



REGION III HUDLINE NEWS

December 2011



n E-Briefs from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development n Region III (DE, DC, MD, PA, VA & WV) n
n (215) 656-0500 n Jane C.W. Vincent, Regional Administrator n www.hud.gov/pennsylvania n

A Message from the Regional Administrator

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate this season of giving, let's remember those who need assistance. Each of us does this in so many ways: filling shelves at food banks and pantries; providing winter coats and shoes for those who have none; perhaps dropping change in a Salvation Army kettle or contributing to a toy drive. At HUD, we continue to provide housing for those who are homeless and for veterans who've sacrificed so much, that we may enjoy freedom. We're using housing as a platform to improve health, provide supportive services and access to transportation, and help develop job and educational opportunities. Federal agencies have joined hands to work toward sustainable communities, to provide better health outcomes for those who live in high poverty areas, and to engage men and youth in ending violence against women. We're grateful for our partners on the front lines who help house and counsel families to stay in their homes, and who provide housing for people who are elderly and disabled. We're thankful for local and state governments that help deliver HUD funds to organizations that rehabilitate abandoned homes, create jobs and stabilize neighborhoods. We applaud community and faith-based organizations that advocate for affordable housing and shelter those who are homeless. For us at HUD, the greatest gift is a helping hand to those who are most vulnerable during all seasons. We can truly demonstrate that it really is better to give than to receive in the stories we share in this edition of the Region III HUDLine News. May the joy of giving be yours during this holiday season!



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Focus on Fair Housing

HUD has launched the Section 3 Business Registry pilot program in five cities, including Washington, DC. Section 3 requires that HUD grantees, to the greatest extent possible, provide job training, employment, and contract opportunities for low- or very-low income residents in connection with projects and activities in their neighborhoods. This promotes self-sufficiency for low-income persons, fosters the creation of small businesses, and helps build strong local economies. For the data received so far, 2010 HUD investments led to 38,000 new jobs- of which 47% were Section 3 hires. Almost 4000 Section 3 business concerns received \$475 million in contracts. HUD's Section 3 Business Registry will offer a searchable online database that housing authorities, local government agencies, and contractors can use to identify firms that have self-certified their status as Section 3 businesses and that hire low-income individuals. For more information, [click here](#)



Follow HUD happenings between newsletters through social media – search @HUDMidAtlantic on Twitter or join the HUD group on Facebook!



HUD's Mission: To create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities with quality, affordable housing for all.

HUD'S NEWEST NEWS...

President Obama has signed HUD's Fiscal Year 2012 budget into law, providing funding through September 30, 2012. According to Secretary Donovan, HUD's "final budget protects the vulnerable American families currently assisted by our rental assistance and public housing programs. Our budget also shows a commitment to the critical CDBG programs that will help states and localities continue to navigate these difficult economic times." He further notes that "several of our key initiatives that help needy families and struggling communities will be reduced." Secretary Donovan assures HUD's partners that we are closely examining the effects the approved budget will have on HUD's partners and programs, and are committed to maintaining the strength of HUD's mission to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities with quality, affordable housing for all. Look for the January issue of the Region III HUDLine News for a more complete analysis of the 2012 budget.

DON'T BE SORRY - BE READY

Old Man Winter paid an early visit to many Region III communities at the end of October with snow accumulation and cold temperatures. FEMA and the National Weather Service remind everyone that *Winter Preparedness Week, Dec. 4-10*, is a great opportunity to make a plan for handling severe winter weather. Snow and ice storms can cause lengthy power outages, life-threatening low temperatures and dangerous road conditions. Injury and death from hypothermia, heart attack, stroke and traffic crashes are all too common during the winter season. Start emergency planning with a free family plan worksheet and an online fill-in version at Ready.gov/Winter.

