



Choice Neighborhoods e-Newsletter

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Date – Trauma-Informed Community Building Webinar on Wednesday, September 3rd from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm EST

Through a partnership with the residents of one of San Francisco's largest and most distressed public housing sites and the Health Equity Institute at San Francisco State University, BRIDGE Housing Corporation, a Choice Neighborhoods planning grantee, has developed a model for community building that acknowledges the ongoing stress and trauma that are pervasive in communities facing poverty, ongoing violence, isolation, and limited resources. BRIDGE's use of Trauma-Informed Community Building (TICB) aims to enhance residents' capacity for participation in the community change process, while promoting social cohesion, reinforcing community supports and resiliency, and counteracting negative aspects of community reaction to trauma. This webinar will present the TICB model and explain its key principles. Mark your calendar and keep an eye out for a more detailed invitation.

The 2014 Choice Neighborhoods Conference is Online!

On June 18th and 19th, 250 conference participants engaged with over 50 nationally recognized experts and fellow grantees around what it takes to tackle the root causes of crime in a community, support the role of schools in neighborhood revitalization, build community in a way that recognizes the impact of trauma, and work more effectively with local government leadership. The [conference program and videos are available online](#) as tools to spark dialogue and action among your stakeholders.

HUD-DOL Partnership Toolkit: *From the Ground Up: Creating Partnerships Between Public Housing Authorities and Workforce Investment Boards*

On Monday, July 14th, HUD and DOL released a joint publication featuring local examples of how partnerships between WIBs and PHAs can increase employment and create mutual benefit for both agencies. The Secretaries of HUD and Labor kicked-off the event with a very special message. [Click here](#) to download the toolkit and companion webinar recording.

Webinar Recording Available: Neighborhood Improvements in Boston's Choice Neighborhood

On Wednesday, July 16th, HUD hosted a webinar exploring the Boston Choice Neighborhoods grant team's Critical Community Improvements. Boston's story serves as a promising practice for communities seeking to prioritize strategic neighborhood improvements. [Click here](#) to watch the webinar anytime.

Webinar Recording Available: Career Pathways for Public Housing Residents

On Tuesday, June 17th, HUD held a webinar in partnership with the Department of Education to introduce adult education practitioners to the Resident Opportunity Self-Sufficiency and Family Self-Sufficiency programs, and to introduce housing practitioners to the resources available through the Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education, including the Literacy Information and Communication System (LINCS) website. To access the webinar, create an account with [LINCS](#).



RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

Attacking Blight to Reduce Crime

In Covington, KY, across the Ohio River from Cincinnati, boarded up homes and dilapidated apartment buildings are not just eyesores; they fuel crime. The same is true in cities around the country. More than 3,000 vacant or abandoned properties litter Covington – eyesores that threaten quality of life, sometimes harbor drug addicts or mischievous teens, and lower the value of neighboring well-cared-for homes. Fortunately, Covington is getting help. In April the city received a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice and the national arm of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation to attack blight together. The grant, which comes directly as training rather than cash, falls under the Department of Justice's Community-Oriented Policing and Problem Solving, or COPPS program and is expected to become a nationwide model. To read more about the work going on in Covington, KY, [click here](#).

Big Ideas for Small Business

Small businesses are an essential component of a strong local economy. Local leaders are in a unique position to be able to support and develop these businesses. Cities are working together to help the business owner acquire licenses and permits, and they are by providing the tools and resources needed to empower small businesses. The National League of Cities has assembled a toolkit that discusses strategies and offers guidance to create a system that supports small business growth. To read more about what strategies are highlighted in this report, [click here](#). Click on the [Big Ideas for Small Business Report](#) to download this report.

Please give us your feedback!

