



HUDLines

HUD's Region III
e-News Brief



May 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 monthly 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

Looking Forward, Looking Back

On May 20, I officially celebrated my second anniversary with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. It has been an honor to represent HUD's Secretary Ben Carson as well as the agency, our many programs and most importantly, our amazing team.

Acknowledging that all of HUD's services are delivered in the field, I have prioritized meeting with elected officials and community partners throughout the Mid-Atlantic. I eclipsed my personal goal of visiting 50 percent of the counties in the region by the end of my first term. To date, I have toured in 160 counties. While this may seem an aggressive undertaking, I believe it is important for each Regional Administrator to champion HUD's good work in the field, and to provide the Secretary and HUD's leadership with that important perspective.

With respect to programmatic priorities, my vision is threefold: eradicate homelessness, eliminate blight and advance economic opportunities. Focusing on these three priorities enables me and my team to address the mission of HUD, and to focus on the most important facets of the agency's work in the District and states surrounding the nation's capital.

During my tenure, I have worked with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to reinvigorate the agency's involvement in the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness and have secured the continuing commitment of mayors and elected officials throughout Region III. Two of the three states to have effectively ended veteran homelessness are in the region, Virginia and Delaware. I had the pleasure of joining City of Pittsburgh (Pa.) Mayor Bill Peduto and Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald to announce the City and County had effectively ended veteran homelessness.



Today I celebrate 2 yrs @HUDgov it has been an honor repping @SecretaryCarson throughout @HUDMidAtlantic I have visited over 160 counties bc I believe our govt needs to a "bottom up" approach where the people relay to HQ what works best. None of it is possible w/o my team #HUDR3



Joe DeFelice @JoeDeFeliceHUD
9:52pm - 20 May 2019

The Mid-Atlantic is home to very old cities and housing stock having experienced the loss of manufacturing and jobs, as well as an overall decline in population. With decreased revenue and abandoned properties, it is difficult for once thriving cities to keep up with the level of blight they face. Traditionally, Community Development Block Grants have been used to eradicate blight, but there is more available funding that often goes

untapped. Last year, I developed a “blight package” for each state and the district which I distribute to local leaders. This enables HUD to act as a development consultant, as well as provide resources offered outside of traditional funding streams. Just know, there is already some great work underway in our region. I hope you’ll join me virtually for the [tour](#) I took with City of Danville (Va.) Manager Ken Larking.

One of the ways to advance economic opportunities is to promote Section 3, which is a means by which HUD fosters local economic development, neighborhood economic improvement and individual self-sufficiency. The legal basis for providing jobs for residents and awarding contracts to businesses in areas receiving certain types of HUD financial assistance, Section 3 has long been underutilized. In my travels, I have been raising awareness of how Section 3 can be used to economically empower individuals to become self-sufficient and to open future opportunities for those on waiting lists our housing authorities’ control. You’ll be seeing more on this effort in the very near future.

Providing opportunities for residents to gain self-sufficiency and creating public/private partnerships are both top priorities for HUD, especially when it comes to Secretary Ben Carson's signature initiative, the EnVision Centers. We have two centers operating in the Mid-Atlantic, one in the District of Columbia and a second in Philadelphia, Pa. We are already seeing benefits from both.

We are also dialing up work stemming from the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act that created new tax incentives for investments made in Opportunity Zones. Designed to spur economic development and job creation by encouraging long-term investment in designated low-income communities nationwide, Opportunity Zones are census tracts that state executives determined were most in need of private investment. With 776 OZs in our region, we can look forward to many future success stories among those living and working in these areas.

While we continue to champion our work in these three areas, I am excited that as we celebrate National Homeownership Month and National Healthy Homes Month in June, we will focus on several important new priorities—and host several “not to be missed” events. In addition to what is listed below, we are busy putting the final touches on our own Mid-Atlantic Lead and Healthy Homes Summit on June 27 & 28 in Baltimore, Md. We are teaming up with the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes to provide organizations that work at the nexus of health and housing a forum to discuss strategies for reducing the health impacts of housing defects. Sessions will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the first day, ending in the early afternoon on the 28th to make way for an exciting BUILD event. Interested in attending? Contact Edward.A.Thomas@hud.gov or call 215.861.7670.