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack selected recipients in 50 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for grants to make critical repairs and improve housing conditions for low- and very-low-income rural residents. Region III housing organizations will receive \$842,000. [Read more about the USDA Rural Development Housing Preservation grant awards here.](#)

More than 4,800 very low-income senior citizens and persons with disabilities will have access to affordable supportive housing thanks to \$749 million in housing assistance through the Section 202 and 811 special needs housing programs announced by HUD in November. These grants will help non-profit organizations produce accessible housing, offer rental assistance, and facilitate supportive services for these groups of people. The awards will kick start construction or major rehabilitation on more than 189 housing developments in 42 different states and Puerto Rico. In Region III alone, nearly \$62 million was awarded to help develop affordable housing for seniors (Section 202), and nearly \$9.5 million was awarded to help develop affordable housing for people with disabilities (Section 811). [Read a detailed summary of each grant.](#)

HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan announced the recipients of the [2011 Sustainable Communities Grants](#), totaling nearly \$96 million, on November 21. Three Regional Planning awards were made to communities in Region III: one in Maryland (Baltimore Metropolitan Council for \$3.5 million+), and two in Pennsylvania (one to Erie County for \$1.8 million and one to Lehigh Valley Economic Development Council for \$3.4 million). Twenty-seven communities and organizations will receive Community Challenge grants and 29 regional areas will receive Regional Planning grants. The goal of HUD's Sustainable Communities grants is to help communities and regions improve their economic competitiveness by connecting housing with good jobs, quality schools and transportation. Don't miss the items about the Region III awardees later in this issue.

HUD FUNDING RESOURCES

- [Tenant Resource Network](#) applications are due December 6.
- [Housing Counseling Grant](#) applications due January 12.
- [Lead Hazard](#) Reduction Demonstration Grant Program applications are due January 18, 2012.

- [Lead-Based Paint Hazard](#) Control in Privately-Owned Housing applications are due January 18, 2012.

All the latest in HUD funding news may be found at [hud.gov funds available](#) or [grants.gov](#). All applicants are reminded to register or update information at [grants.gov](#) before submitting applications.

OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES

- **December 15** – Application deadline for the Housing Assistance Council's (HAC) new grant program, the Rural Senior Housing (RSH) Fund. To see the application and for additional information, [Click here](#). Questions may be addressed to Janice Clark, 202.842.8600 x 131 or email Janice@ruralhome.org, or [visit HAC's Rural Senior Housing Initiative page for updates from the program](#).
 - **December 15** – due date for *letters of intent* to request Americorps support. Nonprofits, institutions of higher education, sub-state government entities, tribes, labor organizations, partnerships, and intermediaries may apply. *Application deadline is January 18*. Visit [Americorps' website](#), or contact agency staff at americorpsgrants@cns.gov or 202-606-7508.
 - **December 21** – due date for J. Jill Compassion Fund preapplications for 2012 grants to help disadvantaged and homeless women. Funding priority is given to nonprofit programs and organizations that provide job training, education, and transitional and/or affordable housing to disadvantaged and homeless women. To learn more, control-click [here](#).
 - **December 22** – application due date for [Accessible Transportation Coalitions Initiative \(ATCI\)](#), a one-year systems change process to improve accessible transportation options for people with disabilities.
 - **January 11, 2012** – due date for Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Fund Flexible Financial Assistance awards and capacity building Technical Assistance awards. For certified and certifiable CDFIs and Native American certified and certifiable CDFIs (due date January 18). Visit <http://www.cdfifund.gov> or <http://www.grants.gov>. Contact CDFI Fund staff, 202-622-6355, cdfihelp@cdfi.treas.gov.
 - **January 23, 2012** – due date for proposals to EPA for Urban Waters Small Grants. Information, including the Request for Proposal (RFP) and registration links for the webinars, is available at <http://www.epa.gov/urbanwaters/funding>.
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FHA LEADS THE WAY

On October 25, FHA's Office of Lender Activities and Program Compliance held a conference call with the FHA lending industry. The questions and answers from the call as well as the presentation materials have been posted on FHA's [Lenders page](#), or you may access them through these links: [presentation materials](#) and [questions and answers](#).

Notice for Lenders on [FHA Connection](#) – New Condominium Functionality: FHA announced the implementation of new condominium functions added to the FHA Connection (FHAC) on November 7. Lenders may review the Frequently Asked Questions, Quick Start Guide and/or FHA Connection Guide references located on the FHA Connection log in page. There are also Help Links available for each menu option selected. For further assistance, contact the FHA Resource Center toll free at 1-800-CALL-FHA (1-800-225-5342) or email: answers@hud.gov.

