



To our Region III partners:

Today we announced the second wave of CARES Act funding. So, in this week's **Region III Recap**, you'll hear about the latest grants that will directly assist residents living in public housing. But first, I'd like to take a moment to commend all of our partners throughout the Mid-Atlantic who are working each and every day to overcome the challenges presented by COVID-19.

Leading by example, I'd like to thank Virginia Governor Ralph Northam and City of Richmond Mayor Levar Stoney for adding **free testing for residents living in Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority communities, including Creighton, Gilpin and Hillside Courts.** Their goal is to learn how prevalent the coronavirus is in under-resourced communities.

Early on in Delaware, Governor John Carney, Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA) Director Anas Ben Addi and New Castle County Executive Matt Meyer announced a **program to provide emergency housing assistance to renters affected by shutdowns, closures, layoffs, reduced work hours, or unpaid leave due to the COVID-19 health crisis.** The Delaware Housing Assistance Program, administered by DSHA, provides eligible households up to \$1,500 in assistance, with payments made directly to the property owner or utility company.

It's that type of innovative thinking that will help all of us get through this challenging time.

Second Wave of Relief Funds On the Way

Today, I had the pleasure of [virtually announcing](#) that HUD will allocate **\$93.5 million in COVID-19 relief funding to help low-income residents living in public housing.** The funding, made available by the CARES Act legislation President Trump signed into law on March 27, 2020, will be awarded to Public Housing Authorities across the nation, including 154

agencies throughout the Mid-Atlantic. The new realities are seriously impacting low-income residents, which is why we eliminated the red tape to make funds available more quickly. We heavily promote self-sufficiency and breaking generational poverty as we tour the region, aiding these housing authorities in this time of need, will allow them to keep key programs in place that help residents achieve financial independence.



#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. This week's [virtual meeting](#) took us to Maryland's Baltimore City to discuss public housing, revitalization efforts and public-private partnerships. Executive Director Janet Abrahams of the Housing Authority of Baltimore City and Baltimore Field Office Director Carol Payne joined me for the discussion.



Joe DeFelice, HUD Regional Administrator
Carol Payne, HUD Baltimore Field Office Director
Janet Abrahams, Executive Director, Housing Authority of Baltimore City



University of Maryland Design Team is Four for Four

Once again, it's great to congratulate the team of graduate students from the University of Maryland's School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. This is the fourth time they have entered HUD's Innovation in Affordable Housing Student Design and Planning Competition and the fourth time they have brought home an award. This year, they won \$10,000 as the runner-up after winning the competition in 2019 and 2018

and placing second in 2016. Four for four. We are very proud of these future designers and planners. From left to right, they are Sam Bohmfalk, Shayne Piltz, Andrew Walker, Margaret Curran and Tochi Ohakawa. Check out the [press release](#) for details.

A Good News Story from Philly

I'd like to take this opportunity to share a little good news story about a colleague in the Philadelphia Regional Office. Lisa Ross, who supports our Office of Regional Counsel, has been making masks for health care staff. After creating masks for her family and neighbors, one of Lisa's cousins who is a nurse at an elder care facility, asked for her help when none of the staff at her facility had any masks. Lisa set to work, up many late nights, to make a supply of masks for the facility's staff. To date, she has made over 130 masks and 30 mask extenders! At one point, when Lisa ran out of elastic and couldn't get a replacement order for a week, her neighbors began providing anything that contained elastic so that Lisa could keep sewing. When masks became mandatory in Pennsylvania, Lisa made 20 masks in one day to donate to her local American Legion chapter to make sure veterans in her community are protected. Many thanks to Lisa for her great work on behalf of others. Check out some of Lisa's handiwork—I know which one I'd be proud to wear!



As we move forward together, I hope you will continue to follow my travels and our outreach on Twitter [@JoeDeFeliceHUD](#) and [@HUDMidAtlantic](#), on our Facebook [@HUDMidAtlantic](#) and now, on our new [HUD MidAtlantic Region \(Region III\) YouTube Playlist!](#)

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe", with a large loop at the end.

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