



Federal News

HUD Issues Final Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Assessment Tool

Local governments must use the [Assessment Tool](#) if they receive funds through Community Development Block Grants, the HOME Investment Partnership Programs, Emergency Solution Grants, and Housing for Persons with AIDS formula funding. The Assessment Tool is a series of questions designed to help local governments identify racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty, patterns of integration and segregation, disparities in access to opportunity, and disproportionate housing needs. The first assessments will be due after October 4, 2016. HUD will issue a separate assessment tool for states, Insular Areas, and public housing authorities. Along with the Assessment Tool, HUD released an AFFH Rule Guidebook and produced a data and mapping tool, fact sheet and webinars.

FHFA Requests Comments on Duty to Serve Rule for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) [seeks comments](#) on a proposed rule to implement the Duty to Serve provisions of a statute requiring Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to serve three specified underserved markets: manufactured housing, affordable housing preservation and rural markets. The proposed rule would require Fannie and Freddie to adopt plans to improve the distribution and availability of mortgage financing in a safe and sound manner for residential properties that serve very low-, low-, and moderate-income families. The comment period ends March 17.

Final Promise Zones Competition Announced by USDA and HUD

[Communities may now apply](#) to be designated a Promise Zone under the third and final round competition. Promise Zones are high-poverty communities where the federal government partners with local leaders to increase economic activity, improve educational opportunities, leverage private investment, reduce violent crime, enhance public health and address other priorities identified by the community. The designation lasts for ten years and gives Promise Zones priority for federal investments and staff support. The application deadline is February 23.

HUD Awards \$1 Billion Through National Disaster Resilience Competition

HUD Secretary Julian Castro and the Rockefeller Foundation [announced the 13 states and communities](#) receiving funding for resilient housing and infrastructure projects. They were all impacted by major disasters between 2011 and 2013.

Goldman Sachs Reaches \$5 Billion Settlement Over Toxic Mortgage Bond Claims

Goldman Sachs announced it reached a \$5 billion settlement agreement to resolve claims related to toxic mortgage bonds sold to investors in the run up to the financial crisis. \$1.8 billion will go to consumer relief including: principal forgiveness for underwater homeowners; financing for construction, rehab and preservation of affordable housing; and support for debt restructuring, foreclosure prevention, housing quality improvement programs, and land banks.

NACEDA News

NACEDA Summit 2016 Will Feature Symposium on Social Determinants of Health

A one-day symposium sponsored by the New Venture Fund with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will advance health equity at NACEDA Summit 2016. The symposium will engage community development association leaders in learning about the social determinants of health, building partnerships with the healthcare industry, and examining promising solutions. The Ohio CDC Association is partnering with NACEDA to bring the summit to Cleveland. Watch for a save-the-date announcement soon!

Member News

Florence Villano Takes the Lead at Connecticut Housing Coalition

Florence Villano is the new Executive Director of the Connecticut Housing Coalition, leaving her position as Grants Administrator for the City of Meriden, CT where she organized the application and implementation of key grant programs including Community Development Block Grants, Neighborhood Initiative Implementation and Training Grants, ConnectHome, and Sustainable Communities Challenge Grants. Villano has held similar jobs elsewhere in the state and worked for the Livable City Initiative in New Haven and two local redevelopment agencies. She succeeds Betsy Crum who is now Executive Director of the Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development and serves on the NACEDA Board of Directors.

Member Events:

- [Housing Development Consortium Celebration](#) - March 29, Seattle, WA
- [Texas Association of CDCs 23rd Annual Conference](#) - April 10-12, South Padre Island, TX plus [Building Financial Sustainability 1-Day Workshop](#) - April 13. Facilitated by the Nonprofit Finance Fund.
- [Association for Neighborhood & Housing Development Conference](#) - April 11, NY, NY
- [Housing California 2016 Annual Conference](#) - April 12-14, Sacramento, CA
- [Philadelphia Association of CDCs Annual Gala & Awards Ceremony](#) - April 21 in Phila, PA

Partner News

ArtPlace America Announces \$10.5 Million to Fund Creative PlaceMaking

ArtPlace America will fund projects that work with artists and arts organizations to help build stronger, healthier communities anywhere in the United States. Registration is required by February 16. [Applications](#) must be submitted by March 2.

NHC Report Examines How Investing in Housing Can Save On Health Care

[How Investing in Housing Can Save On Health Care](#) examines recent research on the effectiveness of housing interventions in achieving health care cost savings. Studies find that providing permanent supportive housing for homeless people can result in significant savings on public health care costs--usually more than enough to offset housing and service costs. With new opportunities under the Affordable Care Act and expanded Medicaid, the research supports collaboration between the housing and health communities on supportive housing programs.

