

Choice Neighborhoods

monthly news about transforming housing, people, & neighborhoods

Issue 99 | June 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAQs for PHAs: Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance Program

Treasury and HUD continue to work together to ensure that families participating in HUD-assisted programs are able to access Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) administered by local organizations. The Office of Public and Indian Housing recently posted [FAQ on ERAP and the Public Housing and the Housing Choice Voucher programs](#). Please continue to send questions to PIH-COVID@hud.gov.

HUD Awards \$160 million in Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants

On May 26, 2021 HUD [awarded](#) FY 2020 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants to cities and housing authorities in Camden, New Jersey; Cleveland, Ohio; Detroit, Michigan; Fort Myers, Florida; and Lewiston, Maine. These new grantees will transform a target neighborhood by redeveloping severely distressed HUD-assisted housing, providing comprehensive supportive services to residents, and implementing a variety of physical neighborhood improvements. Together these five communities are leveraging \$1.7 billion to magnify their impact in replacing 1,131 distressed public housing units with 2,700 new mixed-income housing units. [Learn more about these communities' transformation plans here.](#)

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

The NOFO was posted on 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. Potential applicants may submit questions to ChoiceNeighborhoods@hud.gov.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

HUD Lead and Healthy Homes Technical Studies Grant Program

[Grant funding](#) for studies to improve knowledge of housing-related health and safety hazards and to improve or develop new hazard assessment and control methods, with

a focus on lead and other key residential health and safety hazards. Application deadline: June 21. Expected number of awards: 13. Total program funding: \$7 million. Award ceiling/floor: \$1 million/\$300,000.

Improving Child Welfare Through Investing in Family

The Department of Health and Human Services will award (5) cooperative agreements to meaningfully engage parents, relatives, kin caregivers, youth, foster parents, and alumni of foster care who have lived foster care experience throughout the five-year project period. Application deadline: June 29. Expected number of awards: 5. Total program funding: \$2.5 million. Award ceiling/floor: \$500,000/\$400,000.

EVENTS & TOOLS

Federal Communication Commission's New Emergency Broadband Benefit Program Overview (recorded webinar)

Representatives from the Federal Communications Commission discussed the new Emergency Broadband Benefit Program funded by Congress to help low-income Americans cover up to \$50 towards the monthly costs of in-home broadband service during the pandemic. The benefit may also cover a one-time \$100 subsidy toward a computing device.

Services in HUD-Assisted Housing (recorded event)

HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research hosted a panel discussion on Services in HUD-Assisted Housing, including services offered through HUD's Family Self-Sufficiency and Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency programs.

National Institute for Children's Health Quarterly (NICHQ): Early Childhood Health Equity Initiatives (recorded webinar)

Presenters highlighted promising strategies to address critical issues such as sustainability, data use, state and local relationships, cross-sector partnerships, and the operationalization of health equity within the context of early childhood health equity initiatives.

Equity Atlas Data Dashboard

A new data dashboard provides regularly updated local data on the extent of rent debt and the characteristics of renters affected by it. Data is available at the national, county, and city levels.

Summary of COVID-19 Recovery Resources

The National League of Cities provides information on the most recent legislation about COVID-19 relief and resources.

Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program: Strategy for Targeting EHV's and Related Resources (recorded webinar)

Attendees learned how to have inclusive conversations about the most strategic ways to target vouchers, services funding, and other resources based on local needs.

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Learning Policy Institute: Summer Learning Opportunities

This [report](#) outlines ways summer learning programs can more effectively address post-pandemic education needs by taking a whole-child approach centered on strong staff-student relationships and socio-emotional learning.

Virginia Beach, Virginia: Seaside Harbor Apartments Foster Inclusiveness Inside and Out

Two organizations worked together to redevelop the [Seaside Harbor Apartments](#) as an affordable, accessible home for people with disabilities and lower-income households.

Housing Design That Advances Health

This [article](#) in ShelterForce presents principles for designing housing to promote good health.

Making Work-Based Learning Happen

A new [report](#) funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation explores how workforce development organizations build quality work-based learning opportunities for youth and young adults.

GRANTEES IN THE NEWS

How Arts and Culture Advance the Mission of the Seattle Housing Authority

An [article](#) in ShelterForce describes the role of arts and culture programs in the revitalization of Yesler Terrace, a Choice Neighborhoods grantee and public housing development.



Secretary Fudge Tours the Kansas City Choice Neighborhood

Last week, Secretary Fudge traveled to Kansas City, Missouri where she toured the Paseo Gateway Choice Neighborhood. HUD awarded the Housing Authority of Kansas City and the City of Kansas City, Missouri a \$30 million Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant in

2015. The Secretary saw new mixed-income housing, neighborhood improvements, and meet with residents.

Secretary Fudge also visited the future site of the Sam Rodgers Place Healthy Living Campus, the seventh and final phase of the grant, which will create 62 units of mixed-income housing, community health spaces dedicated to health and wellness, and a new park area.





Secretary Fudge Visits the Camden, New Jersey Choice Neighborhood

On June 2, Secretary Fudge traveled to Camden, New Jersey to announce a \$35 million Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant for the Cramer Hill neighborhood. The Secretary was joined by New Jersey U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez, U.S. Rep. Donald Norcross, and other city leaders. The grant will be used to redevelop severely distressed housing and spur comprehensive revitalization at Ablett Village, a nearly 80-year-old apartment complex in need of major upgrades. The money will be used to replace it with 350 new, energy-efficient units including nearly two dozen apartments set aside for low-income residents.

[Subscribe](#)



[Previous Newsletters](#)