



HUDLines

HUD's Region III
e-News Brief



June/July 2019 - HUDLines, HUD's Region III e-News Brief provides you with a snapshot of what's new in the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development's Mid-Atlantic region. You'll find periodic updates on HUD activities in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. So, read on to find the latest stories, research and announcements on housing and community development initiatives throughout the region.

A Message from the Regional Administrator



It's All About Opportunities

June is National Homeownership Month, a time when we recognize the enduring value of owning a home. Each year this month provides all of us—HUD and our partners—with **the opportunity to rededicate ourselves to the ideal that every hardworking, credit-qualified American should get a fair chance at finding their own place in the "American Dream."** Because owning a home remains the primary way most people build wealth and create a legacy for their families. We all know

that homeownership is more than an investment; it's a commitment to place, a commitment to community, a commitment putting down roots. There's a reason they say, "There's no place like home."

To celebrate the kick-off of National Homeownership Month, I had the pleasure of joining HUD Secretary Ben Carson, District of Columbia Housing Authority Executive Director Tyrone Garrett and not one—but seven families—who through DCHA's Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership Program have found their "place" called home. What's unique about the Housing Choice Voucher homeownership program is that it allows families who are assisted under the Housing Choice Voucher Program to use their voucher to buy a home and receive monthly assistance in meeting homeownership expenses. But there is so much more. Folks in this program receive homeownership and housing counseling; guidance to help them be successful as first-time homebuyers and future homeowners. Just ask DCHA Board Commissioner Franselene St. Jean, pictured here with me. And trust me, if there is one thing our Secretary Ben Carson believes in—it's in providing opportunities for those we serve to become more self-sufficient.

Creating Opportunities for Communities

But we all know—we cannot simply wait for opportunities --we have to create them. For this reason, HUD has championed a tremendous new nationwide initiative: Opportunity Zones. **Few programs in modern American history have the potential to touch the lives of so many people as powerfully as Opportunity Zones**, which are now home to nearly 35 million Americans—including 2.4 million HUD-assisted individuals. That's roughly 10 percent of the country, deliberately targeted for revitalization.

The purpose of Opportunity Zones is to spur private investments into economically distressed communities through powerful tax incentives. But Opportunity Zones are also designed to serve local communities for the long-term. Only investors who commit capital for five, seven and ten years receive the benefits of this tax incentive. So, for neighborhoods, new growth becomes consistent growth, and new jobs become steady jobs.



To ensure Opportunity Zones reach their full potential, last December, President Trump established the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, appointing Secretary Carson as chair. The Revitalization Council consists of members across 16 federal agencies, charged with making better use of public funds in the revitalization of economically distressed communities.

Revitalization Council Executive Director Scott Turner was given a glimpse inside two efforts with great potential to strengthen Philadelphia's distressed neighborhoods during a visit earlier this month. Alongside HUD partners, elected officials and local leaders, Director Turner toured areas planned for redevelopment in Opportunity Zones within the West Philadelphia Promise Zone, where the city is working to align efforts to lift individuals and communities out of poverty. Prior to the Philadelphia visit, Director Turner toured with me in Opportunity Zones Bellefonte and Tamaqua, both in Eastern Pennsylvania.

It wasn't until that week when sitting in Tamaqua and West Philly stakeholder roundtables that I realized this incentive has even more potential than I originally thought. My message to communities is to not wait for investors to come to you. Go to them. Start an Opportunity Zone fund and develop a project or prospectus. Remake your communities the way you want them, using your own vision.



An Opportunity to Connect the Dots Between Health and Housing

"Health is much more than health care. Housing is health." With those words, U.S. Surgeon General Vice Admiral Jerome Adams captured the major focus of HUD's Mid-Atlantic Lead and Healthy Homes Summit last month in Baltimore where he discussed the interdependence of housing conditions and community health. The Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) and the Mid-Atlantic region teamed up to plan and

host the event, promoting the adoption of effective healthy housing practices and program models and more. Attendees tackled tough topics and issues in housing that risk the health and safety of children and families.

