



2026 National Community Development Week Tool Kit



#CDWeek2026

#CDBGWorks

The 2026 National Community Development (CD) Week will be celebrated April 6-10.

This tool kit is designed to help communities with the planning and implementation of their National CD Week activities.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section 1: Background

1. Why Community Development Week?
2. History and Purpose

Section 2: Planning and Marketing

1. Goals and Activities
2. Example Timeline
3. Example Resources

Section 3: Celebration Ideas

1. Proclamations
2. Press Releases
3. Project Tours
4. Program Fact Sheets

Section 4: Congress

1. Meeting with Congress
2. Congressional Letter Template

Section 5: CD Week Awards

1. John A. Sasso Award
2. Unique Project Examples

Section 6: Social Media

1. Social Media Guidance
2. Daily Social Media Posts



SECTION 1: BACKGROUND

WHY NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK?

National Community Development Week was created in 1986 by NCD A and elected official groups to bring national attention to the CDBG Program through grassroots support at a time when the program was facing scrutiny by Congress. The main objective of National Community Development Week is the education of Congressional members on the importance of CDBG, its impact and the need for increased program funding. National Community Development Week is intentionally held during the Congressional appropriations process so that the significance of CDBG can be imparted to Congressional members through local activities conducted by grantees and program partners at the grassroots level.

National Community Development Week will be held April 6-10, 2026. This is a critical time for appropriations; work on the upcoming FY 2027 HUD funding bill will be in the initial stages. National Community Development Week provides the perfect opportunity to cement the importance of CDBG in the minds of those in Washington to increase program funding.

Start planning your activities immediately. We ask you to go beyond the issuance of a proclamation this year and focus on engaging your Congressional members more fully on the impact of the program during National Community Development Week. This engagement could be a meeting, a project tour, or other activity that directly affords Congressional offices the opportunity to learn about the program and see firsthand how the funds are being used. Highlighting the work that occurs with CDBG dollars in your community creates a tangible connection for lawmakers between the funding they appropriate for the program and improvements to their states and districts. Congressional members like to hear directly from the organizations or people the program serves. If possible, put a face to your program by including beneficiaries and subrecipients in your activities.

CDBG HISTORY AND PURPOSE

Enacted by Congress in 1974 under the Housing and Community Development Act and signed into law by President Gerald Ford on August 22, 1974, CDBG provides necessary funding to communities across the country to address infrastructure, economic development, housing, disaster recovery, and other community needs. CDBG was the result of the consolidation of eight categorical programs which were federally funded. Consolidation meant that communities no longer had to compete for funding of each program and allowed community leaders to make their own decisions about resource distribution at the state and local levels. The inception of CDBG greatly increased the efficiency of the federal granting process. Since 1995, CDBG regulations have been periodically revised to further increase program effectiveness by increasing flexibility for grantees, adapting to statutory changes, and responding to audits by the Inspector General.

WHO BENEFITS?

Low- and moderate-income people are the direct program beneficiaries. States and entitlement cities and counties receive direct program allocations. Small, rural communities receive assistance through their state. Nonprofit organizations, contractors, and other local partner organizations serve as program subrecipients to deliver local CDBG activities. State and local governments work with their local program partners and harness input from the public to develop community development programs that invest in low- and moderate- income people and neighborhoods. One of CDBG's greatest strengths is its ability to leverage other investments. As a flexible resource designed to accommodate local needs, CDBG often serves to match other sources of public and private funds. Program resources also help projects and services become reality providing gap funding to meet budget needs.

CDBG IMPACT

2,079,863

LMI households
assisted
(FY05-FY24)

204,327,988

Individuals assisted by
public services
(FY05-FY24)

59,146,371

Individuals benefited from
public improvements
(FY05-FY24)

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

In addition to CDBG, HUD offers a number of other Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs, including the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program. HOME is the largest federal block grant to state and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. Every single county in the U.S. has access to HOME funds. HOME funds benefit persons at or below 80 percent of area median income (AMI) by providing funds for construction or rehabilitation of housing for renters and homebuyers, owner-occupied rehabilitation, and tenant-based rental assistance. Just like with CDBG, HOME funds are awarded annually as formula grants to eligible and participating jurisdictions. The program's flexibility allows states and local governments to use HOME funds for grants, direct loans, other forms of credit enhancements, or security deposits.