FHA announced on November 8 that lender staff responsible for reviewing condominium approval packages under the Direct Endorsement Lender Approval and Review Process (DELRAP) must be registered in FHA Connection as a condominium reviewer by December 5. Lenders that do not review condominium approval packages using the DELRAP option but elect to submit packages to FHA for review using the HRAP option, you are not required to register staff as condominium reviewers. See [FHA's Condominium web page](#) for more information.

FHA Update:

On November 18, the President signed H.R. 2112 into law. Section 238 of HR 2112 re-establishes the FHA loan limit at the higher of the dollar limit in Section 203(b)(2) or the dollar limit prescribed in Section 202 of the

Economic Stimulus Act of 2008 for Forward mortgages. Therefore, effective for all Forward mortgages with a case number assigned on, or after, November 18, 2011 through December 31, 2011, the loan limits referenced in Mortgagee letter 10-40 shall be in effect. HUD will issue a Mortgagee Letter in the near future to include more detailed guidance and applicable updated loan limit tables for 2012.

The maximum claim amount for HECMs is not affected by HR 2112 and remains at \$625,500 as stated in Mortgagee Letters 10-40 and 11-29. This loan limit will remain the same for 2012 and will be included in the pending Mortgagee Letter.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

HUD announces FY12 Difficult Development Areas (DDAs) and asks which Fair Market Rents to use. Designations of Qualified Census Tracts published October 6, 2009 to remain in effect. HUD requests comments, due **December 27**, on whether it should use Small Area Fair Market Rents, rather than metropolitan-area FMRs, in future designations of metropolitan DDAs. See the [Federal Register, 10/27/11](#) or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact [Michael K. Hollar](#), HUD, 202-402-5878.

HUD is offering a Fair Housing rule on discriminatory effect. The proposed rule would establish uniform standards for determining when a housing practice with a discriminatory effect violates the Fair Housing Act, even without discriminatory intent. Comments are due **January 17, 2012**. See [Federal Register, 11/16/11](#) or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact Jeanine Worden, HUD, 202-402-5188.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) is soliciting comments on the New Markets Tax Credit Program (NMTC Program), seeking to increase its effectiveness, while reducing cost and burden on program participants. The request for comments was published in the [Federal Register](#) on November 7, 2011. Comments are due by **February 6, 2012** to Bob Ibanez, Manager, NMTC Program, CDFI Fund, U.S. Department of the Treasury, 601 Thirteenth Street, NW, Suite 200 South, Washington, DC 20005; by e-mail to cdfihelp@cdfi.treas.gov; or by facsimile at (202) 622-7754.

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) proposes to require Federal Home Loan Banks to monitor their members' compliance with Community Reinvestment Act and first-time homebuyer requirements. Comments are due **February 8, 2012**. See [Federal Register, 11/10/11](#) or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact Charles E. McLean, FHFA, 202-408-2537.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

HUD has published the final [2012 Fair Market Rents](#) (FMRs) on the HUD USER website. FMRs are used in the Housing Choice Voucher, Moderate Rehabilitation, and project-based voucher programs, as well as other programs that require location-specific economic data.

The White House Rural Council: Feedback from Rural America is available. The document provides an overview of the challenges and the opportunities rural Americans have voiced during the White House Rural Council's visits to rural communities. To download a copy, control-click [here](#).

On November 2, food stamp users gathered together with members of Congress, representatives of the Obama Administration, rabbis, priests, and reverends outside a Capitol Hill Safeway grocery store to kick off the Fighting Poverty with Faith (FPWF) Food Stamp Challenge. National Council of Churches President Rev. Peg Chamberlin and other faith leaders were joined by: White House Special Advisor to the President Valerie Jarrett, Congresspersons Emmanuel Cleaver, Barbara Lee, Jan Schakowsky, Eleanor Holmes Norton, and Donna Christensen, as well as Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Dr. Kathleen Merrigan. They broke into teams and joined a shopping experience guided by local food stamp recipients, using the national average weekly food stamp allotment: \$31.50. This national Food Stamp Challenge kick-off event was the first of more than 35 events nationwide planned by the 50 organizations that make up Fighting Poverty with Faith, a joint effort co-chaired by the National Council of Churches, the Jewish Council for Public Affairs and Catholic Charities, and involving 50 faith-based organizations. The Food Stamp Challenge is a component of Fighting Poverty with

Faith's 2011 mobilization: "Working to End Hunger." [Click here](#) to read more about the Food Stamp Challenge.

