trending topics >>>
Ideas for Articles!
If there are articles or topics you would like to see covered in our quarterly newsletter please send the articles/write-ups or your suggestions to Dan Huyck at daniel.j.huyck@hud.gov

Customer Service Guide
The Detroit Field Office published its first new Customer Service Guide in more than a decade.
The updated plan is available through SharePoint at the DFO resources or FPM pages.
It is also available for download through HUD@Work’s Regional Customer Service

HUD Rotational Assignment Program
In an effort to educate, train, and provide opportunities for HUD employees, HUD is continuing its Rotational Assignment Program (RAP). HUD encourages and fully supports the use of the RAP program as a means to enhance the work of the Department and an employee’s career. Open assignments are listed on the HUD LEARN Rotational Assignment Program SharePoint site.

in this issue >>>
⇒ Taylor NSP Partnerships
⇒ Westland NSP Partnerships
⇒ Kalamazoo NSP Partnerships
⇒ Homelessness Initiatives
⇒ Employee Spotlight
⇒ HUD Helps!
⇒ Final Thoughts

NSP is Coming to an End...
After 7+ years and more than $500,000,000 invested, the Neighborhood Stabilization Program is coming to an end and we now look back at how these grants impacted Michigan and the local communities.

The Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) consists of grant funds awarded over three rounds of funding following the housing crash of the late 2000’s. The stated purpose of the NSP grant was for the stabilization within communities that had suffered from high levels of home foreclosures and abandonment. The first round of funding (NSP-1) was established by Division B, Title III of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (HERA) on July 30, 2008. HERA provided grants to all states and selected local governments on a formula basis.

The second round of funding (NSP-2) was funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) on February 17, 2009, awarding funds states, local governments, nonprofits and a consortium of nonprofit entities, on a competitive basis. ARRA also authorized funding for national and local technical assistance providers to support NSP grantees.

On July 21, 2010, the third round of funding (NSP-3) was approved through the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act) awarding funds to all states and select local governments on a formula basis.

Over the next several years NSP awardees have developed and implemented programs that assisted communities during the economic downturn and helped families keep or purchase a home—a couple of which we highlight in this issue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>NSP-1 2009</th>
<th>NSP-2 2010</th>
<th>NSP-3 2011</th>
<th>Totals</th>
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The City of Taylor identified a need within its community. It identified the increasing number of veterans in need of housing and job training. To address this need the City worked with every level of Government while partnering with several public and private sector organizations and businesses.

Using the Neighborhood Stabilization Program as a foundation, Taylor built its Veteran Home Program through partnerships with several local businesses and non-profits such as The Home Depot Foundation, Helmets to Hardhats, The 313 Project, Schoolcraft Collage, Enchanted Makeover and others to change a veteran’s life completely.

Mr. Chris Holcomb is one example of how the Taylor Veteran Home Program and NSP has changed individual’s lives for the better. Chris served 5 years in the Marines, serving in Haiti and in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Following his discharge Chris struggled to find work and to house his wife and young daughter.

Utilizing NSP funds and its partnerships with The Home Depot Foundation and The 313 Project the City took a dilapidated home and completely rehabilitated it with new electrical, plumbing, heating, drywall, paint, fixtures, appliances, cabinetry, and much more to make it “move-in” ready.

Not stopping there, the City leveraged its partnerships with Helmets to Hard Hats to connect Chris with its building and construction program where he will ultimately become a certified carpenter. Helmets to Hard Hats donated all the necessary tools and equipment necessary for Chris to complete his training. Enchanted Makeover designed and furnished the interior of the newly remodeled home, providing personal touches throughout the home.

Finally the City partnered with Schoolcraft Community College to alleviate every parent’s worry by providing Chris’ daughter with a four-year scholarship that will undoubtedly open doors of opportunity that otherwise would have remained closed.

Overwhelmed with gratitude Chris said “It’s amazing to have the community you grew up in reach-out and help you, this is truly amazing! Thank you!” A video of Chris receiving his home is available on YouTube.