"All of our programs and initiatives end up local," said OLHCHH Director Matt Ammon, pointing out the 95 percent lead reduction in Baltimore City. "That's something to celebrate." He told attendees that "passion, persistence and partnerships" were key in moving toward progress. More than 100 of HUD's partners, as well as housing and health experts, turned out for the Summit that became the closer for our National Healthy Homes Month celebrations. Just in case you missed it, you can watch a [clip](#) of the Surgeon General's speech and see Summit [tweets](#) and [photos](#).

Speaking of opportunities, you may have noticed a more nationwide scope to my [@JoeDefeliceHUD](#) postings these past few months. In early June, I was appointed as Acting Assistant Deputy Secretary for the Office of Field Policy & Management overseeing the work and activities of all 65 HUD Regional and Field Offices. I can honestly say that it has been an honor to serve the agency in this capacity. It was great to work more closely with Secretary Carson and Acting Deputy Secretary Brian Montgomery and the principals at HUD Headquarters. It was also wonderful to have the opportunity to showcase the Mid-Atlantic Region's good work with each interaction. But I have to say, of the most value will be the relationship building among the other Regional Administrators and my colleagues. Not only do I have a better appreciation that we have all the oars in the water rowing in the same direction, we have some incredible best practices that when shared, will benefit the individuals and families we serve nationwide. So, I thank the Secretary for the opportunity.

And, now that I am back home and fully re-engaged in Region III, I acknowledge there is still much work to be done, and the work isn't easy—but nothing worth doing ever is. I am grateful for the support of HUD and our partners, and look forward to continuing to work for you, and alongside you, in the exciting months to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph J. DeFelice".

Joseph J. DeFelice, Esq.
Region III Regional Administrator

Top Tweets for July 2019

Joe DeFelice @JoeDeFeliceHUD Follow

Seven housing voucher recipients in D.C. became homeowners | Street Sense Media @marvinturner @hudmidatlantic



Seven housing voucher recipients in DC became homeowners | Street Sense ...
The new homeowners were personally congratulated by Ben Carson for successfully completing the D.C. Housing Authority's Home Ownership Assistance Program.
streetsensemedia.org

1:29 PM - 7 Jul 2019

HUD Mid-Atlantic @HUDMidAtlantic Follow

#HappeningNow: We are hosting #OpportunityZone roundtables at @PhilaTEC with White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council Director Scott Turner, talking community & economic development, #affordablehousing and more. #HUDR3 #WestPhilly



9:13 AM - 9 Jul 2019 from Philadelphia, PA

Top Tweets for June 2019

Joe DeFelice @JoeDeFeliceHUD Follow

Great day today @HousingShowcase lots of new exciting ideas to combat affordability as well as homeless from tiny homes, to 3D prints, to modular and manufactured. Great job @SecretaryCarson for bringing this exhibit to the Nation's Capital @HUDgov @HUDMidAtlantic #IHS2019



4:11 PM - 3 Jun 2019 from Bowie, MD

HUD Mid-Atlantic @HUDMidAtlantic Follow

We're putting the finishing touches on our #NHHM2019 summit. Honored to have the @Surgeon_General joining us. Looking forward to hearing his insights on health and housing. hhs.gov/about/leadersh ...

Partners, registration closes today. ow.ly/hw5o30oZyaN #HUDR3Summit



VADM Jerome M. Adams, M.D., M.P.H.
VADM Jerome M. Adams, M.D., M.P.H., is the U.S. Surgeon General.
hhs.gov

9:08 AM - 24 Jun 2019



In Newport News, Virginia
HUD Awards \$60 Million to Revitalize Neighborhoods in Newport News and Norfolk
 On May 13, HUD Secretary Ben Carson announced [\\$85 million in Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants](#) to redevelop severely distressed housing and to revitalize the surrounding communities. Two of the three grants were awarded in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Secretary Carson joined City of Newport News Mayor McKinley Price to announce the Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority and the City were awarded a \$30 million grant to revitalize the Marshall-Ridley neighborhood. City of Norfolk Mayor Kenny



In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
RAD in Philadelphia: In Service to Those Who Served and Sacrificed
 HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) is designed to preserve and improve affordable housing so that residents can live in stable, healthy and safe environments. While sometimes our work seems focused on making sure properties are improved, this series highlights the quality-of-life impact of RAD on residents. After all, the success of RAD isn't measured in dollars but in people. A [new photo essay](#) focuses on veterans housing preserved through RAD in Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) converted an abandoned, historic

Alexander was also on-hand as the City and the Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority were also awarded a \$30 million grant for St. Paul's Area. "I've visited Hampton Roads five times in the two years since I joined the agency and understand the importance of this area not only to the Mid-Atlantic region, but to the nation as a whole," said Joe DeFelice, Mid-Atlantic Regional Administrator.