"More Poor Kids in More Poor Places" is a report from the Carsey Institute that indicates that since the onset of the recession, poverty levels in persistent child poverty counties have sharply increased. The authors comment that the overwhelming urban focus of welfare programs means policymakers often overlook needy families in rural areas. To read more, click [here](#).

A November 7 "Housing Wire" article, [White House, agencies cut red-tape for some multifamily housing developers](#), discussed how Government agencies are reducing regulatory requirements in several states, in order to make it easier to develop federally subsidized multifamily housing properties without having to pay for redundant inspections and other repetitive guidelines. The pilot program recognizes that developers of federally subsidized multifamily housing complexes generally rely on multiple sources of state and federal funding. Those funding providers currently require developers to conduct multiple inspections and other procedural checks to satisfy the needs of each lending organization that puts money into the property. The pilot program removes the need for redundant inspections and other repetitive regulatory practices, which could save as much as \$28.8 million per year.

[Moving to Opportunity for Fair Housing Demonstration Program: Final Impacts Evaluation](#) is now available for download. The Moving to Opportunity (MTO) demonstration program was initiated nearly 20 years ago to discover how neighborhoods affect families. Along with the final evaluation, HUD Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research Ralph Bostic discusses the unanticipated findings and their implications for future HUD research and program efforts.

Crisis Indicator: Triangle Tool for Identifying Homeless Adults in Crisis is used as a second layer of screening for registries using the street based [Vulnerability Index](#), which identifies why people are experiencing homelessness. The Triangle Tool is a great resource for participating 1,000 Homes communities because it helps identify each community's most vulnerable individuals. This tool also prioritizes the needs of those who are experiencing homelessness and allows for participating communities to find housing for those who are most likely to die on the streets first. *Studies have shown that the cost to the public is exponentially greater for individuals who are experiencing homelessness as compared to those living in permanent supportive housing.* [Read more.](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND REGION III...

HUD EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA/ REGIONAL OFFICE



The Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation was awarded a \$3.4 million HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant to create a plan for future development in the Lehigh Valley. [Click here](#) to learn about how the grant will be used. (Pictured) HUD Regional Administrator Jane C.W. Vincent (center) presents the Grant check to CEO and President of the Lehigh Valley EDC, Phil Mitman (on Vincent's left) and Bethlehem Mayor John Callahan (on Vincent's right). EPA Regional Administrator Shawn Garvin (on Callahan's right), members of the consortium and representatives from the Pennsylvania congressional delegation surround the big check. This award was one of three made in Region III, and 29 across the country.

On November 15, the City of Philadelphia hosted a "Project Rebuild" tour for HUD Deputy Chief of Staff Jonathan Harwitz, Regional Administrator Jane C.W. Vincent and Philadelphia City officials to highlight some of the accomplishments of the city's use of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). During the tour, project sponsors Citizens Acting Together Can Help, Inc. discussed how \$1.8 million in NSP funds are being

used for the Patriot House project, currently under construction. When finished, Patriot House will provide 15 units of permanent supportive housing for homeless veterans with mental health and co-occurring substance abuse disorders. All of the units will serve low-income households, with at least 8 units serving extremely low income households. The City of Philadelphia is contributing \$880,696 in Supportive Housing Program (SHP) funds to help with the rehabilitation, operating, supportive services and administration costs for Patriot House.

HUD Deputy Chief of Staff Jonathan Harwitz, Regional Administrator Jane C.W. Vincent and Philadelphia City officials also toured the Point Breeze Neighborhood on November 15, where NSP funds are being used to redevelop the area. Point Breeze is a [neighborhood](#) in [South Philadelphia](#). It was one of the original Greene Countrie Townes, an urban gardening and open space management program sponsored by Philadelphia Green. Philadelphia has provided more than 500 affordable homeownership units, rental, senior, and special needs housing over the past 20 years in Point Breeze.



HUD CAPITAL DISTRICT

- **December 13** - 12:30 PM Eastern - Faith & Community Leaders Conference Call Tour of [CuidadoDeSalud.gov](#), the first website in Spanish to provide consumers with both public and private health coverage options tailored specifically for their needs in a single, easy-to-use tool. If you have questions, please email ACA101@hhs.gov.
- **December 19** - [Applications](#) are due for the Maryland Housing Counseling Fund FY12- Supplemental Grant. For more information, contact the [Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development](#).



