



To our Region III partners:

I hope you are holding up okay. These have been trying times, and sometimes work takes a back seat to life. Nevertheless, folks throughout the Mid-Atlantic are counting on all of us to persevere. **I have been so pleased with how our team and partners have been navigating this changing environment—responding to the needs of those we serve.** For all you are doing, thank you.

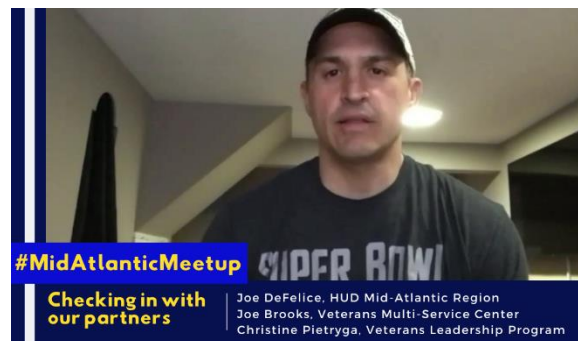
As many of you know, I pride myself on getting around the region and trumpeting HUD's good work in the field. Unfortunately, due to the current pandemic, travel has been rendered impossible. **But we are doing our best in virtually visiting with you.** I have spoken with many of you on calls with our program directors, with the Continuums of Care and our entitlement partners in Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. I've conferenced with the housing authority directors in Delaware and Pennsylvania. We have hosted more than a dozen calls with partners throughout the region working the issues important to us—FHA mortgages, fair housing, ending homelessness and more.

If there is one positive thing to come out of this crisis, it is that it has made us more flexible in how to do our jobs.

#MidAtlanticMeetup

As we continue to serve during this challenging time, **we created #MidAtlanticMeetup to regularly connect with our local partners** across the region to see how things are going for them. We kicked things off with [a virtual meeting](#) with Joe Brooks, Executive Director of the Veterans Multi-Service Center in Philadelphia, and Christine Pietryga, Chief Operating Officer of the Veterans Leadership Program in

Pittsburgh. **Both organizations are doing great work to aid our veterans.**



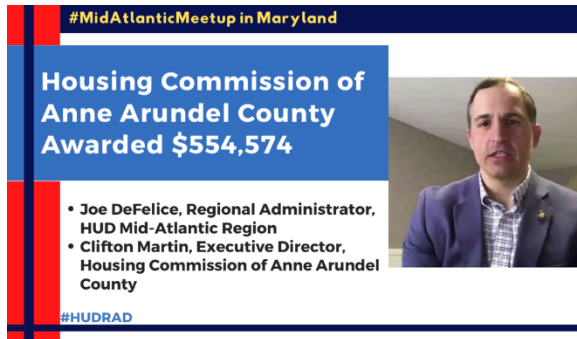
From Pennsylvania to Delaware, the next stop in our [virtual travels](#) was Wilmington to meet with a company called **Second Chances Farm that employs and trains returning citizens in hydroponic, indoor, vertical farming.** We spoke with the founder and managing director, Ajit Mathew George, and learned he is now thriving after changing his business model to survive the devastating impact of COVID-19. His company is in an Opportunity Zone.

This week, we [traveled virtually](#) to the City of Newport News, Virginia to meet with Mayor McKinley Price, Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority Executive Director Karen Wilds and Hampton Roads Community Action Program Chief Operating Officer Kevin Otey. **They are working day and night to help the city's most vulnerable citizens through daily outreach, uplifting programs and around-the-clock service.** The city's Lift and Connect

EnVision Center is a strong resource in the community, connecting families to employment opportunities, supporting those experiencing homelessness and much more.

Special Funding Presentations

The Norfolk Redevelopment & Housing Authority in Virginia and the Allentown Housing Authority in Pennsylvania are the latest agencies to receive funding aimed at preventing youth homelessness in the Mid-Atlantic region. Watch our [virtual announcement](#) of **housing assistance awarded through HUD's Foster Youth to Independence initiative**.



We [virtually announced](#) the **Housing Commission of Anne Arundel County has been awarded more than \$500,000 in tenant protection vouchers** to ensure public housing residents have a safe, affordable place to live. The funding is supporting a Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) project underway at Meade Village in Severn, Maryland, that's completely rehabilitating the property to

bring new housing and amenities to families. A \$22.5 million FHA-insured loan is primarily financing the project.

HUD Mid-Atlantic has a new Deputy Regional Administrator!

I made this announcement this week in a [special video message](#) to staff. Having worked for many years at HUD in a variety of roles, Jane Miller is no stranger to the agency. She most recently served as HUD's field office director in Pittsburgh, Pa. Please join me in wishing her well as she assumes her new position!



And, last but not least, I also recorded an impromptu [video message to you](#), our partners, about how we are holding up and how we are here to help. As we move forward together, I hope you will continue to follow my travels and our outreach on Twitter [@JoeDeFeliceHUD](#) and [@HUDMidAtlantic](#) and on our Facebook [@HUDMidAtlantic](#).

Please know that your work you are doing in response to COVID-19 is not going unnoticed. **I look forward to the time when we can be together again, and I can thank each one of you personally. We will get through this difficult time together.**

Stay safe, stay sane and be well.

Joe DeFelice, Region III Regional Administrator
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Region III Recap, April 17, 2020

Region III Recap & HUDLines, HUD's Region III e-News Brief

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 our new Region III Recap or our quarterly 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.

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