



# CASPER FIELD OFFICE NEWSLETTER

**US. Department of Housing & Urban Development**  
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## National Homeownership Month "Owning Your Future"

June is National Homeownership Month. Throughout the nation HUD highlights the month of June to underscore the importance of homeownership and to focus national attention on initiatives to expand the American Dream of homeownership. Our office held a homebuyer fair in Casper and Cheyenne to educate and inform potential homebuyers about how to begin the home buying process - from deciding whether they are ready to buy - to the final steps of getting a key. The Casper Office would like to thank our partners in



Cheyenne, Wells Fargo, City of Cheyenne, and the WY Coalition for the Homeless.

In Casper, Broker One Real Estate, Mortgage One, Countrywide Home Loans, National Property Inspections, American National Insurance, USDA Rural Development, Wyoming Community Development (WCDA), and American Title. The attendees were thrilled with the information provided, the awesome door prizes and the free lunch.

### U.S. Census Homeownership rates

**National 2004:**  
69%  
**Wyoming 2004:**  
72.8%



## Are you interested in a Reverse Mortgage?

If yes, learn the steps for obtaining one. Reverse mortgages are becoming popular in America. Many seniors use it to supplement their income, meet unexpected medical expenses, make home improvements, and more. A reverse mortgage is a special type of loan that lets a homeowner convert equity into cash. Unlike a traditional home equity loan or second mortgage, no repayment is required until the borrower no longer uses the home as their principal residence. HUD is providing an overview of the program at the Senior Centers in Casper and Buffalo. Housing reps will be available to talk one-on-one about the process for obtaining a reverse mortgage.



Casper Office mission  
*Bringing HUD and Wyoming community resources together to encourage growth and promote opportunities*

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### Casper HUD Staff:

Chris Stearns, Director

Mary Coleman, Program Assistant

Maria Rodriguez, Program Assistant

# Accomplishments

Welcome to the third issue of our newsletter. We are pleased to share some of our accomplishments. During the month of April HUD provided fair housing training in Riverton and participated in the Wind River Pathways Homeownership Fair. The Casper Field Office Director served as a Resource Team Member for Wyoming Rural Development Council's two-day assessment of the town of Alcova. The team of experts suggests ways for rural communities to accomplish local development efforts. HUD and Fannie Mae provided a reverse mortgage

training to lenders, housing counseling agencies, and non-profit organizations serving the elderly in Cheyenne. Our staff participated in the annual Faith in Action Forum. Sessions were conducted dealing with at risk kids, the elderly, strengthening marriage and families, and prisoner re-entry. During the month of June our office Director Chris Stearns was deployed to Kuwait/Iraq. He is a member of the Air Force Reserves. We wish him a safe return in August. Lyle Konkol from the Montana HUD Office has volunteered to cover for Chris until his return. The Casper

staff thanks Lyle for his assistance and his efforts in continuing HUD's mission. He will be conducting several reverse mortgage trainings throughout the state. The Acting Director attended the WY Housing Network's first Board of Directors retreat. He provided information on ways to leverage resources and locate matching dollars when applying for grants.

Home Fair at Life Steps Campus



## Upcoming Events

### Reverse Mortgage Training for Senior Citizens

**When:** June 28, 1:00 - 2:00  
**Where:** Senior Center, 1831 East 4th Street, Casper

**When:** June 29, 12:45 - 2:00  
**Where:** Senior Center, 671 W. Fetterman, Buffalo

HUD contact: Lyle Konkol  
 (307) 261-6250

### Free DE Underwriting and Appraisal Training

**When:** August 10 & 11 - 8:30 am to 4:30 pm  
**Where:** Mansfield Health Education Center, 2900 12th Ave North, Billings, MT

For more info. contact HUD:  
 Faith Ballenger, (406) 447-1482 or Robin Brown, (406) 447-1481

### Save the Date!

Statewide Housing Conference  
 August 2005

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	1	2	3	4	5	6
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