



NCDA Washington Report January 22, 2021

Biden Takes Swift Action on COVID-19 Recovery

President Joe Biden wasted no time in issuing executive actions to assist with COVID-19 recovery. His first day in office, the President signed an executive order instructing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to extend the federal eviction moratorium through at least March 31. The President also called on Congress to provide more rental relief. The order also instructed HUD, the Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Veterans Affairs to extend foreclosure moratoriums for federally guaranteed mortgages and to continue forbearances for federally guaranteed mortgages until at least March 31, 2021.

Yesterday, the President issued an executive order directing FEMA to remove the 25 percent cost sharing requirement for its Public Assistance Program and provide grantees with full reimbursement for the cost of housing people experiencing homelessness at hotel and motel rooms through September 30, 2021.

Last week, President Biden released his coronavirus stimulus and relief plan, the American Rescue Plan. The \$1.9 trillion plan is designed to deliver multi-pronged relief to businesses and families suffering from the economic repercussions of COVID-19. The plan includes a round of \$1,400 direct payments to individuals making less than \$75,000 and couples earning less than \$150,000. Parents would receive an additional \$1,400 for children under the age of 17 and for dependent college students under age 23 and elderly parents living in the household. The plan would boost federal unemployment benefits to \$400 per week through September 30, 2021. The plan increases the existing child tax credit from \$2,000 to \$3,600 for children under 6 and \$3,000 for children ages 6-17. The plan also adopts a \$15 national minimum wage.

The plan includes \$25 billion in additional rental assistance and includes a nationwide moratorium on evictions and foreclosures through September 30, 2021. The plan also includes \$5 billion in homelessness assistance to fund congregate and non-congregate housing options, purchase and convert motels and hotels into permanent housing, and fund homeless service providers.

Emergency Rental Assistance Program

As part of the \$900 billion coronavirus relief package approved earlier this month, Congress included \$25 billion for an emergency rental assistance program to be administered by the Treasury Department. State and local governments with populations over 200,000 are eligible to receive direct payments from the Treasury if they applied for program funding by January 12. Funds can be used to pay rent, rental

arrears, utilities and home energy costs (and arrears), and other expenses (yet to be defined by Treasury). Assisted households must have income below 80% of area median and meet other criteria. Tenants or landlords that qualify can apply for assistance through the programs set up by a state, territorial, tribal or local government. Please see the attached program overview for more information. Earlier this week the Treasury Department published a [FAQ document](#) providing further guidance on the program.

NCDA submitted [program recommendations](#) to the Treasury last week.

OTHER FEDERAL NEWS

IRS Extends Coronavirus Relief Measures for LIHTC

The IRS issued a notice on January 15, 2021, extending relief measures for Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) properties. The notice extends through September 30, 2021 the deadline for the 10 percent test for carryover LIHTC allocations and the 24-month minimum rehabilitation expenditure period. The notice also extended the deadline for income recertifications and compliance monitoring until October 1, 2021. The placed-in service deadline is extended to December 31, 2021.

HUD NEWS

New Staff

The Senate Banking Committee will hold a confirmation hearing next week on Rep. Marcia Fudge's nomination to be HUD Secretary.

The Biden Administration this week appointed two community development practitioners to key positions at HUD. Arthur Jemison was named as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD). Arthur will lead the CPD Office. Jemison most recently served as the Chief of Services and Infrastructure for Detroit and led the City's Housing and Revitalization Department.

Kevin Bush was appointed to the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs which oversees the CDBG and HOME programs. Bush served as the chief resilience officer for Washington, DC and served in the Obama Administration as a resiliency strategist at HUD.

HUD Releases Proposed Rule on the Implementation of National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE); Comments Due March 15, 2021

The rule proposes a new approach to defining and assessing housing quality through a new inspection and evaluation model, the National Standards for Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE). The rule seeks to reduce regulatory burden and improve HUD oversight through alignment and consolidation, as much as possible, of the Housing Quality Standards (HQS) used by some HUD programs and the Uniform Physical Condition Standards (UPCS) used by other HUD programs into one inspection protocol. The rule would consolidate 14 sections spread across 24 CFR into 7 consecutive sections. The rules list several questions for comment. Questions 3 through 11 pertain to the HOME program. Question 12 pertains to

the CoC, ESG, and HOPWA programs. NCDAs may provide comments on this rule if we receive comments from members. Please send your comments to vwatson@ncdaonline.org by March 5.

CDBG/CDBG-CV Program/Policy Updates

The [CPD Grantee Monitoring Handbook](#) has been updated to include revisions to Chapter 6 (Disaster Recovery) and Chapter 8 (2 CFR Part 200 changes).

