



Choice Neighborhoods e-Newsletter

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Future Choice Neighborhoods NOFAs

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) anticipates releasing two Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Choice Neighborhoods. The FY2014 Planning Grant NOFA will be released early summer. HUD also anticipates releasing an FY2014 Implementation Grant NOFA in the fall of 2014. All funding announcements will be posted on www.grants.gov, with additional information at www.hud.gov/cn.

2014 Neighborhood Revitalization Conference: July 24 – 25 in Washington, D.C.

Co-hosted by the Alliance for Children and Families' Center for Engagement and Neighborhood Building and the Center for the Study of Social Policy, this conference will bring together government administrators, funders, and leaders of local initiatives to discuss what is working and what is changing in the fast-paced field of neighborhood revitalization.

The conference will feature speakers that are influencing efforts to integrate health, education, child welfare, housing, and other issues that affect communities. Participants will gain an understanding of how investments can catalyze and sustain neighborhood revitalization, as well as share best practices for developing the necessary capacity to create conditions for sustainable revitalization efforts. The conference will be held at the Capital Hilton in Washington, D.C. For more information, click [here](#).

2014 Father's Day Initiative

Father's Day is just weeks away, and it is HUD's goal to surpass last year's record 322 participants. Last year, 322 public housing authorities hosted a Father's Day event, consisting of fun games for children and informational materials for fathers. No event is too small or too big, and events can take place any time during the month of June. For more information or to verify participation, visit www.hud.gov/fathersday. If you are a PHA and interested in joining this initiative, please register today.



RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

Affordable Housing as a Platform to Overcome Nutritional Challenges

Good nutrition and decent affordable housing are components of personal health and educational achievement. Consequently, improving nutrition for residents in low-income housing should be a critical piece in increasing opportunity, but there are several barriers that low-income households face in maintaining a balanced diet. Funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the *Food at Home* report, details best practices and shares recommendations on how affordable housing providers can help improve the nutrition of their residents and provide access to healthy food. To read this report, click [here](#).

How a Group of Philanthropists Broke the Mold and Unlocked the Power of Collaboration

In 2010, during a series of neighborhood meetings in the Northside community of Spartanburg, S.C., a resident raised a provocative question: “If ice cream trucks can come into our community, why can’t produce trucks?” This question spoke to the residents’ desires to have healthier food options in a place that had limited access to fresh food. Within a few months, a mobile market was bringing fresh produce to Northside and three years later, construction was underway on the Northside Community Food Hub. To read more about this development, click [here](#).

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

ACF Announces \$27.4 Million in Funding for CDCs

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS) will award up to \$17.9 million in Community Economic Development (CED) discretionary grant funds to Community Development Corporations (CDCs) for well-planned, financially viable, and innovative projects to enhance job creation and business development for low-income individuals. CED grants will be made as part of a broader strategy to address objectives such as decreasing dependency on federal programs, chronic unemployment, and community deterioration in urban and rural areas. CED projects are expected to actively recruit low-income individuals to fill the positions created by CED-funded development activities, and to assist those individuals to successfully hold those jobs and ensure that the businesses and jobs created remain

viable for at least one year after the end of the grant period. OCS is encouraging projects that align with the Promise Zones Initiative or Choice Neighborhoods Program. For more information, [click here](#).

ACF has also announced the Office of Community Services will award up to \$9.5 million in CED discretionary grant funds to CDCs for community-based efforts to improve the economic and physical health of people in areas designated as food deserts. For more information, [click here](#).

Affordable Green Neighborhoods Grant Program

The U.S. Green Building Council is now accepting applications for the third round of the [Affordable Green Neighborhoods grant program](#). Thanks to expanded funding from the Bank of America Foundation, the [Affordable Green Neighborhoods grant program](#) is looking to extend awards to 14 projects pursuing LEED-ND certification, that also include a significant affordable housing component. This year's award package includes \$25,000 to support certification, an education package, registration for the Affordable Homes and Sustainable Communities Summit at Greenbuild 2014, and a subset of the grantees will receive in-person technical assistance. Details on the program and eligibility requirements are available [here](#). A webcast for interested applicants will be held on June 11th at 3pm ET, click [here](#) to register.

Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Grant Program and Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant Program

HUD's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control (OHHLHC) has introduced two new grant programs. The Lead-Based Paint Control Grant Program (LBPHC) and the Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration (LHRD) program have been created to assist Native American tribes, states, cities, and local governments in undertaking programs to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in eligible privately owned rental or owner-occupied housing. HUD is making approximately \$104 million available to 30 grantees. Of this amount, approximately \$47 million is available for the LBPHC Program and \$45 million for the LHRD Program. Applications must be received no later than June 27th at 11:59:59 p.m. EDT. For more information about these grant programs, click [here](#).



NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

INITIATIVE CORNER

Registration for the Promise Neighborhoods Conference: June 23 – 25, 2014 in Washington, D.C.

Registration for this year's Promise Neighborhoods Project Director & National Network meeting is now open. [Please share this link](#) with members of your team and check back periodically for information and updates. The registration deadline is **Monday, June 9**.

This meeting is designed to accelerate local results by strengthening your work with schools, families, and community residents. Sessions will be organized into five tracks: academic success, health and safety, community stability, family and community engagement, and program administration. Each team is invited to bring at least six individuals whose work reflects the meeting themes. If you are a current Promise Neighborhoods grantee, please consult your program officer as you make decisions about who will attend.

Any questions about the conference should be directed to Anand Sharma at anand.sharma@cssp.org.

Draft Second Round Promise Zone Application Materials Posted for Public Comment

A second round of Promise Zone designations is planned to open for solicitation in 2014. A minimum of five and up to fifteen designations will be made in this round. By the end of 2016, twenty Promise Zone designations are expected.

On April 17, 2014, HUD published a Notice in the Federal Register requesting public comment on the proposed selection process and criteria for the second round of the Promise Zone Initiative. The public comment period closes on Monday, June 16, 2014.

To provide written comments on the proposed selection process and criteria, please click [here](#). All written comments will be taken into account as the Second Round Application is finalized, so that the initiative can support other communities more effectively in future years. To learn more about the Promise Zone Initiative, please click [here](#).

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

Detroit Launches Website to Auction Homes to Residents, Not Developers

Since this past May, the Detroit Land Bank Authority has been auctioning off city-owned homes. The program's one stipulation is that anyone who buys one of these homes must move into it as an owner-occupant. The website www.buildingdetroit.org provides details on homes

that will be auctioned off with the goal of ensuring they serve as the building blocks for future neighborhoods. To read more about this initiative, click [here](#).

Local Mom Thankful for New Opportunities in Avondale

During an open house hosted by The Community Builders (TCB) in Cincinnati, Ohio, Nicole Officer, a long-time resident of Avondale, shared the positive impact that the Avondale Choice Neighborhoods Initiative is making on her neighborhood. Addressing an assembled group of neighbors, community leaders, and public officials, Officer spoke about growing up in Avondale when the neighborhood was a safer place, and then watching as it declined over the years due to disinvestment and poverty. Now TCB, the Avondale Comprehensive Development Corporation, and other Avondale Choice Neighborhoods partners are working to drive transformation in the neighborhood. To watch the video of Nicole Officer, please click [here](#).

Affordable Housing at Rhode Island Row in Washington, D.C.

The District of Columbia's population has risen 13 percent over the past decade, bringing both benefits and challenges to the city. A 2012 analysis by the DC Fiscal Policy Institute shows that the median rent for a one-bedroom apartment in the District increased by 50 percent from 2000 to 2010. Over the same period, the percentage of very low-income households paying more than 50 percent of their monthly income for housing increased from 6 percent to 31 percent. With affordable housing needs growing, the Rhode Island Row development in the Brentwood neighborhood of Washington, D.C. is providing location-efficient affordable housing for the District of Columbia's workforce. Read more about Rhode Island Row [here](#).