We work diligently to make this e-newsletter relevant to your work. Please submit Grantee feature articles, constructive feedback, story ideas, and funding announcements to: choicetaenewsletter@bctpartners.com.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

\$100 million in Affordable Care Act New Access Point Grant Funding to Expand Access to Primary Care through New Community Health Centers

The Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) has announced that \$100 million from the Affordable Care Act (ACA) New Access Point (NAP) Grant is now available to support an estimated 150 new health center sites across the country in 2015. The purpose of the NAP funding opportunity is to improve the health of the nation's underserved communities and vulnerable populations by increasing access to comprehensive, culturally competent, quality primary health care services. Organizations eligible to compete for NAP funds include public or nonprofit private entities, including tribal, faith-based, and community-based organizations. Applications may be submitted from new organizations or from existing grantees to expand their network of service delivery sites to serve new underserved populations. View the funding opportunity [here](#). Read the press release [here](#).

Grants and Technical Assistance Available for Cities to Expand Afterschool and Summer Meal Programs

The National League of City's Institute for Youth, Education and Families (YEF Institute) invites cities to apply for grant awards of up to \$50,000 to raise awareness of and increase participation in the federal Afterschool and Summer Meal Programs. Through the Cities Combating Hunger through Afterschool and Summer Meals (CHAMPS) initiative, mayors and other city officials can ensure that children in their communities have access to nutritious meals by promoting and supporting these vital federal nutrition programs.

The deadline for submitting proposals is August 15th, 2014. [Click here](#) to read more about the CHAMPS initiative and access the RFP.



NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

INITIATIVE CORNER

2014 Neighborhood Revitalization Conference

On July 24th and 25th, the Alliance for Children and Families and the Center for the Study of Social Policy hosted the 2014 Neighborhood Revitalization Conference in Washington, D.C. Choice Neighborhoods and the other Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative centerpiece programs – Promise Neighborhoods, the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation, and the Building Neighborhood Capacity Program – were well represented at the conference. Additionally, neighborhood and city representatives from the Los Angeles Promise Zone were featured in a plenary session entitled *The Promise of Promise Zones: Aligning Neighborhood, City, and Federal Revitalization Efforts*. Choice Neighborhoods planning grantee BRIDGE Housing Corporation presented on *Trauma-Informed Community Building*. HUD's very own Pamela Lawrence participated in a discussion on *Housing as a Platform for Community Change*. And HUD collaborated with federal partners to put on an interactive workshop about *Developing White House Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative Technical Assistance Tools*. [Click here](#) to view these and many other useful presentations.

Do you have a Technical Assistance (TA) Question, Request, or Suggestion?

Grantees with TA questions or requests, or a suggestion for an upcoming TA activity, are invited to submit them to BCT and HUD at hud.gov/choiceta.



RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

United States Postal Service Mail Carriers Are Also Collecting Crucial Housing Data

Besides delivering mail, the United States Postal Service (USPS) collects property data on virtually every address in the nation. Some of that information, such as vacancy data, is compiled by mail carriers on a parcel level to increase postal efficiencies, but the USPS also provides data to HUD. In 2004, the USPS provided HUD national address data in a format that still preserves the privacy of every address-holder in the nation. On a quarterly basis, USPS hands it over to

HUD—in the form of ZIP+4 Code-level data aggregated to the 2010 U.S. Census Tract level. Once the data is geocoded to the Census Tract level, HUD shares the data with non-profit and research organizations who apply for access. To read more about this partnership, click [here](#).

The Future of America's Public Housing Stock: Demolition by Neglect

The combination of federal funding to renovate and/or maintain existing affordable housing has been steadily declining since 2000, leaving much of the nation's public housing stock in need of repairs. Many of these repairs go well beyond being superficial and are threatening the future of public housing. In Washington D.C., there are 8,300 public housing units. Of that number, 1,800 have been rehabilitated recently and are good shape but the remaining units are in varying degrees of disrepair. What D.C. is facing is being echoed throughout the country. With the quality of the units in disarray and demand for units at a record high, housing authorities are facing quite a challenge. To read more from this article, [click here](#).