



To our Region III partners:

This is what a group photo looks like during these days of social distancing.

Though six feet apart at all times, this week I had the pleasure of joining HUD Secretary Ben Carson and Region IV Regional Administrator Denise Cleveland-Leggett for an important meeting with the Lowe's leadership team in Charlotte, North Carolina.



Since late last year, we have been exploring a potential public-private partnership with Lowe's in Baltimore, Maryland, with our Baltimore Field Office Director Carol Payne helping to lead the initiative. We are working closely with the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development, University of Maryland-Bio Park, Southwest Partnership, Green and Healthy Homes Initiative and a coalition of neighborhood associations and anchor institutions in Southwest Baltimore.



What began as a dialogue about building a community park and renovating blighted housing has morphed into a rich discussion of how HUD and Lowe's can support a bottom-up approach to helping neighborhoods in Opportunity Zones throughout Charm City.

At this week's meeting we discussed how Lowe's training programs in plumbing, floor installation and more can prep potential workers for Section 3 projects. We are looking for additional ways we can support education and training programs through HUD's EnVision Centers and how we may be able to create a pilot program in Baltimore that can be replicated elsewhere. It's exciting. Many thanks to Lowe's for hosting this week's meeting. In the photo above, Lowe's Vice President of Government Relations Reginald Henderson shares a few mementos with Secretary Carson.

Today's Mid-Atlantic Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Webinar

It's been a great week for the Foster Youth to Independence – FYI – initiative in Region III. FYI provides housing assistance and supportive services to young people with a child welfare history who are at-risk-of or experiencing homelessness.



Today, nearly 200 attendees joined me, Ruthie White from the National Center for Housing and Child Welfare (who served as our host) and two of the Mid-Atlantic's early adopters of this initiative, Chesapeake and Portsmouth, both in Virginia in sharing their insights and experiences in starting FYI programs during a [regionwide webinar](#). I'd like to also thank my counterpart Region IX Regional Administrator Chris Patterson who also serves as HUD's lead for the FYI initiative and Adaora Onoura, a former foster care youth, for sharing their personal journeys and for being advocates for this important initiative. Since we launched

FYI last year, HUD has helped to house 677 youth who aged out of the foster care system and were at risk of being homeless.

In this week's latest round of FYI announcements, the Allegheny County Housing Authority in Pittsburgh, Pa., is the most recent agency to be awarded FYI funding in the region. Since the initiative launched last summer, nearly \$560,000 supporting a total of 69 vouchers for former foster youth has been awarded to public housing authorities in Pennsylvania and Virginia, with more to come.

Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative Funding
Helping former foster youth find stable housing

Pennsylvania
Allegheny County Housing Authority, \$24,205
Allentown Housing Authority, \$15,590
Housing Authority of Beaver County, \$10,118

Virginia
Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority, \$234,771
Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority, \$96,895
Norfolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority, \$84,685
Portsmouth Redevelopment and Housing Authority, \$113,170

\$560,000
69 vouchers



Celebrating National Homeownership Month with New Homeowner Chatiqua Keys-Carr

Painting the front porch was one of the first projects **Housing Authority of the City of Erie Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) graduate Chatiqua Keyes-Carr** took on when she and her two children moved into their first home in May, thanks to her hard work in the John E. Horan Garden Apartments (JEHGA) Home Ownership Course. "For years my daughter would ask me, 'Mom, can we get a house?' I'd tell her, 'It's coming, just not right now.' I realized that if this little girl kept talking about getting a house, then I need to work hard to get that house." Owning a home has changed their lives, both now and in the future. "Owning a home means stability. It's a strong foundation for me and my family."

IN THE NEWS: Neighbors Helping Neighbors

As communities combat the coronavirus outbreak, **HUD has been highlighting stories of communities coming together to help their neighbors in need.** Here are a few of this week's local stories.

The **Philadelphia Housing Authority** is giving away more than 22,000 cloth masks to all public housing residents, thanks to the generous donations from Council President Darrell Clark, Councilwoman Cindy Bass, Councilman Kenyatta Johnson and the Philadelphia 76ers. This event, featured on [CBS 3 Philadelphia](#) kicked off at Sharswood Tower, one of PHA's senior residences located in North Philadelphia. The masks are critical to protect against COVID-19 and are a necessity for seniors and those living in congregate settings. Photograph courtesy of the Philadelphia Housing Authority.





According to the [Daily News-Record](#), the **Harrisonburg Redevelopment and Housing Authority in Virginia (HRHA)** kicked off its 100 Families campaign to secure housing for 100 tenants in 100 days last week. With \$98,000 in funding through federal CARES Act, HRHA hopes to secure stable housing

for families in Harrisonburg and Rockingham County by September 30. HRHA Executive Director Michael Wong said the program averages 10 to 12 families each month, so the 100-family goal is a high one, but he is hopeful the additional funding from the CARES Act in addition to new incentives for landlords, will bring more affordable housing options to the market. The news article featured Charles, a volunteer at Our Community Place, working on the Harrisonburg garden. Charles is homeless and awaiting affordable housing. Photograph courtesy Our Community Place.

I hope you will continue to follow my travels and our outreach on Twitter [@JoeDeFeliceHUD](#) and [@HUDMidAtlantic](#), on our Facebook page [@HUDMidAtlantic](#) and now, on our new [HUD Mid-Atlantic YouTube Playlist](#)!

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, June 26, 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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