



# HUD New England News

*Reinventing New England...Sustainably*

## News of Note:

- [New One-Stop Web site for Economic, Housing Data](#)
- [November Housing Scorecard](#)
- [Helping consumers' navigate the homebuying process](#)
- [New FHA Power Saver Program announced](#)
- [Emergency Homeowner Loan Program Web page](#)

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## Administrator's Corner

As we get ready to welcome in a new year I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your outstanding support and commitment in 2010 to improving the lives of people throughout New England. Through your work to end homelessness; providing counseling to first time home buyers and assistance to people facing foreclosures; providing and maintaining affordable housing and building sustainable and inclusive communities for everyone, your efforts have impacted the lives of so many.

So much has been accomplished this past year I'd like to take a moment to reflect on just a few of the highlights:

Through the [Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program](#), funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, homelessness for 38,874 New Englanders was prevented or ended. The program provided funding to communities to keep families in their homes or help them find other affordable housing after a sudden financial crisis which otherwise may have led to homelessness.

Through HUD's [Green Retrofit Program for Multifamily Housing](#), created for the first time through the Recovery Act, 2,296 units of housing across New England will receive energy efficient upgrades through the more than \$31.6 million in grants awarded. The GRP grants will improve the quality of life and result in cost savings for residents through energy efficient upgrades.

Through a third round of [Neighborhood Stabilization Program](#) funding we were able to award more than \$38 million in grants throughout New England to help stabilize neighborhoods hard hit by foreclosure.

Across New England HUD awarded more than \$12.8 million in [Sustainability Planning grants](#) and \$5.2 million in Sustainability Challenge grants.



While much has been accomplished our work is far from done. I'm excited about furthering the partnerships that we have across the region and working with each of you to achieve even greater success in 2011.

I wish you all a happy and productive New Year and as always please feel free to call or email me with your ideas, questions and concerns at 617-994-8220 or [Richard.A.Walega@hud.gov](mailto:Richard.A.Walega@hud.gov)

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## Connecticut— Northeast Hartford's Nelton Court Development celebrates groundbreaking

The Nelton Court Development located in the Northeast Section of Hartford, CT will be transformed into 80 new residential units with modern layouts. The new residences are designed to incorporate the characteristic aesthetic appeal of a typical suburban neighborhood.

This is the last federal family development that was in need of redevelopment in the North End of Hartford. The old Nelton Court housing project contained 120 small units. The positive social, economic, physical, and even spiritual effects of this sweeping revitalization are bound to be felt throughout the neighborhood for decades to come. The redevelopment of Nelton Court in the Northeast Section will augment the significant impact already being achieved by the redevelopment of Stowe Village and Charter Oak, two Hartford success stories in redevelopment.

The changes proposed by the demolition of these former units and the development of the 80 new residential units will have a breath taking effect. The residential building styles will be appropriate to Hartford. Many will have private unit entrances, porches, wide windows and a variety of vinyl sided exterior colors.

The new Nelton Court Development will include a number of green space buffers, as well as a community garden between the buildings and the surrounding community. The green spaces will provide recreational outlets for residents and a sense of privacy so important to commu-



**HUD New England Regional Administrator Richard Walega (fifth from right) participates in a groundbreaking ceremony for the Nelton Court Development in Hartford, Conn.**

nity pride and sense of place. In addition, the design has incorporated the use of Energy Efficient Appliances and numerous "green inspired materials."

## Maine —NSP creates jobs, affordable housing, community development in Westbrook



**Construction workers complete a new sidewalk in downtown Westbrook, Maine to serve infill residential condominiums and commercial space funded by the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. This live-work building replaces one condemned by the City.**

### NOFA News

To view the latest 2010 [Notices of Funding Available:](#)

- [Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Grants](#)
- [Emergency Capital Repair Grant Program](#)
- [Fair Housing initiative Program](#)

**Advance Notice of Funding:**

- [Rural Innovation Fund Program](#)

## Vermont—Secretary Donovan addresses Vermont Statewide Housing Conference



**HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan delivers the morning keynote address at the Vermont Statewide Housing Conference in Burlington on Nov. 18. The conference was attended by 450 housing leaders from across the state. HUD's New England Regional Administrator Richard Walega also participated in a panel discussion on Federal Housing Policy at the conference. (photo by Craig Bailey/VHFA)**

### Around the Region

- HUD Deputy Secretary Ron Sims participated in a conference convened by the Harvard University Center for the Environment: *The EPA @ 40*. The conference brought together leaders from academia, business and government to celebrate 40 years of history and achievement of the Environmental Protection Agency and to discuss the future challenges it faces. Special guest speaker was former Vice President Al Gore. Deputy Secretary Sims served on the panel Global Problems, local solutions.
- HUD Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity John Trasvina, recently conducted a town hall meeting for housing providers, legal service agencies and elected officials in New Hampshire. The forum was well attended and focused on housing equity and equal access to housing, in addition to initiatives by HUD to help build sustainable neighborhoods.