Final Salute. Inc. announces the opening of a 5 bedroom, 4,000 sq. ft. home (pictured left) for Women Veterans in Northern Virginia. Residents will receive supportive services to include employment assistance, financial education, VA claim assistance and counseling. For more information, contact Deborah Snyder at leadership@finalsaluteinc.org.

HUD employees in Headquarters and the HUD Capital District Office and their families spent time on Thanksgiving Day to say “Thank You” to those veterans who have given much of themselves to protect the freedoms that we enjoy and to preserve our way of life. The HUD Veterans Affinity Group (VAG) and other HUD staff volunteered to serve Thanksgiving dinner at the Southeast Veterans Service Center in Washington, DC, to veterans who are transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing. “I can think of no better way to spend Thanksgiving Day than by letting our real heroes know how thankful we are for the sacrifices they made, and what they have done for us,” said Walter Elmore, chairman of the VAG and coordinator of the HUD volunteer effort. “The veterans were moved by the support demonstrated by Brigadier General Brundidge and the HUD volunteers.”

HUD staffers Earnest Dawson, Diane Brundidge, and Saad Akhdar serve Thanksgiving dinner.



Construction of the CityMarket at O is underway, thanks to the Presidential Memorandum recommended by the Council of Jobs and Competitiveness issued in August. Federal officials granted Roadside Development \$128 million in October for development of the Market at O Street. The balance of the financing includes \$32 million from the city and \$40 million from equity raised by Roadside. Located near the Verizon Center and Gallery Place, the project will help bridge the gap between Shaw, Howard University, Chinatown and the U Street Arts District, and will create a significant number of jobs.

Pictured at the ground breaking ceremony are (left to right) Mayor Vincent Grey, HUD Capital District Office Director Marvin Turner, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and other community leaders.



HUD WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA



On November 9, the HUD Western Pennsylvania Office joined the Department of Energy, Department of Health, Army Corps of Engineers, and other federal and state partners at the Federal Career Day 2011 event hosted by the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University and Carnegie Mellon University, in partnership with the Pittsburgh Federal Executive Board.

(Above) Cindy Haines, HUD Western Pennsylvania office, speaks to prospective interns about "Opening Doors"



On November 3, HUD Western Pennsylvania Director Jane Miller (left) gave opening remarks at the [Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency Southeast States Housing Credit Roundtable](#) held in Pittsburgh. The Roundtable included representatives from state housing finance agencies located throughout the southeastern United States, and focused on the LIHTC (Low Income Housing Tax Credit) program.

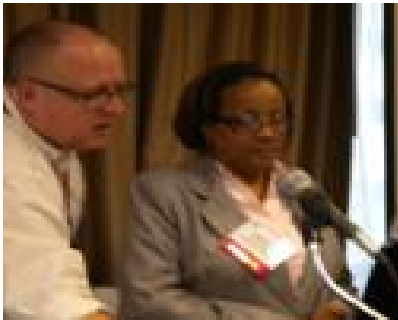
On November 14-16, staff from both HUD Pennsylvania Offices (Eastern and Western) joined more than 750 Pennsylvania housing partners at the [Homes Within Reach Conference](#) in Harrisburg. The Housing Alliance of

Pennsylvania coordinates the annual statewide conference to encourage and support housing providers working toward accessible and affordable housing for all Pennsylvanians.

Nadab Bynum (second from left) describes CPD funding streams to conference attendees. Also, pictured are HUD presenters (left to right) Ed Thomas, Dennis Bellingtier and Sharon Maclean.



During the Conference, HUD conducted a Training Institute entitled “HUD 2012: A User’s Guide”. Additionally, HUD partnered with the VA to present a “Strategies for Housing Homeless Veterans” workshop. Regional Administrator Jane C.W. Vincent addressed a breakfast session on “What’s Happening at HUD,” including the recent minibus. Liz Hersh, Executive Director of the Housing Alliance and Mark Schwartz, President of the Board, also spoke during the morning session. The Conference was the perfect venue to announce the Wells Fargo Housing Hero Awardees. At this year’s Conference, HUD community partner Charles Scalise, President/CEO of Housing and Neighborhood Development Service (H.A.N.D.S.) of Erie, PA and Rev. Virginia Boley, Executive Director of United Christian Ministries of Osceola, PA were honored for their pursuit of affordable housing development in the face of community opposition, and for forging new pathways so that others may have access to new affordable housing opportunities.