This is just one of the many examples throughout the State of Michigan where the Neighborhood Stabilization Program was utilized as a foundation to establishing partnerships to change the lives of Michigan residents.

A version of this story was originally published in the March 10, 2014 HUDdle blog.

Eligible Use A: Establish financing mechanisms for purchase and redevelopment of foreclosed upon homes and residential properties.
Eligible Use B: Purchase and rehabilitate homes and residential properties that have been abandoned or foreclosed upon.
Eligible Use C: Establish and operate land banks for homes and residential properties that have been foreclosed upon.
Eligible Use D: Demolish blighted structures.
Eligible Use E: Redevelop demolished or vacant properties.

NSP Eligible Uses

Eligible Use A: Establish financing mechanisms for purchase and redevelopment of foreclosed upon homes and residential properties.
Eligible Use B: Purchase and rehabilitate homes and residential properties that have been abandoned or foreclosed upon.
Eligible Use C: Establish and operate land banks for homes and residential properties that have been foreclosed upon.
Eligible Use D: Demolish blighted structures.
Eligible Use E: Redevelop demolished or vacant properties.

Program Income: Many programs and activities created program income that allowed the grants to continue past the expenditure deadlines.
The Norwayne (or “North Wayne”) Historic District is a residential subdivision originally built by the National Housing Agency to house World War II “Arsenal of Democracy” defense workers, including those working at the nearby Willow Run Bomber Plant. Most of the neighborhood was built by 1943 and finalized by 1947. The original neighborhood had 1189 residential buildings (1870 individual dwelling units) of which approximately 1100 still stand, management office, fire station, church, two elementary schools (Lincoln and Jefferson Barns), and several commercial properties.

After the war the Federal government sold the properties to individual residents with preference given to veterans starting in 1953. Over the years the home ownership has declined and many of the residences have deteriorated. Declining population led to both schools closing in 2008.

In response to the economic crisis of 2009, the City of Westland dedicated NSP dollars toward developing partnerships focused on revitalizing the Norwayne district. The funds were used to pay for rehabilitation of homes, replace sidewalks, develop a community garden, improve the community center, repurpose/demolish the closed schools. Community Development Block Grant funds were invested to demolish neighborhood blighted structures. Prior to initiating the demolitions, the City partnered with local first responders to use the blighted properties for disaster preparedness training and for various emergency rescue scenarios.

The City partnered with the Wayne County Family Center, First Step, and others to provide the rehabilitated homes to those families at risk for homelessness while partnering with the Westland Housing Commission to provide supportive services to those in need under HUD’s Family Self-Sufficiency program.

The City also established a partnership with Habitat for Humanity and the Wayne Westland Community School’s Building Trades Program to rehabilitate several homes. NSP has been instrumental in allowing the community and the WWCS Building Trades program to continue and has resulted in the restoration of numerous blighted homes throughout the community. The mutually beneficial partnership allows NSP to provide the materials and WWCS Building Trades to provide the labor. The partnership provides the students with an opportunity to learn valuable construction skills while benefiting the neighborhood.

Showing additional commitment to making Norwayne a choice community in which to live, the City repurposed one of the closed elementary schools, turning it into a Community Vitality Center that includes a gym, library, community learning center, butterfly garden, and houses the Norwayne Boxing Club.

Westland’s Community Development Director, Ms. Joanne Campbell states the efforts in Norwayne are paying off and could not have been done without NSP, the partnerships created under the program, and individual donations and commitment. She is excited to see the Jefferson Barns Community Vitality Center become a linchpin of revitalization for the community where “almost every week another group is calling to schedule a new class or activity.” Future development includes the building of two baseball diamonds and an outdoor basketball court.

The City of Westland received the 2016 National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) Award of Merit for its efforts in revitalizing the neighborhood and for its efforts in repurposing the Jefferson Barnes school.