Upcoming Events

On August 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., **HUD, the Cities of Norfolk and Newport News, the Newport News and Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authorities are hosting a HUD Section 3 Business Community Workshop** at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center in Newport News, Va. Businesses and business partnership organizations who want to learn the basics of the Section 3 program and how to gain access to HUD contracting and subcontracting opportunities. [Click here](#) to register.

Local Research

[HUD PD&R Regional Reports Region 3: Mid-Atlantic](#)

By Ben Houck | 1st Quarter 2019

The economic expansion in the Mid-Atlantic region that began in the second quarter of 2010 continued during the first quarter of 2019.

[HUD PD&R Housing Market Profiles Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania](#)

By Matthew Tieff | As of March 1, 2019

Known as the "City of Bridges," Pittsburgh boasts 446 bridges, even more than the number in Venice, and ranks fourth in the number of bridges among all major cities in the world.

[HUD PD&R Housing Market Profiles Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, D.C.-Virginia- Maryland-West Virginia](#)

By Benjamin Houck | As of March 1, 2019

The Washington area is the sixth most populous metropolitan area in the United States (U.S. Census Bureau) and is the fifth largest metropolitan-area economy in the nation, with a gross domestic product of nearly \$530 billion in 2017 (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis).

[Comprehensive Housing Market Analysis Calvert-Charles-Prince George's Maryland](#)

By Benjamin Houck | As of October 1, 2018

The economy of the Calvert-Charles-Prince George's area expanded from 2012 through 2017, with nonfarm payroll growth averaging 1.3 percent annually. Growth stalled, however, in the course of the past year, and payrolls declined by 1,800 jobs, or 0.4 percent, during the 12 months ending September 2018.

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We welcome your feedback and invite you to share your news with Lisa A. Wolfe at lisa.a.wolfe@hud.gov. If you know anyone who would like to receive HUDLines, please feel free to share. We safeguard and do not rent, sell or permit the use of our lists. To subscribe, visit [HUDLines](#). You may also [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

elementary school called Spring Garden into the Lural Lee Blevins Veterans Center. Working with the national non-profit HELP USA, PHA preserved 37 units of senior housing with a veteran preference, including 12 units that will be set aside for homeless and/or veterans with special needs. Through pictures and the residents' own words, you'll learn how RAD has had a positive impact on their community and their homes.



In College Park, Maryland HUD Announces New Foster Youth to Independence Initiative

On July 26, HUD Secretary Ben Carson announced a new initiative to target housing assistance to young people aging out of foster care and who are at extreme risk of experiencing homelessness. HUD's new Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative will offer housing vouchers to local public housing authorities to prevent or end homelessness among young adults under the age of 25 who are, or have recently left, the foster care system without a home to go to. The Secretary also shared the first in a series of Humans of HUD videos—a profile of Adaora Onoura who hails from College Park, Md. Adaora recently aged out of foster care and received a housing choice voucher to prevent her from becoming homeless. [See & hear her story.](#)

On Deadline

[Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program due August 9, 2019](#)

[FY 2018 Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program due August 28, 2019](#)

[Mainstream Voucher Program due September 5, 2019](#)

[Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program \(SHOP\) due September 10, 2019](#)

[FY 2019 Continuum of Care Program Competition due September 30, 2019](#)

[Jobs Plus Initiative due October 1, 2019](#)

[Specialized Housing and Services for Victims of Human Trafficking due October 30, 2019](#)

Quick Links

[The Federal Register: Housing and Urban Development Significant & Recently Published Documents](#)

[GRANTS.GOVSM Opportunities with the Department of Housing and Urban Development](#)

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