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# Choice Neighborhoods

monthly news about transforming housing, people, & neighborhoods

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Issue 108 | March 2022

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## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **Community Services Block Grant Collaborative on Workforce and Economic Development**

This NOFO for a cooperative agreement with the Office of Community Services (OCS) is designed to highlight emerging employment practices and strengthen approaches for helping individuals find jobs in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The assistance is to fund implementation and piloting of various workforce and economic development strategies. The work requires a close working partnership with OCS . Estimated post date: March 21, 2022. Estimated total funding: \$1,000,000. Award ceiling/floor: \$500,000.

### **PHA Radon Testing and Mitigation Funding**

The Radon Testing and Mitigation Demonstration for Public Housing grant program provides funds to PHAs to conduct testing and as-needed mitigation of radon in the units that they manage and where applicable to support the development of a plan for future radon testing and mitigation. Applications deadline: March 28, 2022. Estimated total funding: \$4,000,000.

### **Challenge America, National Endowment for the Arts**

Challenge America grants support small organizations for projects in all artistic disciplines that extend the reach of the arts to populations that are underserved. Project support will start after January 1, 2023. Grants awarded generally cover a period of up to two years.

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## EVENTS & TOOLS

### **Urban Land Institute Housing Opportunity Conference, March 8-9, 2022**

The [Housing Opportunity conference](#) is a meeting for the residential development, lending, investing, and policy community, and brings together a mix of private and nonprofit real estate developers, public officials, urban and regional planners, housing advocates, architects, investors, and lenders.

### **Broadband Programs Pre-NOFO Technical Assistance Webinar #1, March 9, 2022 - 2:30 PM**

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration is providing pre-NOFO technical assistance webinars which are designed to help prospective applicants understand NTIA's broadband grant programs and to assist applicants to prepare grant applications. This [webinar](#) will serve as a broadband technology and economics primer. Additional technical assistance [webinars](#) will be held from March-May 2022.

### **National League of Cities Conference, March 13, 2022**

The National League of Cities is offering both free and paid [sessions](#) covering cybersecurity, federal advocacy media training, managing federal grants, , leadership skills, and economic development.

### **Local Government ARPA Investment Tracker**

The [Local Government ARPA Investment Tracker](#) compiles information to offer a detailed picture of how large cities and counties (with populations of at least 250,000) are deploying the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund dollars. The tracker project is a partnership between Brookings Metro, the National Association of Counties, and the National League of Cities.

### **Omicron Response Webinar: Testing, Masks, Vaccines, and More**

This [webinar](#) covered: free at-home COVID-19 test kits, free N95 masks at pharmacies, and free life-saving COVID-19 vaccines. Special on-the-ground presentations featured affordable housing providers and health partners in Boston and Milwaukee.

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## RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

### **Rehabilitating Historic Houses Points Toward the Future in Muncie, Indiana**

HUD shares a [case study](#) about the city of Muncie, Indiana, which has benefited from university students and faculty working to restore the city's built legacy rather than remediating population loss and economic decline through demolition.

### **Eviction Prevention Strategies to Promote Housing Stability**

HUD presents a [summary](#) of a recent webinar where four speakers discussed measures that localities have taken to prevent evictions during the pandemic and how these changes can influence long-term housing policy.

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## GRANTEES IN THE NEWS

## Greater Dunbar Initiative Virtual Tour and Introduction—Anthem Award

The Greater Dunbar Initiative from the Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers received an Anthem Award for its virtual tour of the project, which is design to address the needs of residents in the 199-unit Southward Village public housing community. The virtual tour was utilized when applying for \$30 Million Choice Neighborhoods grant.

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