“Activities in the Norwayne Neighborhood are a good example of Federal dollars supporting local neighborhoods and communities, not only by creating new homeownership opportunities but also by providing job opportunities for local small businesses”

-Mayor Wild
The former Southwestern Michigan Tuberculosis Sanitarium and Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital complex, located at the top of a hill in Kalamazoo’s Fairmount neighborhood, was shut down in 1990. It had sat vacant, vandalized, and a target for criminal activity in the community until NSP dollars were allocated toward the building site in 2011.

A partnership between Western Michigan University, the City, and the Kalamazoo County Land Bank were able to demolish the large blighted structure through NSP2 dollars allocated through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). The Land Bank convened community charrettes to gather public input, and along with the NSP2 funding, a team was formed in 2012 to begin construction on Prairie Gardens.

The 6-acre site was planned to become an attractive, mixed-income housing development for seniors 55 years and older, with accessible and energy efficient cottage-style duplexes. The development group—Byce Design Build—crafted a beautiful vision for the space that included walking trails, rain gardens, a bio-swale, and a community pavilion with exercise equipment and meeting space. By the end of 2012 Phase I of the was completed under budget with the building demolished and 14 completed units leased.

As time has passed a waiting list for the units grew, and in 2014 additional NSP2 dollars were allocated for “Phase II”. The site was completed and the 10 additional units fully leased up by February 2016.

NSP funding was critical to developing this affordable housing and stabilizing the neighborhood!
The Marketplace Development began as 20 parcels of vacant land located in the Edison neighborhood across the street from the city of Kalamazoo’s Farmer’s Market. The Edison neighborhood is CDBG eligible and also on the City’s hardest hit areas in terms of blight, vacancies, crime and lack of redevelopment. This privately owned land had been vacant for many years waiting for the right development opportunity. The opportunity provided by the Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding.

In 2009, the City was awarded NSP1 funds from the HUD statewide grant through the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) for acquisition and management of the land and subsequent building project. In 2010, MSHDA awarded additional NSP funding through NSP2 dollars. The City then entered into an NSP2 subgrant agreement with the Home Builders Association of Greater Kalamazoo and the Kalamazoo Land Bank Authority for up to $5,380,400 in construction financing and development costs for the vacant land. This agreement resulted in the construction and sale of 23 quality crafted homes.

Just as importantly, the construction provided much needed work for 91 contractors and 140 employees during a time when work in the construction and skilled trades was nearly non-existent. The project also provided training experience to five participants of the Project Home training program which provides ex-offenders an opportunity to gain employable skills in the building trades. Ten of the contractors were minority or women owned businesses.

**Amenities/Specifications: >>>**

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<th>Amenities</th>
<th>Specs:</th>
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<tr>
<td>♦ Full install of appliances</td>
<td>♦ Appraised Value ~$130,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦ Air conditioning</td>
<td>♦ 3 Bedroom/2.5 Bath</td>
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<tr>
<td>♦ Energy Efficient/Green Home upgrades</td>
<td>♦ 1600-1900 ft²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♦ Bonus room</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>♦ Barrier Free/Visitable accommodations</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**High End Work - Affordable Prices!**

**BEFORE**

**AFTER**

Four homes were featured in the 2011 Parade of Homes.
The former Kalamazoo Creamery property is a 1.4 acre site located on a major thoroughfare connecting Kalamazoo’s airport with its downtown. It’s located in the CDBG-eligible Edison neighborhood, which is a targeted area for redevelopment, as well as one of the hardest hit neighborhoods in Kalamazoo.

The sprawling, vacant industrial complex was blighted and deteriorating with each passing year. It was identified as a priority for demolition, which started in 2011. A community carette helped develop a vision for this site as a modern “live/work” mixed-use space. Demolition and site restoration were completed in 2012, including landscaping and the installation of a labyrinth feature and butterfly garden that would make this site an attractive green space in the interim. The Land Bank continues to seek private partners interested in redeveloping this site to complete the original mixed-use vision.