Debra Martin, HUD Pittsburgh VASH Coordinator, confers with her colleague from the Erie VAMC (Mike Wehrer left) on VASH trends and demographics.

- **December 10** - NeighborWorks® Western Pennsylvania Free Homebuyer Education Workshop in Pittsburgh. Call 412-281-9773 or visit www.nwwpa.org to register.
- **December 12** - The ADA and Accessible Transportation: Challenges and Opportunities in Pittsburgh. Contact [Madonna Long](#) or [Stan Holbrook](#) at 412-371-7700 ext. 147, 814 341 4156, Toll Free (PA Only): 1-800-633-4588, TTY: 412-371-6230.
- **January 12** - The Spirit of KING Award Ceremony in East Liberty. RSVP to Evelyn Newscome at 412-566-5259 by January 6, 2012.

HUD VIRGINIA

On November 1 President Barack Obama signed a Presidential proclamation creating a National Park Unit at Fort Monroe in Hampton. The proclamation was issued through the Antiquities Act, an executive order the President can use to designate national monuments which can then be managed as a unit of the National Park Service. Some 324 acres, including access to beaches and a significant amount of open space, is included in the President’s designation. Governor Bob McDonnell was represented at the signing by [Fort Monroe Authority](#) Executive Director Glenn Oder. Fort Monroe ended its tenure as an active Army post in September of this year as part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure order.



Virginia is for lovers... of beautiful art, nature, shopping, delicious cuisine, sports and much more! Richmond, the capital city, will place you at the heart of the excitement that Virginia has to offer and is the perfect place for the 32nd National Veterans Wheelchair Games. **Volunteers are needed** to make the Games a success. Contact Alice Faulk, Chairperson, at 804-675-5265. [Read more about the Games here.](#)

(Right) Jeff Doyle, the Veterans Integrated Support Network 6 (VISN 6) Homelessness Coordinator for the Department of Veterans Affairs, talks to more than 20 HUD-VASH Program managers at the HUD Virginia office to identify and resolve barriers to full utilization of the HUD-VASH Vouchers and discuss other possible resources to meet the needs of chronically homeless veterans in Virginia. Also participating in the meeting were Jerryl Bennett, HUD Virginia Public Housing Program Center Director, Robert Davenport, HUD Virginia HUD-VASH Program Manager, and Carrie Schmidt, HUD Virginia Field Office Director.



The Virginia State Office of the Corporation for National and Community Service is accepting Concept Papers until December 14 for development of new AmeriCorps VISTA projects in Virginia. The Request for Concept Papers is open to organizations that are not current VISTA sponsors. Contact the CNCS Virginia State Office at va@cns.gov with any questions. [AmeriCorps VISTA Concept Paper Instructions](#) are available on the web, and Papers may be submitted [through the National Service website](#).

Virginia Community Capital (VCC) is one of just 28 community development financial institutions (CDFIs) in the nation to win a grant in the inaugural funding round of the Create Jobs for USA Fund, a collaboration between Starbucks and Opportunity Finance Network (OFN), the national network of CDFIs. With Create Jobs for USA, customers at participating Starbucks can donate as little as \$5 to a fund that helps to create grants for community development projects. Learn more about Create Jobs for USA at [here](#), or look for displays at participating Starbucks stores.

December 12 - The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, VCU's Nonprofit Learning Point and The Monument Group are hosting "Innovation and the Nonprofit Sector" at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. To register or for more information [click here](#) or contact [Amanda Gibson](#) (804-697-8107).

Congratulations to the 2011 Virginia Governor's Housing Awards recipients:

- [Better Housing Coalition](#) for Best Housing Development (Claiborne Square),
- [Family Crisis Support Services](#) for Best Housing Program or Service,
- [Arlington County Community Planning, Housing Division](#) for Best Housing Preservation/ Revitalization Effort (Buckingham Village3),
- [Community Housing Partners](#) for Best Affordable Housing Energy Conservation Effort (CHP Energy Services), and
- [Pinnacle Construction and Development Corp.](#) for Best Mixed Use/Mixed Income Project.