## Rhode Island—Newport Housing Authority receives award for energy conservation

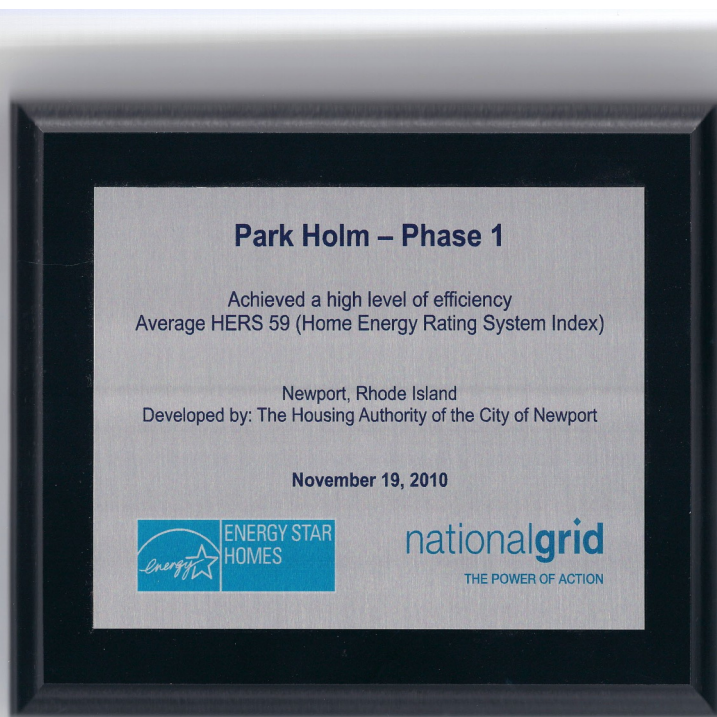
The Housing Authority of Newport recently received an award from NGRID/Energy Star for achieving outstanding energy conservation efforts resulting from their Park Holm Renovations Phase One work. They were recognized because the newly renovated buildings have averaged a Home Energy Rating (HERS) rating of 59. The industry standard for new construction is 85,

the lower the score the better the energy rating. With the help of many, the NHA was able to get an average rating of 59, which translates into significant reductions in energy consumption.

Park Holm Phase One consists of ten buildings totaling 30 units. At a recent ceremony, NGRID presented a plaque and check for \$500.00 per unit to Newport Housing Authority for their energy efforts. Park Holm Renovations Phase One was initiated using \$2.7M of AARA and approximately \$450K of Capital Funds. Of importance was HUD's intent to address Energy Conservation and Green Construction initiatives which were built into the construction specifications along with Section 3 and other programs.

The Housing Authority will use the \$500.00 per unit (\$15K) to fund job training, development and education for Park Holm residents along with an energy conservation training program for residents.

Congratulations to the Newport Housing Authority for the award and their commitment to energy conservation.



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### HUD New England State Web sites

- [Connecticut](#)
- [Maine](#)
- [Massachusetts](#)
- [New Hampshire](#)
- [Rhode Island](#)
- [Vermont](#)

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes; utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination; and transform the way HUD does business. More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Inter- net at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov) and [espanol.hud.gov](http://espanol.hud.gov).

## HUD Region 1 employees honored with Secretary's Award



A team of dedicated HUD Region 1 employees in the Offices of Public Housing, Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, and Regional Counsel were recently honored by Secretary Shaun Donovan for

their exemplary work on an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act initiative that allowed housing authorities with state public housing units to transition these units to their federal housing portfolio to ensure more resources for maintenance and operation.

This initiative is unique in the New England Region since Massachusetts and Connecticut are two of only four states nationwide that have state funded public housing.

The team's creativity and innovative actions to identify need requirements, develop guidance, and implement work processes for the federalization of 4400 state public housing units will greatly enhance quality affordable housing and benefit thousands of public housing residents.

## HUD Focus— Bradley, U.S. Navy, Army Veteran

*Editor's Note: This is the first in a new series that will focus on the impact that HUD funded programs have on people's lives.*

Meet **Bradley** – A U.S. Army Reserve and Navy veteran. Just a few years ago, Bradley was a homeless veteran struggling with addiction and looking for a way to turn his life around. He arrived at Soldier On in Pittsfield, Mass., three years ago and through the housing and counseling services that they provided, he was able to begin a new life.

Since 1994, Soldier On has been helping homeless veterans of the United States Armed Services by providing shelter, counseling, job training and education.

Bradley has been employed at Soldier On as their head chef for the past two years, and now he is getting ready for the realization of a dream – a new home that he can call his own. Soon he will be moving into a condo, one of 39 recently built for homeless veterans. "It's amazing, this is really a dream come true," he said of his new home. "It's just beautiful, I can't believe that I am going to have a brand new home of my very own and it's thanks to the unbelievable people, the whole Soldier On management staff –



it's amazing what they have done for me and all of the veterans that they serve."

### About the Gordon H. Mansfield Veterans Community

Located in Pittsfield, Massachusetts

Project is the new construction of 39 rental units and includes:

- \$1.677 million in HUD Direct Appropriations (two separate appropriations, \$792K and \$885K)
- \$720,000 in HOME Program funds (MA DHCD)
- Approximately \$3.1 million in state bond funds (Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Housing Innovations Fund, Community-Based Housing)
- HAP Green Affordable Program: \$313,000