



# Choice Neighborhoods

## Announcements



### Choice Neighborhoods Grantee Conference

HUD hosted the Choice Neighborhoods Grantee Conference at L'Enfant Plaza Hotel in Washington, D.C. on November 28-29<sup>th</sup>. The goals of the conference were to facilitate peer networking and offer valuable informational sessions tailored to the specific needs of Choice Neighborhoods grantees. The conference included panels with Secretaries Donovan and Duncan and in-depth training sessions related to the areas of housing, people, neighborhood, and the fundamentals of large scale revitalization. Approximately 250 grantee representatives, HUD staff, and stakeholders attended. These participants heard from over 60 nationally-recognized experts and fellow grantees about how to structure successful mixed-finance deals, what it takes to promote safety in distressed communities, how an educational cradle to career continuum can be developed, what successful stakeholder engagement looks like, and a range of other critical topics. If you happened to miss the any of the panels, many of the materials and presentations will be posted [here](#) soon. In addition, most of the panels were videotaped and will be available online in the coming months.

### Choice Neighborhoods Technical Assistance and Webinar Series

Beginning in February, technical assistance will be available to all Choice Neighborhoods grantees through a series of webinars designed to provide relevant information on planning and executing comprehensive neighborhood transformation. Technical Assistance for Choice Neighborhoods is being coordinated through a joint effort between BCT Partners (BCT) and the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP). BCT and CSSP have extensive experience in the delivery of technical assistance for community development efforts, including HOPE VI and Promise Neighborhoods. The first webinar in the series will be in the afternoon (EST) Monday, February 4 and will provide an overview of the different kinds of technical assistance available and offer grantees an opportunity to give feedback on the specific issues and challenges they would like addressed during the series. Watch for an announcement with the specific time and other details.

### FY 2012 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grantees Announced

On December 13, Secretary Donovan announced the four Implementation Grant awards totaling approximately \$109 million for FY 2012. The Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant [press release](#) provides additional information and a link to the descriptions of each project. We would like to offer a hearty congratulations to the new grantees:

- Housing Authority of the City of Tampa
- San Antonio Housing Authority
- Housing Authority of the City of Seattle
- The Community Builders, Inc. (Cincinnati)

For more information on the other Implementation grantees [click here](#).

## **FY 2012 Promise Neighborhoods Grantees Announced**

Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced the 2012 Promise Neighborhood grant recipients on December 21, 2012. Promise Neighborhoods, Choice Neighborhoods, and the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program are the signature programs of the [White House Revitalization Initiative](#), which supports innovative and inclusive strategies that bring public and private partners together to help break the cycle of intergenerational poverty. The [press release](#) offers background information on Promise Neighborhoods as well as additional information on the 2012 winners. We would like to highlight the 2012 Promise Neighborhoods localities that also received Choice Neighborhood grant funds. The cities of Baltimore, MD; Boston, MA; Camden, NJ; Newark, NJ; San Francisco, CA; and Washington, DC are recipients of both Promise Neighborhoods and Choice Neighborhoods funds. Congratulations!

## **Funding Opportunities**

### **Corporation for National and Community Service**



The Corporation for National and Community Service has extended the application submission deadline for the 2013 AmeriCorps State and National Notice of Funding Opportunity to Wednesday, February 6, 2013 at 5 pm. Grantmaking for FY 2013 will focus in the following six areas: Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, and Veterans and Military Families. The level of funding will be subject to the availability of annual appropriations which have not yet been made. Award amounts will vary. For more information about this potential funding source, including a list of frequently asked questions, [click here](#).

### **Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency Service Coordinator**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development recently announced a grant opportunity for their Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Service Coordinators Program. This grant is for the provision of a Service Coordinator to coordinate supportive services and other activities designed to help Public and Indian Housing residents attain economic and housing self-sufficiency. Supportive services should enable participating families to increase earned income, reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance, make progress toward achieving economic independence and housing self-sufficiency or help improve living conditions. The application deadline is February 19, 2013. Choice Neighborhood grantees working with public housing authorities may find this resource particularly useful. The funding announcement, including the application package and additional information, can be found [here](#).

### **Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation**

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is seeking applications to plan, implement, and enhance place-based, community-oriented strategies to address neighborhood-level crime issues as a component of or a foundation to a broader neighborhood revitalization initiative. Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) resources are targeted specifically at persistently distressed neighborhoods with significant crime challenges in comparison to the overall jurisdiction. This funding may be useful for Choice Neighborhoods grantees with particularly high crime rates based on available local data. Applications are due on March 4<sup>th</sup>. For more information on the BCJI and the application process please [click here](#).

# Resources and Information



## Affordable Housing Strategies Conference Materials

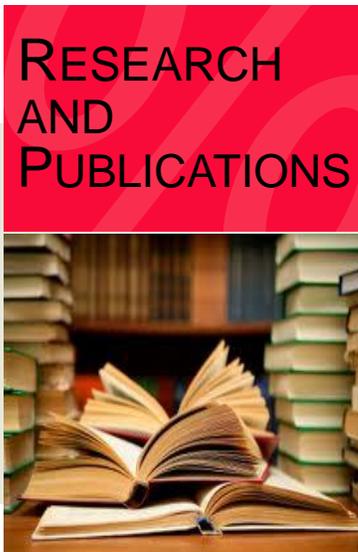
If you were unable to attend the Seventh Annual National Housing Symposium, “Strategies for the Future of Affordable Housing,” presented by Ballard Spahr, conference materials can be found [here](#).

## NeighborWorks Training Institute

NeighborWorks will be holding their next training institute in Atlanta, GA on February 18-22, 2013; scholarships are available. NeighborWorks aims to create opportunities for lower-income people to live in affordable homes in safe, sustainable neighborhoods that are healthy places for families to grow. The training offers a broad array of courses in areas such as: affordable housing, asset management, community economic development, community engagement, construction and production management, homeownership and community lending, and management and leadership. Additional information about the Training Institute, including registration information and more detailed course descriptions, can be found [here](#). To learn more about NeighborWorks, please [click here](#).

## Upcoming Smart Growth Conference

Those of you interested in learning more about Smart Growth approaches to community development should consider attending the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual New Partners Smart Growth Conference: Building Safe, Healthy, Equitable and Safe Communities. The conference takes place February 7-9, 2013 in Kansas City, MO and features a health track, an equitable development pre-conference workshop, and a set of special sessions and tours focusing on the mid-west. For a full conference agenda and registration information [click here](#).



## Implications of Residential Mobility

HUD’s Office of Policy Development recently published a symposium on titled Residential Mobility: Implications for Families and Communities. Some of themes discussed may be particularly relevant to grantees undertaking relocation efforts. The complete list of articles can be found [here](#)

## Benefits of Early Education

Nobel Prize W inning Economist James Hecknman recently released a statement on the benefits of investing in the early education of children in disadvantaged families. The quote can be found [here](#). Dr. Heckman’s research focuses on human capital and the economics of early childhood development. His [website](#) offers an abundance of research and materials that could assist grantees with an early learning component of their neighborhood plan.