So, stay tuned—there’s a lot more good work on the way.



Joseph J. DeFelice, Esq.
Region III Regional Administrator

Upcoming Events

On June 1-5, HUD invites you to the National Mall for the inaugural The Innovative Housing Showcase to engage with leaders and companies who are working to make housing more affordable for working families and resilient to natural disasters. This free five-day event, co-hosted with the National Association of Homebuilders, will feature discussions with housing industry leaders, and more than a dozen exhibitors displaying model homes and innovative building technologies that address affordability and resiliency. Visit hud.gov/innovative_housing.

In collaboration with us, HUD’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) will be presenting an interactive, virtual **Webinar on Thursday, June 6 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.** The Webinar will provide you with the “who, what, when, where, how and why” regarding these upcoming **Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for more than \$300 million to help address lead-based paint hazards and other health and safety hazards in PRE-1978, privately-owned housing.** Grant opportunities include the Lead Hazard Reduction, Healthy Homes Supplemental funding, Tribal Healthy Homes, and Healthy Homes in Disaster Recovery areas. In the 2019 NOFA you will find a revised, **shorter application process and longer grant periods of performance**—along with other changes designed to expedite the application and implementation processes. To register, please follow this link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register>

Do you know how the amendment in the **Lead Safe Housing Rule (LSHR)** affects your work as a public housing agency (PHA), grantee, or assisted housing owner? HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) is pleased to announce the **2019 Lead Safe Housing Rule Amendment Trainings are coming to Philadelphia on June 26.** These free 3-hour trainings help you review federal lead regulations and discuss the LSHR Amendment for pre-1978 housing. Presenters provide a step-by-step explanation of how to respond to cases of elevated blood lead levels in children less than 6 years old living in a federally assisted housing unit. The morning session from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. will be for HUD Funded Recipients Who Administer Tenant-Based Rental Assistance. The afternoon session from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. If you have questions as to which session is best for you, please contact us at trainings@hudexchange.info.

Twitter Top Tweets & Facebook Posts

And last, but certainly not least, if you want to just be "in the know" about everything that is going on in our region, follow us on Twitter [@HUDMidAtlantic](https://twitter.com/HUDMidAtlantic) and [@JoeDeFeliceHUD](https://twitter.com/JoeDeFeliceHUD). We also have the agency's only regional Facebook page, so check out [@HUDMidAtlantic](https://www.facebook.com/HUDMidAtlantic).

@HUDMidAtlantic Top Tweet for May

HUD Mid-Atlantic [@HUDMidAtlantic](https://twitter.com/HUDMidAtlantic) · May 16

#ICYMI: [@NNMayorPriceDDS](https://twitter.com/NNMayorPriceDDS) and [@KennyAlexander](https://twitter.com/KennyAlexander) were awarded #ChoiceGrant funding this week to revitalize their neighborhoods. [@CityofNN](https://twitter.com/CityofNN) [@NorfolkVA](https://twitter.com/NorfolkVA) [@NRHANorfolk](https://twitter.com/NRHANorfolk) #HUDR3

More: ow.ly/faQD50uffT7 ow.ly/OzvT50uffVW

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Congratulations to Mayors Price and Alexander. This \$60 million in grants will benefit many residents throughout Hampton Roads. I look forward to seeing great things in the Marshall-Ridley neighborhood and St. Paul's Area.
-@JoeDeFeliceHUD

#ChoiceGrant
#HUDR3

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@JoeDeFeliceHUD Top Tweet for May

Joe DeFelice [@JoeDeFeliceHUD](https://twitter.com/JoeDeFeliceHUD) · May 23

Joining my [@HUDgov](https://twitter.com/HUDgov) colleagues in [@HUDPacific](https://twitter.com/HUDPacific) w [@CityofSanDiego](https://twitter.com/CityofSanDiego) Mayor [@Kevin_Faulconer](https://twitter.com/Kevin_Faulconer) talking #OpportunityZones & #Homelessness and his city's approach to addressing the issues that face large American cities

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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.

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