The initial NSP investment to remove the blighted structures and create the green space has led to several major developments recently taking place near the property, including the $5 million Marketplace investment, the expansion of the Kalamazoo Farmer’s Market, and the new KVCC Healthy Living Campus. Washington Square, just two blocks away on Portage Road, recently received a $1 million investment and has attracted a variety of new retail and residential tenants and has become one of the City’s focal points for the arts and cultural events.
Lead the Way Training

As of May 24th, 2016 464 representatives from 902 Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) have registered for the Lead the Way training, 32 of which are located in Michigan (see box to the right). Over the past year HUD has been receiving positive feedback from staff and board members regarding this training tool. It not only provides a wealth of great information, but also can serve as a springboard for greater discussions among Board members and perhaps help to shape a mutual understanding of roles and responsibilities as they relate to desired outcomes of an agency.

**Lead the Way** is a FREE resource offered by HUD to support PHAs. The online curriculum is designed for new or experienced PHA board members/commissioners and executive staff. **Lead the Way** can be utilized through self-paced online learning or instructor-led courses. And it is always at your fingertips by computer, tablet, or smartphone.

Please visit the HUD Exchange at www.hudexchange.info/programs/public-housing to create an account and access the **Lead the Way** curriculum.

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MI PHAs with Lead the Way

- Alma Housing Commission
- Baraga Housing Commission
- Bayne City Housing Commission
- Charlevoix Housing Commission
- Dearborn Housing Commission
- East Tawas Housing Commission
- Escanaba Housing Commission
- Ferndale Housing Commission
- Flint Housing Commission
- Grand Rapids Housing Commission
- Hamtramck Housing Commission
- Hillsdale Housing Commission
- Houghton Housing Commission
- Inkster Housing Commission
- Ionia Housing Commission
- Ishpeming Housing Commission
- Jackson Housing Commission
- L’Anse Housing Commission
- Lansing Housing Commission
- Mackinaw City Housing Comm.
- Melvindale Housing Comm.
- Montcalm Housing Comm.
- Muskegon Hts Housing Comm.
- Muskegon Housing Comm.
- Ontonagon Housing Comm.
- Port Huron Housing Comm.
- Rockwood Housing Comm.
- Rogers City Housing Comm.
- Sterling Hgts Housing Comm.
- St. Joseph Housing Comm.
- Taylor Housing Comm.

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Homelessness Continues to Decline:

Homelessness continues to decline in the U.S., specifically among families with children, veterans, and individuals with long-term disabling conditions according to the latest national estimate. HUD’s **2016 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report** to Congress found that 549,928 persons experienced homelessness on a single night in 2016, a decline of 14% since 2010, the year **Opening Doors** was launched.

Over the ensuing seven year period, HUD estimates the nation experienced a 23 percent reduction among homeless families, a 47% drop in veteran’s homelessness, and a 27% decline in individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. The national estimate is based upon data reported by approximately 3,000 cities and counties across the nation from their January point in time count.

To further encourage our Multifamily properties to institute a homeless preference at assisted sites, HUD has authorized the approval of a special add-on management fee. For more information on this incentive please see the **October 26, 2016 memo** from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for MF Programs.

More information on state and local-level homelessness is available on the **HUD Exchange**. Information on the upcoming 2017 Point in Time count is available online through the **HUD Exchange**—to include implementation tools, methodology guides and an assortment of other tools.

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Microsection

CoC Award Summary Reports and GIS Toolkit now posted on the HUD Exchange

HUD Continuum of Care Award Summary Reports provide snapshots of annual award data broken down by eligible program component types. The reports, which can be filtered to show a specific CoC’s or State’s program components, also display the amount and percentage of new and renewal projects. Additionally the FY 2015 award reports for each CoC include project level award information.

These reports are accessible from the **CoC Program Reports, Program Data, and Program Rents** page on the HUD Exchange.

For more information on Community Planning and Development allocations and awards please visit the **Allocations** and Awards page or use CPD’s **eGIS system** to drill down to the local level.

