.



42% SAW INCREASED PRIVATE INVESTMENT in the neighborhood.

HOUSING: Salisbury, NC.

As a result of the planning process, the Salisbury Housing Authority secured highly competitive 9% Low Income Housing Tax Credits and leveraged HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration to replace a deteriorating 72-unit public housing complex with 170 units of mixed-income housing, a \$21 million investment in the West End neighborhood.



92% WOULD RECOMMEND A PLANNING GRANT TO ANOTHER CITY OR COMMUNITY.

84%

would recommend a Planning Grant even if there was no chance of an Implementation Grant.



87% SAID THE CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS PLANNING GRANT IS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER PLANNING EFFORTS:

- More partners involved—and more intensively involved
- 2 Higher level of resident and community engagement
- **3** Longer planning period (2 years)

The planning process... provided a singular focus for organizing, elevated new voices, engaged the City in a community that had long felt forgotten, and called community partners to action.



100% BUILT NEW PARTNERSHIPS AND STRENGTHENED EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS AS A RESULT OF THE PLANNING GRANT with entities that include City departments, resident groups, school districts, and private foundations. It brought together a large cross section of residents and other stakeholders to talk about the vision and plan... This hadn't been done in such an intentional way before and allowed us to forge strong relationships that continue.



NEIGHBORHOOD: Spartanburg, SC.

When residents of Spartanburg's Northside neighborhood identified access to healthy food as a priority during the planning process, partners came together with the community to develop Harvest Park, a healthy food hub with a farmers' market, urban garden, café and fresh food store, and culinary training program.