CFED Releases Assets & Opportunity Scorecard

The [Assets & Opportunity Scorecard](#) shows that nearly half of all Americans are living paycheck-to-paycheck. It examines state-by-state adoption of 69 different policies and finds clear evidence that policy change at all levels can make a significant difference, particularly in regard to healthcare. The scorecard includes reports on racial disparity, a liquid asset poverty calendar, and customizable charts and grants to help advocates make the case for asset-building policies in their states.

NALCAB Seeks Applicants for Colegio Community Development Fellowship Class

The [Colegio Fellowship](#) is a nine-month program to cultivate the next generation Latino leaders in community economic development nonprofit organizations across the country. It's designed for individuals with up to ten years in the asset building field. Application deadline is February 7.

Events and Educational Opportunities

New Partners for Smart Growth Conference - February 11-13 in Portland, OR. The nation's largest smart growth and sustainability [event](#) focuses on tools and strategies for creating great communities.

Understanding and Overcoming Challenges to Voter Registration - February 17. [NLIHC webinar](#) at 2 pm (Eastern Time).

2016 National Conference on Ending Family and Youth Homelessness - February 17-19 in Oakland, CA. Presented by the [National Alliance to End Homelessness](#).

NCRC Annual Conference - March 16-18 in Washington, DC. Theme: [Creating a Just Economy](#).

NLIHC Housing Policy Forum - April 3-5 in Washington, DC. Theme: [Overcoming Housing Policy. Achieving Housing Justice](#).

Solutions for Housing Communications Convening - April 28-29 in New York, NY. Presented by the [National Housing Conference](#).

Funding Opportunities

Funding and Design Assistance for Rural Communities - [The Citizens' Institute on Rural Design](#) helps small towns and rural communities solve design-related challenges, from Main Street revitalization to art-based community development.

Thriving Cultures Grants - The [Surdna Foundation](#) supports efforts that provide artists with business training and financial resources to be valuable economic assets for their communities.

Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants - [HUD funding](#) for communities with severely distressed public or HUD-assisted housing to develop neighborhood transformation plans. Feb 9 deadline.

Pay for Success Permanent Supportive Housing Demonstration Program - [DOJ and HUD partnership](#) finances services that can attract additional, non-traditional sources of funding to combat chronic homelessness. Feb 12 deadline.

National Creative Placemaking Fund - [ArtPlace America](#). Registration required by Feb 16. Applications due March 2.

Gender/Racial/Economic Justice grants - [Open Meadows Foundation](#) grants for projects led by and benefiting women in vulnerable communities. Feb 15 deadline for cycle 1.

Sustainable Design Assessment Teams - [American Institute of Architects](#) TA and funding. Feb 19 deadline.

Vodafone Wireless Innovation Project - [Vodafone Americas Foundation](#) funds innovations using wireless related technology to address social issues. Feb 22 deadline.

Veterans Housing Grants - [Home Depot Foundation](#), Feb 27 and June 23 deadlines.

Bank of America Charitable Foundation - [Workforce development and education](#), apply Jan 19-Feb 12; [Community development](#), apply Apr 19-May 6; [Basic needs](#), apply July 18-Aug 5.

Pay for Success Permanent Supportive Housing Demonstration Program - [HUD funding](#) to prevent homelessness and reduce recidivism among reentry population. Feb 12 deadline.

Tech Hire Partnership Grants - [Department of Labor](#) will provide approximately \$100M to equip workers in specific fields. Mar 11 deadline.

Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals - [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) grants to provide services and permanent supportive housing. Mar 15 deadline.

Fund for a Just Society - [Unitarian Universalist](#) funding for community organizing to bring about systematic change. Mar 15 and Sept 15 deadlines.

Supportive Services Demonstration for Elderly Households in HUD-Assisted Multifamily Housing - [HUD funding](#) to support aging in place, Apr 18 deadline.

NEA Challenge America - [National Endowment for the Arts](#) funding for projects that emphasize the potential of the arts in community development projects. Apr 14 deadline.

Financial Literacy Funding - [Discover Foundation](#). Applications accepted year-round.

Rural Business Enterprise Grant Programs - [Department of Agriculture](#). Supports targeted TA, training, and other assistance for small and emerging private businesses. Rolling deadlines.

Publications

Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Showcase - [Novogradac report](#) commemorates the 30th anniversary of the passage of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC); describes the history of the credit; the impact it has on residents, developers, investors and state agencies; and profiles more than 70 properties across the nation

Employment Opportunities

Finance Manager - [Ohio CDC Association](#), Columbus, OH, Feb 12 deadline.

To post a job announcement, contact Suzanne Gunther at sgunther@naceda.org. A [\\$25 donation](#) is requested.

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