The **CoC GIS Toolkit** for communities is now available on the HUD Exchange. The Toolkit expands the mapping resources available to users by providing a no-cost downloadable software tool that allows users to interact with professional quality GIS maps.

The Toolkit includes data on CoC Boundaries, HUD Geocodes and Preliminary Pro Rata Need, Housing Inventory Count data, U.S. Census demographics, detailed street maps, and more. Toolkit capabilities include mapping and saving addresses and other custom locations and producing custom maps with annotations.
The Detroit Field Office welcomed several new hires over the past quarter, we welcome them all to the fold and look forward to working with them to improve housing opportunities throughout Michigan.

The first round of appreciation gifts have been made, to participate in the next round either submit your pledge form or go online to make a contribution.

Shannon Baltimore  Votive Holder & Holiday Napkins
Eric Golicz  Mug
Mark Sorbo  Holiday Napkins and Coasters
Carrie Fortune  Holiday Napkins and Coasters
Patrick Berry  Tim Horton’s Gift Card
Fern Clement  Holiday Candle
Susie Sapilewski  Holiday Ornament
Carmen Reveron  Holiday Kitchen Cloths
Richard Wears  Mug
Lidi Armenta  Tim Horton’s Gift Card
Martha Stallworth  Decorative Desk Boxes

The donation total as of December 5th is $7,600. Gift donations were contributed by all the division directors. To request a form to donate please contact one of the following individuals: Judy Nunley, Single Family, Housing Counseling; Cheryl Mathis, CPD; Jackie Fultz, Multifamily; Stephanie Carroll, Multifamily; Annie Ogletree, FPM; Lidi Armenta, PIH; or Larry Alcantar, FHEO.

On October 20 the HUD Field Office of Public Housing, Community Planning and Development, and Field and Policy Management divisions collaborated to bring together the Continuum of Care entities and the Public Housing Commissions of Southeastern Michigan to better and more effectively reduce homelessness in the region.

57 participants attended with the goal of strengthening relationships and partnerships, further understanding each entities roles, resources, and needs while identifying partnership and collaborative opportunities.

Presenters included Beverly Ebersold, USICH; Tasha Gray, HAND; Kelly Rose, MSHDA, Jennifer Hall, Ann Arbor PHA, and Lindsey Bishop-Gilmore, CSH.
On the 27th day of October, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Detroit Field Office participated in a Pink Out! to raise awareness and support those who have battled Breast Cancer.

The 2016 CFC campaign has kicked off. Remember it is very easy to donate online at http://www.cfcsemi.org. There will be drawings for prizes for all those who donate. In addition the CFC Committee is selling snacks and pop in the HUD Café.

In response to the Detroit Area homeless shelter’s stated need for warm winter clothing the Detroit Field Office held a clothing drive from September through the end of December. The 902 items—25 boxes!—of collected clothing was donated to local Detroit charities, such as Manna Meals, Neighborhood Service Organization, and Catholic Social Services of Wayne County. Based on the success of the drive, the generosity of the HUD staff, and the continued need among the homeless, the Field Office is considering restarting an expanded drive in the spring and if you wish to donate please contact Ms. Casey Hines on the 16th Floor. Items especially needed include:

- Socks, shoes, boots—all sizes
- T-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, backpacks/tote bags
- Pants, sweats, fleece, flannel
- Gloves, scarves, baseball or winter caps
- Blankets, sleeping bags, pillows
- Gently used small household appliances (toasters, coffee makers, etc.)
- Kitchenware (plates, silverware, dish cloths, wash cloths, towels)
- Cleaning items (brooms, mops, dust pans, waste baskets, etc.)

This year the Detroit Office had a very abbreviated time to complete its “Feds Feed Families” campaign. Usually, this event is held over an 8-week period, but this year the office was provided only 2-weeks to collect donations. Despite this shortened timeframe, the DFO collected a total of 2,612 pounds of food, more than any other Federal agency housed in the McNamara building. This generous donation was picked up by the Gleaners Food Bank and will provide food for many families throughout Southeastern Michigan.