While this Tool Kit focuses on advocacy activities for CDBG projects, keep in mind that these are applicable to your community's HOME projects as well.

HOME IMPACT

1,400,000

Units of Affordable
Housing
produced or preserved
(since 1992)

415,000

households received
tenant-based rental
assistance
(since 1992)

SECTION 2: PLANNING AND MARKETING

GOALS OF NATIONAL CD WEEK

- **Increase awareness** of the impact of the CDBG program through public engagement and education.
- **Organize events** that showcase CDBG-funded projects.
- **Involve** lawmakers, program partners, and local media in your events.
- **Market and amplify** your events early and often through a variety of advertising.

NATIONAL CD WEEK ACTIVITIES

CD Week is designed to focus local as well as national attention on the CDBG program. Public support and involvement from Congressional offices, local and state elected officials, program subrecipients, media, community leaders, and program beneficiaries in National Community Development Week is important.

In whatever activities you choose, make sure to reiterate these key points:

- How program funds are invested in the community to meet critical needs and leverage resources.
- The need for more program resources.

ACTIVITY EXAMPLES

- Proclamation
- Press release
- Press conference
- Fact sheet
- Project site tour
- Social media
- Congressional meeting
- Public workshops
- CD Worker Celebration/Ceremony
- Community service events

IMPORTANCE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Proclaim, announce, promote National Community Development Week! Advertising and promotion is critical to a successful National Community Development Week. Most importantly, market National Community Development Week early and often throughout your community. Use a variety of methods to reach all stakeholders - social media, print media, radio, television, and the internet. Reach out to Congressional offices early to guarantee their participation in your events.

CD week is also an opportunity to look at the bigger picture of your work and see that your accomplishments are greater than the sum of their parts.

CD WEEK EXAMPLE TIMELINE

The most impactful CD Week celebrations will include unique events every day of the week

MONDAY - Mayoral proclamation, open house for agencies and partners, panel discussion with community leaders

TUESDAY - guided tour of recent or future CDBG/HOME funded projects

WEDNESDAY - community service event (park rehabilitation, street cleanup, food drive) and picnic or community lunch

THURSDAY - Partner with local business to host clinics and/or resource tables (estate and will, homebuyer or renter assistance, insurance, neighborhood services, code compliance, library services, police oversight)

FRIDAY - Recognizing the work of the CD department (award ceremony, meet and greet with Congress member or other elected officials). Gifting CD week "swag" and photos of CDBG funded projects to board commissioners

DISTRIBUTE KEY TOOLS AND RESOURCES

Visit NCDA's website to download relevant state and program area fact sheets which you can distribute to policy makers and community leaders during CD Week.

See these sample fact sheets below:

CDBG IN GEORGIA

The CDBG Coalition calls on all Members of Congress to fund at least **\$4.2 Billion** for CDBG formula grants in FY2026.




WHAT IS CDBG?

The **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program** is a highly impactful federal program that allows State and local governments and their program partners to craft locally driven solutions to address urgent and important community development needs. Program activities focus on four areas: decent housing, infrastructure (public improvements), services, and economic development. The CDBG program grows local economies and improves the quality of lives for low- and moderate-income citizens. Over **1,200 jurisdictions** receive an annual allocation of CDBG funds. Nationally, over **7,200 rural, suburban, and urban communities** have access to CDBG funds. Communities use CDBG to respond to community development needs, including job creation, affordable housing development, improvement of existing housing stock, the delivery of services, and the development of infrastructure improvements.

CDBG'S IMPACT IN GEORGIA (FY05-FY23)

- 28,812 JOBS CREATED/RETAINED**
- 28,060 LMI HOUSEHOLDS ASSISTED**
- 1,550,121 PEOPLE BENEFITED BY PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS**
- 2,655,953 PEOPLE BENEFITED BY PUBLIC SERVICES**

CDBG WORKS

The program serves the Nation. Every State, U.S. Territory, and Congressional District has access to CDBG funding. For 2024, the state of **Georgia** and localities received **\$82,178,066** in CDBG formula funds.