Better Housing Coalition announced the winners of the 2011 Golden Hammer Awards on November 3. To see the winning projects, and to read about their accomplishments in revitalizing Richmond's neighborhoods, please [click here](#) . (The nomination form for next year's Golden Hammer Awards is now available to download from that page)!

[Piedmont Housing Alliance's](#) Housing Counselors are staffing the Louisa County Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) to provide counseling, information and assistance for homeowners dealing with the aftermath of the August earthquake. HUD and our partners are committed to assisting borrowers whose lives and livelihoods are thrown into turmoil by a disaster, and homeowners with FHA mortgages may qualify for some form of assistance. For more information, contact [Shelley Murphy](#), Director of Development Services with Piedmont Housing Alliance, at (434)817-2436 x 104.

The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development has partnered with the Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness and the National Alliance to End Homelessness in a new initiative sponsored by the Freddie Mac Foundation. The new initiative to end the crisis of homelessness for Virginia's children and their families was announced November 17 at the Governor's Housing Conference. [For more information, click here.](#) Several regional opening events have been held already, and more are scheduled across the Commonwealth to introduce the initiative to community partners. Everyone is welcome at the events: December 1 in Abingdon, December 6 in Newport News and Norfolk, December 7 in Richmond and December 8 in Fairfax. [To register, please click here.](#)



During Governor Bob McDonnell's recent visit to the Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) Headquarters in Richmond, he toured the new "Almost Home Café." The café is a program under the Governor's Re-entry Initiative to prepare incarcerated people for re-entry into the community. Women who are incarcerated at Central Virginia Correctional Unit 13 receive cross-training and mentoring to give them knowledge, experience and certification in Culinary Arts, ServSafe programs and CPR, preparing them for employment upon release. In the Spring, 2011 issue of "Ripon Forum," an [Op-Ed](#) written by Governor McDonnell made the case that "preparing prisoners for successful re-entry into communities is not soft on crime; it is sound public safety policy."

HUD DELAWARE

HUD Delaware participated in a rollout event in Wilmington on November 18 for the Delaware State Housing Authority's (DSHA) Rebuilding Our Communities (ROC) Homebuyer Program. DSHA received funding through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP-3) to create a homeownership assistance program that will promote home buying in high foreclosure areas. For more information, go to [DSHA's website](#) or contact Gary Hecker at (302) 577-5001.

On November 9, HUD Delaware Office Director Toni Schmiegelow spoke at the Grand Opening Luncheon for the newly renovated and recently renamed Cheltenham Village Apartments in Newark, DE. Funding for the \$14.5 million restoration of this once troubled development included \$6.5 million in American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funding and \$3.2 million from the HOME program. Also present at the event was Delaware Governor Jack Markell.

Cheltenham Village Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, left to right: Marcus Henry, General Manager of Community Services for New Castle County; George Beer, President, Delaware Valley Development Corporation; Governor Jack Markell; Delaware State Representative Melanie George; Anas Ben Addi, Director, Delaware State Housing Authority and Toni Schmiegelow, Director, Delaware HUD Office.



- **December 5** – Foreclosure Prevention Workshop, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in Dover. For more information contact Lisa Spellman at (302) 678-9400.
- **December 6** – Foreclosure Prevention Workshop, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in Dover. For more information contact TuJuana Pierce at (302) 652-3991, ext.0
- **December 10** – Home Buyer Education, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in Newark. For more information contact John Gilman at (302) 224-4060, ext. 200 or email jfenstermacher@ywcade.org
- **December 15** –Mortgage Default and Foreclosure Prevention Workshop, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in Claymont. For more information contact Tami Levy Schonefeld at 1-800-267-5002 or at 302-792-1200.
- **December 17** –First-time Homebuyers Workshop, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in Georgetown. To register, contact Charlotte Attack at 302-674-1355.

HUD MARYLAND

The Baltimore Metropolitan Council and its core partners were awarded a \$3.5 million dollar HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant to develop a plan for future development in the Baltimore Region. Read more about it [here](#).



