



Choice Neighborhoods

e-news about transforming housing, people and neighborhoods

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Share Choice Neighborhoods Marketing Materials on the CN Peer Exchange Group

Grantees recently have asked HUD for examples of creative and effective marketing tools that Choice Neighborhoods grantees are using to build community participation and neighborhood identity. Please [share your examples](#) on the Choice Neighborhoods Peer Exchange Group on LinkedIn. [Join now!](#)

Final Choice Neighborhoods Grantee Conference Materials Posted

All [presentations and materials](#) from the Choice Neighborhoods Grantee conference are now online. This would be a great time to take a look at your conference notes and remember the action steps that the conference inspired you to take. Put the conference into action!

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Funding for Innovative Play Spaces

KaBOOM! and a number of partners, including HUD and the National Endowment for the Arts, are launching the [Play Everywhere Challenge](#). The Challenge is a \$1 million, national competition to make cities more kid-friendly through playful design and innovations. The Challenge will accept submissions from anyone who has an idea for how to turn everyday life and unexpected places, such as sidewalks, bus stops, and vacant lots, into play spaces for kids, especially kids living in poverty. Applicants must [apply](#) by May 31, 2016.

Funding for Communities who have Faced Civil Unrest

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) at the Department of Health and Human Services is accepting applications for FY 2016 [Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma](#) (ReCAST) grants. ReCAST assists communities that have faced civil unrest through implementation of violence prevention and youth engagement programs, as well as links to trauma-informed behavioral health services. Eligible applicants include local municipalities in partnership with community-based organizations that have faced civil unrest within the past 24 months. SAMSHA anticipates awarding grants to 11

communities of up to \$1 million each. Applicants must apply at grants.gov by June 7, 2016.

Funding for New Health Care Service Delivery Sites

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) at the Department of Health and Human Services released a funding announcement for the Health Center Program New Access Points (NAP). NAP funding provides operational support for new access points, which are comprehensive primary health care service delivery sites. Eligible applicants include public and nonprofit organizations. HRSA anticipates funding approximately 75 sites with grants of up to \$650,000. HRSA has set up a [technical assistance website](#) with a recorded webinar, user guide, and other resources. Applicants must apply at grants.gov by June 17, 2016.

Funding for Street Outreach to Homeless and Runaway Youth

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at the Department of Health and Human Services is offering grants for the Street Outreach Program. Youth living on the streets are often at-risk of being sexually abused or exploited, and may have fled abusive homes. The Street Outreach Program supports street-based services to runaway, homeless, and street youth who have been subjected to, or are at risk of being subjected to, sexual abuse, or sexual exploitation. Eligible applicants include local governments, Public Housing Authorities, nonprofits, and others. ACF anticipates awarding 46 grants of up to \$200,000 each. Applicants must apply at grants.gov by July 5, 2016.

Promise Neighborhoods Implementation Grants

The application for the Promise Neighborhoods Implementation Grants is expected to be released soon. The Department of Education's Office of Innovation and Improvement has posted an [estimated release date](#) of May 16, 2016, but estimated dates may be subject to change. Grantees interested in applying may wish to sign up for an alert on grants.gov.

EVENTS AND TOOLS

Conference: Research and Evaluation Conference on Self-Sufficiency

On June 1-3, 2016, in Washington, DC, the Office of Planning, Research & Evaluation at the Department of Health and Human Services is hosting a [conference](#) for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers. The conference will discuss cutting-edge research on family self-sufficiency and social welfare programs and policies.

Conference: Assets Learning Conference

On September 28-30, 2016, in Washington, DC, the Corporation for Enterprise Development is hosting an [Assets Learning Conference](#). The conference will focus on programs, policies, and processes that can contribute to an individual's and family's financial well-being, and is open to service providers, researchers, policymakers, funders, financial institutions, and others.

Webinar: Encouraging Saving at Tax Time

This recorded [webinar](#) from the Self-Sufficiency Research Clearinghouse shares findings to help us understand what works to encourage low-income tax filers to save and invest part of

their tax refund.

Department of Labor Online Community of Practice

The Department of Labor has launched a new online community of practice, called [WorkforceGPS](#). To use this site, register for an account and click “Communities” from the menu to choose one or more communities. In addition to adult employment communities, the site houses several youth-related Communities of Practice and Collections, including:

- [Career Pathways](#) helps workforce development leaders, practitioners, and policymakers expand state and local career pathways efforts.
- [Reentry Employment Opportunities](#) offers new ideas and tools to support reentry.
- [YouthBuild Community of Practice](#) is a place where YouthBuild grantees can share and review documents, exchange ideas, read and comment on blogs, and more.
- [Youth CareerConnect](#) is a place where Youth CareerConnect grantees can find resources and share best practices.
- [Youth Connections](#) is an online learning destination for public workforce system staff and partners who serve youth.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Design Guidelines for Retail & Services in Affordable Housing Developments

The Design Trust for Public Space in partnership with the New York City Housing Preservation & Development recently released [Laying the Groundwork: Design Guidelines for Retail & Other Ground-Floor Uses in Affordable Housing Developments](#). While the guide was written with New York City in mind, many of these principles can apply to other communities and can strengthen the sustainability of retail and other ground-floor uses. The document provides practical, easy-to-follow guidelines for designing efficient, flexible ground-floor space that is functional for retailers, community, and cultural organizations; accessible and convenient for residents and neighbors; and cost-effective for developers.

Place-Based Initiatives and the Role of Federal Government

The Forum for Youth Investment recently released a report titled [Transforming Government, Transforming Communities](#). The report posits that the effectiveness of place-based initiatives depends not only on sound policies, but also on the abilities of federal staff who interface with participating sites. The first section of the report details the competencies place-based respondents, including Choice Neighborhoods grantees, identified as crucial for federal staff engaged in place-based work. The second section suggests ways these competencies can be developed, and the third section highlights broader conditions that effect place-based efforts.

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