



News of Note:

- [HUD awards \\$38M to local HIV-AIDS housing programs](#)
- [HUD, VA provide housing, supports to homeless veterans](#)
- [HUD seeks public comment on rental assistance demonstration](#)

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South Boston residents celebrate new homes



Above: Students from the Michael J. Perkins School in South Boston perform during a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Old Colony public housing development.

On an unusually warm day in March, Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino, Governor Deval Patrick, HUD Assistant Secretary Sandra Henriquez joined Boston Housing Authority Administrator Bill McGonagle to celebrate the completion of Phase One of the redevelopment of the Old Colony public housing development in South Boston.

This first phase of redevelopment includes the demolition of 164 existing apartments and the construction of 116 new affordable rental units in one high rise and four townhouse-style buildings that include energy efficiencies for residents. Two new streets were redesigned to better connect the development to the surrounding neighborhood.

The new Old Colony includes a 10,000 square foot Learning Center that will offer programs and services focused on improving the educational and employment outcomes of Old Colony residents. **(cont on pg 2)**



Above: HUD Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, Sandra Henriquez delivers remarks at the Old Colony Phase One ribbon cutting ceremony. In the background are some of the new housing units.

NH awarded \$4.9M to protect children from lead

Right: In late March, HUD announced two grants totaling \$4.9M to protect New Hampshire children from lead and other home hazards during a press conference at Nashua City Hall. Joining in the announcement are from left: Marty Nee, HUD Office of Healthy Homes; Sharon Hayes U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Matt Leahy, Office of U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen; Donnalee Lozeau, Mayor City of Nashua; HUD Regional Administrator Fields; Susan Terzakis, Office of U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte; Dean Christon, New Hampshire Housing Finance Agency.

Read more about the recent [HUD lead grant funding](#).



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Old Colony gets a new look

(Cont. from pg 1)

The first phase at Old Colony was made possible through a combination of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding (\$22 million), investment from the City of Boston (\$2.5 million), the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (\$1.75 million plus low-income housing tax credits) and private investment (\$33 million), MassHousing provided \$26.7 million in construction financing through bonds purchased by the AFL-CIO. The project created nearly 600 construction jobs, 45 percent of which went to Boston residents, 37 percent to minorities and 7 percent to women. In addition, 26 percent of the jobs went to BHA residents, Section 8 voucher holders or residents of the surrounding community.

In 2011, the BHA received a HUD HOPE VI grant for \$22 million to fund a second phase of the Old Colony redevelopment. Phase Two will include the demolition of the remaining 223 units and construction of 169 new rental units. Demolition and construction are expected to begin in Fall 2012.



Above: Boston Mayor Thomas Menino joins residents of Old Colony and local officials to cut the ribbon on the new Old Colony.

Hope finds a home in Rhode Island

Regional Administrator Fields joined Warwick's Mayor Scott Avedisian, Richard Godfrey, Rhode Island Housing, as well as students from St. Peter's School and other local partners to celebrate the completion of the George Galen Wheeler House that will provide five permanent homes for formerly homeless individuals with disabilities.

The George Galen Wheeler House, built in 1875, and formerly a transitional emergency shelter, is located in the Pawtuxet Village Historic District at 57 Fair St.

HUD 811, HOME, Building Homes Rhode Island, City of Warwick and Thresholds funding was used to create these new homes.

St. Peter School students assembled welcome home bags for each of the new residents.

Photos by Gretchen Ertl photography



Maine Health and Wellness Center celebrates grand opening



In March, the Maliseet Health and Wellness Center in Houlton, Maine celebrated a ribbon cutting for a new 10,000-square-foot health center. The Center was funded by a \$1.4 million from the federal Indian Health Service, \$600,000 from HUD, and \$250,000 from U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development. The Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians contributed \$160,000 and land. Pictured above at the ribbon cutting are from left: Rachel Smith, Office of Congressman Michael Michaud; Elton Jones, HUD Office of Native American Programs; Bill Burney, HUD Maine Field Office Director; Ann Stevens, Health Director, Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians; Brenda Commander, Tribal Chief; Virginia Manuel, State Director, USDA Rural Development; Martha Ketcher, Indian Health Services; Sharon Campbell, Office of U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe; Phil Bosse, Office of U.S. Senator Susan Collins.

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HUD funding to help New Hampshire homeless veterans



Left: U.S. Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) announces \$126,279 in HUD VASH funding for New Hampshire during a press conference at the Manchester VA Medical Center. The funding will be used to provide permanent housing and supportive services to 15 veterans in the state. Read more about the [HUD VASH](#) awards

Right: Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly (JCHE) in Brighton serves a diverse community of 900 elderly residents including many Chinese and Russian immigrants. Pictured: Amy Schechtman (left), executive director, JCHE; Regional Administrator Fields (right) join JCHE resident Xiu Yun Liu in the art center during a recent tour of the Brighton facility.



Left: HUD joined EPA as well as local government, private and union representatives for "Fix a Leak Week" to celebrate the installation of more than 375 water saving devices at the Patricia White public housing development in Brighton, Mass. and Cottage Brook in Dorchester.

Pictured from left: Ira Leighton, EPA New England; Jim Hunt, City of Boston; Richard Sullivan, MA Secretary, Energy and Environmental Affairs; HUD Regional Administrator Barbara Fields; Julia Riordan, Delta Faucet; Bill McGonagle, Boston Housing Authority; Fred Laskey, Massachusetts Water Resource Authority; and Kevin Cotter, Business Agent, Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 12.