



US Department of Housing and Urban Development Region X

HUD Highlights E-Newsletter

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Questions or
Comments? Please
Contact Us

Welcome to **HUD Highlights**. This e-newsletter provides supplemental guidance about our programs, initiatives, grant opportunities and more, all from a regional perspective. If you received this newsletter from a friend, and would like to receive your own copy, [sign up for our mailing list](#). We welcome your feedback and ideas, so [tell us](#) how we can make this a more valuable resource for you!

-John Meyers, Regional Director

Important Information for Grant Applicants and Contractors

If your organization registered last year in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) system, it's not necessary to re-register this year. However, applicants must **renew or update** their CCR **annually**.

To renew or update your CCR registration, contact your Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR), who is the person authorized to submit an application on behalf of your organization. Ask them to check your organization's status by following the instructions in [HUD's new grants registration brochure](#).

If you don't know who your AOR is, search the CCR for your E-Business Point of Contact (POC), who can identify your current AOR. Simply go to www.grants.gov, then select "Search CCR for your EBIZ POC." If your organization's AOR has changed, the POC should login to the EBIZ page at Grants.gov, select **Manage Applicants**, and delete any names no longer affiliated with the organization.

If you have not yet registered in the CCR, but wish to participate in the HUD grants program or enter into any contract with HUD, you must register at Grants.gov. [Learn more about the HUD grants and the SuperNOFA](#), or receive [registration training online](#) via HUD Webcast.

Grant Winner *Community Frameworks* Will Help Create 270 New Homeowners

HUD Websites

www.hud.gov

[HUD Spanish Website](#)

HUD Mailing Address

Seattle Regional Office
909 1st Avenue, Ste 255
Seattle, Washington
98104-1000

HUD recently announced a \$4.5 million grant to Community Frameworks through the Department's Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program (SHOP). Headquartered in Spokane, Frameworks will facilitate the construction of 270 affordable homes through its 26 affiliated organizations in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. Homebuyers contribute a minimum of 100 hours of sweat equity on the construction of their homes and/or the homes of other homebuyers participating in the local self-help housing program. Funds from the grant are used to purchase land and improve infrastructure.

[More info](#)

President Proposes \$33.6 Billion HUD FY 2007 Budget - Increases In Programs Will Help Homebuyers, Renters and Homeless

Expanding programs to increase homeownership, to provide rental assistance, and to assist the homeless are among the highlights of President Bush's proposed fiscal year 2007 budget. The \$33.6 billion spending blueprint will support the Department's core priorities while expanding the Administration's efforts toward establishing an ownership society and caring for those who might otherwise be living on the streets. [More info](#)

FHA Has a New Resource Center

The FHA Resource Center, initiated on February 1, is now handling all consumer inquiries on FHA issues. Consumers may contact the FHA Resource Center by email at hud@custhelp.com or by telephone at (800) CALLFHA (800-225-5342).

The Resource Center does NOT take the place of the FHA National Servicing Center at (888) 297-8685 or the Mortgage Insurance Premium Refund Center at (800) 697-6967, both of which are still operational. The four Homeownership Centers (HOCs) are no longer accessible by their prior toll-free numbers. Members of the housing industry may contact the four HOCs by using the (800) CALLFHA number and selecting Option 2.

www.FHA.gov - Your Door to Homeownership Website Debuts

Now it's easier than ever for homebuyers or homeowners to learn about the advantages of FHA insured financing and the various types of loans available -- home loans, refinancing, energy efficiency mortgages, or home equity conversion mortgages (reverse mortgages). Learn about FHA mortgage products for condos or manufactured homes, and loans for fixer-uppers. Find quick links to FHA approved lenders, housing counseling agencies and HUD homes.

Tax Season is Upon Us! Help Spread the Word about Earned Income Tax Credits (EITC)

For the 2005 tax year, a family with one minimum wage worker and two children could receive as much as \$4,400 in additional income from the EITC. That's as **much** as a 29 percent increase in the family's annual income! Thousands of people **every year** pass up millions of dollars because they fail to take advantage of some or all of the credits for which they are eligible.

Dollars from the EITC can help someone save for a downpayment, make a mortgage payment, or pay next month's rent. Every penny counts! Learn more about the EITC in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).



Updated Search Engine on hud.gov!

Locating information on <http://www.hud.gov> just got easier! We've installed a new search engine, so you can now search our website by entering a specific word or phrase.