HUD plans to release the following guidance in the coming months.

CDBG-CV guidance on the following topics (*coming spring/summer 2021*)

- municipal owned utilities
- unemployment payments and annual income
- Lead-Based Paint 100-day inspection requirement

IDIS guidance:

- Section 3 reporting templates for IDIS (*coming March 2021*)
- PR02 CDBG/CDBG-CV activity detail report (*coming March 2021*)
- CDBG-CV cash on hand report – CDBG-CV SF-425 report (*coming July 2021*)
- Section 3 reports for CAPER reporting (*coming July 2021*)

HUD Releases Report on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing

On January 19, the Office of Policy Development and Research released a [report](#) on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing in response to the high cost of housing in many markets and lack of affordable housing supply. The report describes the actions the federal government can take to reduce federal regulatory barriers and identifies state, local, and tribal activities to reduce housing costs and increase housing supply. The report also outlines ways the federal government can encourage and support jurisdictions to increase housing supply across income levels.

CDBG-CV Duplication of Benefits Resources

CDBG-CV grantees are required to conduct a duplication of benefits review for each CDBG-CV eligible activity. HUD has developed the following resources to help CDBG-CV grantees prevent duplication of benefits.

[CDBG-CV Duplication of Benefits Quick Guide](#)

This guide helps grantees determine duplication of benefits using examples.

[CARES Act Programs through SBA, FEMA, IRS, Treasury, USDA, and HHS](#)

The table summarizes other federal coronavirus-related resources (primarily those funded under the CARES Act).

[Memo: CDBG Coronavirus Grantee Resources to Prevent Duplication of Benefits](#)

This official HUD memorandum provides background information on the federal law that forms the basis for HUD's duplication of benefits policy.

Current Availability of Section 108 Financing for Entitlement and State Grantees

HUD has released updated [information](#) on existing Section 108 borrowing capacity for entitlement communities and states interested in applying for Section 108 guaranteed loans. Section 108 offers grantees the ability to access low-cost, long-term federally guaranteed financing for housing, economic development, and infrastructure projects.

Environmental Reviews for COVID-19 Projects Webinar Materials Posted

HUD has posted the [slides](#), [recording](#), and [transcript](#) from the December 10, 2020 webinar held by the Office of Environment and Energy to inform responsible entities and program recipients on the environmental review requirements and procedures for HUD-assisted projects during the COVID-19 emergency.

NCD A NEWS

National Community Development Week, April 5-9

National Community Development Week will be held April 5-9, 2021. It is designed to focus national attention on the CDBG and HOME programs to help secure increased funding for the programs and make Congress and others aware of local program impacts. It is intentionally held during the Congressional appropriations season to allow for grantees to communicate to Congressional members the importance of both programs to low-income people and neighborhoods.

With the ongoing coronavirus pandemic in place, we are asking members to focus on social media activities in lieu of onsite events this year. NCD A will meet with its national partners (U.S. Conference of Mayors, National Association of Counties, Council of State Community Development Agencies, National Association for County Community Economic Development, National Association of Regional Councils, American Planning Association, and National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials) in early February to map out the social media campaign for National Community Development Week. Following the meeting, we will provide you with social media guidance and messaging templates for you to use during National Community Development Week.

2021 Audrey Nelson Award Winners Announced

NCD A congratulates the following recipients of the 2021 Audrey Nelson Award. The Award recognizes exemplary community development projects that demonstrate local impact, collaboration, innovation, replication and leveraging. The recipients will be recognized on January 29, at the NCD A Virtual Winter Conference.

Los Angeles County, CA
LACDA/City Small Business Grant Program

Pasco County, FL
Vincent House

City of Worcester, MA
Stearns Tavern Relocation Project

City of San Antonio, TX
Emergency Housing Assistance Program

City of La Crosse, WI
Grand Terrace Apartments

City of Alexandria, VA
The Bloom/Carpenter's Shelter

NCDA Community Development Service Awards

The following members have retired or will retire by the end of the month and NCDA will recognize their community development service and contributions to NCDA with the Community Development Service Award on January 29, during the NCDA Winter Conference. All three recipients dedicated their careers to developing and implementing CDBG-funded projects to assist low- and moderate-income people and improve neighborhoods.

Doris Turner
Little Rock, AR

Fred Thomas
Shreveport, LA

John Leonard
New York, NY

John A. Sasso Memorial Scholarship

NCDA is pleased to announce the establishment of the John A. Sasso Memorial Scholarship in memory of NCDA's founder, John A. Sasso. The scholarship was established to enhance the educational and professional development of NCDA members relatively new to the housing and community development field.

