



HUD NEWS

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Shaun Donovan, Secretary
Office of Public Affairs, Washington, DC 20410

CONTACT

Maria Bynum
(215) 430-6622

FOR RELEASE

Wednesday
January 11, 2012

HUD AWARDS A \$255,656 CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS PLANNING GRANT TO THE SUFFOLK REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY

Suffolk is one of 13 communities nationwide awarded grants to begin grassroots efforts to revitalize housing, communities

RICHMOND – U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Regional Administrator Jane C. W. Vincent joined Suffolk Vice Mayor Charles F. Brown today to announce that the Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority will receive a \$255,656 *Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant*. Suffolk is one of 13 cities nationwide receiving this funding to begin grassroots efforts to revitalize the East Washington Street corridor, and transform the White Marsh Neighborhood. (See attached [list](#) and [project summary for this all of the grantees.](#))

“All across the country, local planners are serious about rolling up their sleeves to transform distressed neighborhoods into choice neighborhoods,” said Regional Administrator Jane C. W. Vincent. “This community can now begin the comprehensive planning needed to turn the distressed housing of Parker Riddick and Manor into a viable and sustainable mixed-income community that supports positive outcomes for families.”

The Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority applied for this funding to develop a transformation plan for the targeted housing and neighborhood using a community-based planning process.

“The Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority is excited to receive the Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant,” said Clarissa E. McAdoo, Executive Director of the Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority. “We are equally excited about the possibilities it will provide to assist our implementation team to transform the White Marsh Neighborhood Initiative into the viable mixed income community with access to affordable housing, workforce housing and economic opportunities”.

Building on nearly 20 years of success through HUD’s *HOPE VI Program*, [Choice Neighborhoods](#) links housing improvements with a wider variety of public services including schools, public transit and employment opportunities. The program is a centerpiece of the Obama Administration’s interagency [Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative](#), collaboration between HUD and the Departments of Education, Justice, Treasury and Health and Human Services. With support from the White House Domestic Policy Council and White House Office of Urban Affairs, the interagency partnership supports local solutions for sustainable, mixed-income neighborhoods with the affordable housing, safe streets and good schools all families need.

As a result of partnerships like these, the Obama Administration is making it easier for local leaders who are working to redevelop neighborhoods to also access support for cradle-to-career educational programs through the Education Department's Promise Neighborhoods initiative, public safety strategies through the Justice Department, and community health center improvements through the Department of Health and Human Services.

HUD received 71 submissions for FY 2011 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants from communities across the U.S. Successful applicants demonstrated their intent to transform neighborhoods while leveraging outside investments and other federal dollars to plan for high-quality public schools, outstanding education and early learning programs, public assets, public transportation, and improved access to jobs and well-functioning services. HUD is focused on directing resources to address three core goals – housing, people and neighborhoods.

The communities awarded the planning grants announced today will build the capacity needed to undertake a successful neighborhood transformation and create a *choice neighborhood*. These grants enable communities to create a comprehensive Transformation Plan, or road map, to transform distressed public and/or assisted housing within a distressed community. This Federal support provides a significant incentive for the local community to take critical steps to create viable neighborhood transformation.

Recently, HUD announced Partner.HUD.gov, an innovative online platform to spotlight comprehensive information about grantees and top-tier applicants with the hope that others will consider providing resources. This web portal is intended to provide information funders and other local stakeholders can use to support applications that HUD deemed promising, but was unable to fund. The site also offers communities greater access to similar work happening around the country and provides best-practice models that might help shape their efforts. Today's 2011 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant recipients and the [eight competitive runners-up](#) will be featured on Partner.HUD.gov next week.

Congress approved the *Choice Neighborhoods Initiative* with the passage of HUD's FY 2010 budget, and in FY 2011 authorized HUD to use \$65 million to provide competitive grants to assist in the transformation, rehabilitation and preservation of public housing and privately owned HUD-assisted housing. Congress recently appropriated \$120 million for Fiscal Year 2012. *Choice Neighborhoods* builds on the successes and lessons of HUD's HOPE VI program and widens the traditional pool of eligible applicants beyond public housing authorities to include local governments, nonprofit organizations, and for-profit developers (who apply jointly with a public entity).

###

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 Internet at www.hud.gov and <http://espanol.hud.gov>. You can also follow HUD on twitter [@HUDnews](#), on facebook at www.facebook.com/HUD, or sign up for news alerts on [HUD's News Listserv](#)

FY 2011 Choice Neighborhood Planning Grantees

AWARDEE	CITY	STATE	EXISTING PUBLIC AND/OR ASSISTED HOUSING SITE	TARGETED NEIGHBORHOOD/ AREA OF TOWN	AMOUNT FUNDED
Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority	Cincinnati	OH	English Woods	Fairmount	\$201,844
Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority	Cleveland	OH	Cedar Extension	Central Choice	\$300,000
Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority/Ohio State University/City of Columbus/National Church Residences	Columbus	OH	Poindexter Village	Near East Side	\$300,000
Housing Authority of the City of Little Rock	Little Rock	AR	Sunset Terrace/ Elm Street	Southeast of Downtown	\$300,000
Housing Authority of the City of Meridian	Meridian	MS	George M. Reese Court	East End	\$242,500
Opa-Locka Community Development Corporation	Opa-Locka	FL	The Gardens	Nile Garden	\$300,000
Rockford Housing Authority	Rockford	IL	Fairgrounds Valley	Fairgrounds/ Ellis Heights	\$300,000
Housing Authority of the County of Sacramento	Sacramento	CA	Twin Rivers	River District- Railyards	\$300,000
Housing Authority of Savannah	Savannah	GA	Robert Hitch Village and Fred Wessels Homes	East Savannah Gateway	\$300,000
City of Springfield/ Springfield Housing Authority	Springfield	MA	Marble Street Apartments, Concord Heights, Hollywood Apartments I & II	South End	\$300,000

Suffolk Redevelopment and Housing Authority	Suffolk	VA	Parker Riddick/Cypress Manor	East Washington Street	\$255,656
District of Columbia Housing Authority/ Kenilworth Parkside Resident Management Corporation	Washington	DC	Kenilworth Courts/Kenilworth Parkside Resident Management Corporation	Parkside-Kenilworth	\$300,000
Housing Authority of the City of Wilson/City of Wilson	Wilson	NC	Whitfield Homes	Center City	\$200,000