As in the past, the office was divided into ten teams who selected their own names and captains. The winning team this year was Team Go-Getter, led by team captain Daniel Huyck and including the following members: Kelly Allen, Alicia Brown, Joe Cirincione, Steve Farina, Barbara Halley-Peterson, Latrice Lyons, Margaret Moman, Tony Otto, Lindsey Reames, Amanda Shaughnessy, and Cindy Vails. Together Team Go-Getter donated over 1,000 pounds of food!
HUD Notices Published During the 4th Quarter

PUBLIC HOUSING:
- PIH 2016-11 Set-Aside Funding Availability for Project-Based HUD-VASH Vouchers, July 1, 2016
- PIH 2016-12 Funding Availability for Tenant-Protection Vouchers for Certain At-Risk Households in Low-Vacancy Areas—FY16, August 18, 2016
- PIH 2016-17 (HA) Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Notice Regarding Fair Housing and Civil Rights Requirements and Relocation Requirements Applicable to RAD First Component—Public Housing Conversions, November 10, 2016
- PIH 2016-18 (HA) Guidance on Full Flexibility for Eligible Small PHAs, November 14, 2106
- PIH 2016-19 Public Housing Operating Subsidy Eligibility Calculations for Calendar Year (CY) 2017, November 29, 2016
- PIH 2016-20 2 CFR 200.311(c)(1) Disposition Instructions for the PHA Retention of Public Housing Real Property (that is no longer used or was never used for public housing dwelling purposes) Free from PH Use Restrictions, November 29, 2016
- PIH 2016-22(HA) Environmental Review Requirements for PHAs, December 5, 2016
- PIH 2016-23 Requirements for PHAs removing all public housing units and guidance on either the termination of the ACC or the continuation of the PH program, December 7, 2016

MULTIFAMILY HOUSING NOTICES:
- H 2016-07 Funding Availability for Tenant-Protection Vouchers for Certain At-Risk Households in Low-Vacancy Areas—FY16, August 18, 2016
- H 2016-08 Family Self-Sufficiency Program in Multifamily, August 26, 2016
- H 2016-09 Streamlining Administrative Regulations for Multifamily Housing Programs, October 3, 2016
- H 2016-10 Reminder of Requirements Pertaining to Lead-Based Paint Inspection and Disclosure Forms, and Notification of Upcoming Inspections, October 3, 2016
- H 2016-15 Processing Guidance for Previous Participation Reviews of Prospective Multifamily Housing and Healthcare Programs’ Participants, October 20, 2016
- H 2016-17 Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Notice Regarding Fair Housing and Civil Rights Requirements and Relocation Requirements Applicable to RAD First Component—Public Housing Conversions, November 10, 2016

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT NOTICES:
- CPD 16-060, Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program, August 4, 2016.
- CPD 16-14 Requirements for Housing Trust Fund Environmental Provisions, August 8, 2016
- CPD 16-15 Allocating Eligible Costs and Identifying HOME-Assisted Units in Multi-Unit HOME Rental and Homeownership Development Projects, August 25, 2016
- CPD 16-16 NRSEs in the CDBG Entitlement Program, September 21, 2016
- CPD 16-17 Implementation of the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act Changes to the HOPWA Program, November 1, 2106

Key Links/Events/
- 2017 Federal Benefits Guides are now available here.
- Info on 2015 OPM Cybersecurity incident is available here.
- HUD Resource Locator is now online at: https://resources.hud.gov/
- Community Assessment Reporting Tool is also online at: https://egis.hud.gov/CART

Lifecycle of CPD Grant
The OIG recently published a bulletin outlining how to document the life cycle of a CPD Grant. The purpose of the bulletin is to make grantees and subgrantees aware of the impact of insufficient documentation can have on their grant programs and offer guidance on how to avoid these findings through the life cycle of CPD Grants. The bulletin is available online through the HUD OIG website or by clicking here.