Pictured left: Carol Payne, HUD Maryland Field Office Director; Estelle Richman, Acting Deputy Secretary, HUD; Scott Spencer, Annie E. Casey Foundation; U.S. Congressman Elijah Cummings; Paul T. Graziano, Executive Director, Baltimore City Housing Authority; Richard Hall, Secretary, Maryland Department of Planning; Baltimore City Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake; Howard County Executive Ken Ulman; Annapolis Mayor Josh Cohen; Raymond Skinner, Secretary, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; Liz Glenn, Chief, Community Planning and Development, Baltimore County; Larry W. Klimovitz, Executive Director, Baltimore Metropolitan Council.

[Union Rowe Apartments](#) (formerly known as Franklin Square Apartments), a Section 8 housing development originally built in the late 1890s, was the site of a visit from Region III Administrator Jane C.W. Vincent to highlight the work that had been done with Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds and to speak about Project Rebuild. Local officials and partners joined the ranking regional HUD representative at the meeting to discuss job creation through the American Jobs Act and on a tour of the project slated to be completed in 2013. The tour was conducted by Andrew Vincent, GBAHC Director and Sakinah Linder, Project Manager for GBAHC.



Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Deputy Secretary Clarence J. Snuggs recently acquainted members of the Greater Baltimore Board of Realtors and the Harford County Association of Realtors with new Maryland Mortgage Program loan products. The state has launched new incentives for eligible families interested in buying vacant homes in neighborhoods hard-hit by foreclosure. "But working together, we can do so much more," Deputy Secretary Snuggs told realtors. Visit [Community Review](#), the official blog of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, to learn more.

HUD WEST VIRGINIA

In addition to federal, state, and local government representatives, including HUD West Virginia Director Peter Minter, approximately 250 people attended the October 26 [Ribbon Cutting and Dedication](#) Ceremony for Riverview at Clendenin School (pictured below). The Clendenin School has been "repurposed" as a multi-use facility, and was funded in part by HUD's Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP 1). The \$2.5 million NSP1 grant helped leverage funding from USDA, HHS, historic tax credits, and a local financial institution, and resulted in the development of 18 units of low-income rental housing for the elderly, a community health care clinic, a day care center, and recreational facilities.



- **December 2** - Cabell-Huntington-Wayne [Continuum of Care Meeting](#) – contact [Corey A. Whisman](#) at 304.523.2764 ext. 102
- **January 6** – application due date for the Disability Determination Process (DDP) Small Grant Program, a one-year stipend program to allow graduate-level students to conduct supervised independent research on improving disability determination processes. See ddp@policyresearchinc.org or [the DDP grant web site](#). Additional contact information: Will Connelly, Program Coordinator, (518) 439-7415 ext. 5256.
- **January 20** - Concept papers for AmeriCorps State Formula Grants due to Volunteer West Virginia. Volunteer West Virginia staff will be hosting technical assistance conference calls on December 13, 2011 and January 11, 2012. Conference Call Number: 1-866-453-5550, PIN Code: 3730200#

During the month of January, there will be a number of volunteer training sessions for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program through the [Financial Stability Partnership](#) of United Way River Cities in Huntington. Contact Ed Davis, Coordinator, at 304.523.8929 x 6.

Region III Field Office Contact Information
Jane C.W. Vincent, Regional Administrator

HUD Maryland

Carol B. Payne, Field Office Director
(410) 962-2520, www.hud.gov/Maryland

HUD Capital District

Marvin W. Turner, Field Office Director
(202) 275-9200, www.hud.gov/districtofcolumbia

HUD Western Pennsylvania

Jane Miller, Field Office Director
(412) 644-6428, www.hud.gov/pennsylvania

HUD West Virginia

Peter C. Minter, Field Office Director
(304) 347-7000, www.hud.gov/WestVirginia

HUD Eastern Pennsylvania

Richard Ott, Acting Deputy Regional Administrator
(215) 656-0500, www.hud.gov/pennsylvania

HUD Virginia

Carrie S. Schmidt, Field Office Director
(804)822-4804, www.hud.gov/virginia

HUD Delaware

Toni Schmiegelow, Field Office Director
(302) 573-6300, www.hud.gov/delaware

We welcome your feedback and invite you to share your news with editor Anne Davis at anne.davis@hud.gov. If you know anyone who might like this news, please feel free to share it with them and let them know they can subscribe by emailing Anne Davis, or by sending a message to REGION-III-NEWS-L@hudlist.hud.gov.

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