

# Choice Neighborhoods

monthly news about transforming housing, people, & neighborhoods

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 2021 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

The NOFO was posted on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) on May 12, 2021. With this publication, HUD is making available up to \$5,000,000 for Planning Grants. Planning Grants are two-year grants of up to \$450,000 each that assist communities with severely distressed public or HUD-assisted housing in developing a successful neighborhood transformation plan and carrying out early action activities to build the support necessary for that plan to be successfully implemented. Applications are due on Tuesday, July 13, 2021. For more information about the Choice Neighborhoods program, please visit [www.hud.gov/cn](http://www.hud.gov/cn). Potential applicants may submit questions to [ChoiceNeighborhoods@hud.gov](mailto:ChoiceNeighborhoods@hud.gov).

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### National Endowment for the Arts, Our Town Grants

This is a [creative placemaking grants program](#) that supports projects that integrate arts, culture, and design. These projects require a partnership between a local government entity and nonprofit organization, one of which must be a cultural organization. Application deadline: August 5, 2021. Award ceiling/floor: \$150,000/\$25,000.

### National Endowment for the Arts Grants for Arts Projects 2

[Grants for Arts Projects](#) directly supports arts projects of many disciplines, including arts education, dance, design, literary arts, theater, visual arts, and more. The goal of the grants is to increase public engagement with, and access to, various forms of art across the nation. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities; it may be a part of an applicant's regular season or activities. Funding is only provided for organizations but may be for new or existing projects. Eligible applicants nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes with small, medium, or large budgets, and from rural to urban communities. Application deadline: July 8, 2021. Award ceiling/floor: \$150,000/\$10,000.

### Economic Development Administration: Research and Evaluation and National Technical Assistance Grants (RNTA), FY 2021-2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity

The Economic Development Administration offers strategic investments on a competitive merit basis to support economic development, foster job creation, and attract private investment in economically distressed areas of the United States. This funding opportunity uses a two stage application process with a “concept proposal” required prior to a request to submit a “full application.” For the Concept Proposal, applicants may use the optional template. Application deadline: accepted on an ongoing basis. Expected number of awards: 15. Total program funding: n/a. Award ceiling/floor: \$1,500,000/\$1.

## **National Infrastructure Investments, Department of Transportation**

RAISE Transportation program discretionary grants are to be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that will have a significant local or regional impact, specifically capital investments in surface transportation. Application deadline: July 12, 2021. Expected number of awards: n/a. Total program funding: \$1,000,000,000. Award ceiling/floor: \$25,000,000/varies on type of grantee.

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## **EVENTS & TOOLS**

### **Eviction Prevention (resource and recorded webinar)**

HUD has shared an Eviction Prevention and Stability Toolkit as a resource. With the federal eviction moratorium set to end June 30, HUD is committed to keeping vulnerable communities housed. The Office of Field Policy and Management (FPM), together with the Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH), the National Low Income Housing Coalition and the Housing Initiative at Penn, hosted a webinar to discuss rental resources available to vulnerable individuals and families. A recording of the event, slides and the featured resources will be uploaded in the coming days to the HUD Exchange website.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Community Corps for Youth and Adults**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has launched a campaign to enroll individuals and organizations in a COVID-19 Community Corps to encourage COVID-19 vaccinations. Students ages 16 and older are especially invited to participate. Those who join will receive fact sheets on vaccination, biweekly calls sharing best practice ideas, and social media content to encourage friends, family, and neighbors to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Anyone interested can sign up here.

### **Improving Vaccine Access for HUD-Assisted Residents (recorded webinar)**

“Hot Shots for PHAs: Ridesharing is Caring!” is intended to help Public Housing Authorities, community-based organizations, and others to understand how they can work with the National Center for Mobility Management, Uber, and Lyft in their communities to improve vaccine access for HUD-assisted residents.

### **PHA- Led Vaccine Efforts**

This CLPHA webpage compiles examples of what PHAs are doing to increase vaccination rates among public housing residents, including on-site clinics, resident health ambassadors, in-home visits, and more.

## **Job-to-Job Transition Tool**

Brookings developed a [Mobility jobs tool](#) that can help workers transitioning out of one job figure out what jobs/fields they might realistically transition into, including information about median wages and demand in the local area. Here's a [quick video](#) on how it works.

## **Partnerships for Affordable Housing (recorded webinar)**

Enterprise hosted a [panel discussion](#) with city leaders and HUD officials to discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on housing affordability. The focus was on efforts to stabilize households and ensure long-term recovery.

## **Perspective from the White House and Practitioners on Community Development, July 13 2-3:30 PM EST.**

A [discussion](#) of current federal programs and new proposed initiatives to address the health and economic well-being of low income families and communities. The first part of the event is a discussion between Robert Rubine and Brian Deese on the White House's economic policy agenda. The second part is a virtual interactive panel featuring on the ground practitioners.

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## **RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS**

### **Reentry Needs of People Leaving Prisons and Jails**

In a [letter](#) directed to HUD stakeholders, Secretary Fudge outlined several steps that will be taken to meet the housing needs of returning citizens.

### **Workforce Development Training for Young Adults that Integrates Equity**

Child Trends shares a [case study](#) about youth and young adult workforce development training that includes a racial and ethnic equity perspective.

### **State of the Cities 2021 Report**

The [State of the Cities 2021 report](#) from the National League of Cities examines the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on issues facing municipalities, including infrastructure, homelessness, affordable housing, and need for small business emergency assistance.

### **Moving to Work Retrospective**

HUD has published a series of reports about the Moving to Work program, highlighting the use of [project based-vouchers](#), [housing choice and economic outcomes](#), and [housing assistance in general](#).

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## **GRANTEES IN THE NEWS**



## Choice Neighborhoods Transformation in Newport News, Virginia

An [article](#) in the Daily Press covers the groundbreaking of the first phase of new construction on June 15 for 81 new units of affordable housing in the Marshall-Ridley neighborhood. The development is part of a \$19.7 million multi-phase Choice Neighborhoods transformation plan. It will include retail and public space improvements.

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