Who is eligible?

- Applicants must be an employee of and sponsored by an NCDA member organization.
- NCDA member organizations are limited to two scholarships in total.
- Applicants must plan to attend a training offered by NCDA on a tuition reimbursement basis or attend a national or regional NCDA conference.
- Applicants must have five years or less work experience in housing/community development.

Apply online [here](#). Please contact Vicki Watson at vwatson@ncdaonline.org with any questions.

NCDA 2021 Virtual Winter Conference – January 27-29, 2021

The NCDA 2021 Virtual Winter Conference will be held January 27-29. Please go here to view the [agenda](#). The last day to [register](#) for the conference is **January 26**.

NCDA Training

NCDA is pleased to offer the following online training.

HOME Basics Course (Certificate)

Mondays and Wednesdays

March 1 through March 24

3:00 pm ET – 5:30 pm ET

Register [here](#)

IDIS Basics Course (Certificate)

Mondays and Wednesdays

April 5 through April 28

2:00 pm ET – 4:30 pm ET

Register [here](#)

CDBG Primer – On Demand

This training covers the fundamentals of the CDBG Program. View the course at your convenience.

Registration fee: \$50 members/\$100 non-members

Register [here](#)

Subrecipient Management Primer – On Demand

This training is a condensed version of NCDA's three-day Managing Subrecipients Course. View the course at your convenience.

Registration fee: \$50 member/\$100 non-members

Register [here](#)

IDIS Primer – On Demand

This training provides an overview of IDIS for CDBG grantees and HOME participating jurisdictions. View the course at your convenience.

Registration fee: \$50 members/\$100 non-members

Register [here](#)

HOME Primer – On Demand

This training covers the fundamentals of the HOME Program. View the course at your convenience.

Registration fee: \$50 members/\$100 non-members

Register [here](#)

Please contact Steve at sgartrell@ncdaonline.org with any questions.

Upcoming Webinars

Introduction to the New NCDA Forum

February 3, 2021

2:00 pm ET – 3:00 pm ET

Register [here](#)

Treasury's Emergency Rental Assistance Program
(coming soon)

CDBG and HOME Stories of Impact

To promote our core programs – CDBG and HOME, NCDAs are collecting stories of impact. The stories will be used in our efforts to promote the programs with Congress and the Administration in the coming year. Please use the following link to share your story of impact.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDBGHOMEImpact>

Please contact Vicki Watson at vwatson@ncdaonline.org with any questions.

**Department of Housing and Urban Development
Budget Chart**

<i>Program</i>	<i>FY20 Omnibus Spending Measure (12/23/2019)</i>	<i>President's FY21 Budget Proposal (2/10/2020)</i>	<i>House FY21 THUD Bill (7/31/2020)</i>	<i>Senate Appropriations Committee (11/10/2020)</i>	<i>Final FY21 Omnibus Spending Measure (12/21/2020)</i>
CDBG Formula Grants	\$3.4 billion	\$0	\$3.5 billion	\$3.425 billion	\$3.450 billion
HOME Formula Grants	\$1.350 billion	\$0	\$1.7 billion	\$1.375 billion	\$1.350 billion
Homeless Assistance Grants	\$2.777 billion	\$2.773 billion	\$3.415 billion	\$2.951 billion	\$3.0 billion
Section 108	\$300 million	\$0	\$300 million	\$300 million	\$300 million
Choice Neighborhoods	\$175 million	\$0	\$250 million	\$100 million	\$200 million
HOPWA	\$410 million	\$330 million	\$430 million	\$410 million	\$430 million
Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction	\$290 million	\$360 million	\$340 million	\$360 million	\$360 million
Elderly Housing (Section 202)	\$793 million	\$853 million	\$893 million	\$853 million	\$855 million
Housing for Persons with Disabilities (811)	\$202 million	\$252 million	\$227 million	\$237 million	\$227 million
Housing Choice Vouchers (Tenant-Based Rental Assistance)	\$21.5 billion	\$18.8 billion	\$25.7 billion	\$22.891 billion	\$23.080 billion
Project-Based Rental Assistance	\$12.170 billion	\$12.6 billion	\$13.4 billion	\$12.653 billion	\$13.465 billion
Public Housing Operating Fund	\$4.549 billion	\$3.6 billion	\$4.649 billion	\$4.492 billion	\$4.839 billion

Public Housing Capital Fund	\$2.869 billion	\$0	\$3.18 billion	\$2.765 billion	\$2.765 billion
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