LACK OF FUNDING

Despite its successes, the CDBG Program has been cut by **\$1.1 billion** since FY 2001.

FY2001: \$4.4 BILLION

FY2024: \$3.3 BILLION

CDBG ASSISTS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE NATIONWIDE

- Provide vital public services**
Between FY05- FY24, CDBG funding provided to local nonprofit organizations for public services programs assisted **204,327,988 people**. Public services activities included operating cost assistance for programs serving the homeless, assistance to local food banks, employment training, services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and many other activities.
- Provide public improvements to communities**
Between FY05-FY24, CDBG public improvements directly benefitted **59,146,371 people**. These public improvements included senior centers, childcare centers, group homes for people with disabilities, homeless shelters, sanitary water and sewer systems, and improved drainage systems, among others.
- Provide safe, decent, affordable housing**
Between FY05-FY24, CDBG assisted **2,079,863 LMI households**. Assistance included home rehabilitation, providing down payment and closing cost assistance to home buyers, and assisting with lead-based paint abatement, among other activities.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Fact Sheet

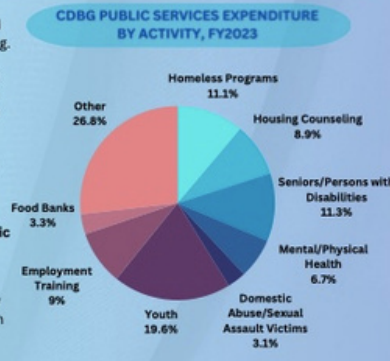


For the past five decades, the CDBG program has been one of the most important resources used by state and local governments to meet community development needs. CDBG is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) with the intention of funding a wide range of project areas, principally for low- and moderate-income people. This fact sheet highlights one of CDBG's most important areas.

PUBLIC SERVICES

- Serves the Nation.** Every State, U.S. Territory, and Congressional District has access to CDBG funding.
- Improves community well-being.** CDBG serves to maintain quality of life and address critical needs within vulnerable populations through immediate and long term services.
- Since FY2005, CDBG provided funding for public services that assisted over **189 million low- and moderate-income people** nationwide.
- In FY2023 alone, CDBG provided funding for **public services** that assisted over **7.5 million people** nationwide.
- Accessible for all.** Public services are provided by large and small public and private organizations in diverse settings such as schools, community facilities and other venues.
- Flexibility for community needs.** CDBG public service activities include programs serving the homeless, aid to local food banks, services for low-income seniors, employment training, services for abused and neglected children, services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and health services.

CDBG PUBLIC SERVICES EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITY, FY2023



Activity	Percentage
Other	26.8%
Homeless Programs	11.1%
Housing Counseling	8.9%
Seniors/Persons with Disabilities	11.3%
Mental/Physical Health	6.7%
Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault Victims	3.1%
Youth	19.6%
Employment Training	9%
Food Banks	3.3%
Other	26.8%

Congress Must Support CDBG

- Funding has significantly diminished** since the inception of the program.
- The 2023 enacted appropriation of \$3.3 billion represents approximately **one quarter of the funding level in 1975** when adjusted for inflation, while the **number of grantees has doubled**.
- The CDBG Coalition calls on all Members of Congress to fund at least **\$4.2 billion** in CDBG formula grants in **FY2025**.

The CDBG Coalition consists of 34 national organizations which recognize the importance of the CDBG program in empowering and transforming people and places. For more information on CDBG and the CDBG Coalition, please contact Vicki Watson with the National Community Development Association [v.watson@ncdaonline.org].

[Link: 2025 CDBG State Fact Sheets](#)

[Link: 2025 CDBG Program Fact Sheets](#)

SECTION 3: CELEBRATION IDEAS

CD WEEK PROCLAMATIONS

The passage of a National Community Development Week proclamation by your local elected body is an effective first step in letting the public know about your community's commitment to development. Send a press release and proclamation to local media outlets and to your Congressional delegation. This activity requires minimal effort and can be undertaken by every grantee. Some communities also hold special ceremonies or press briefings to announce the passage of the proclamation to gain further media attention for National CD Week. Information on setting up a press briefing will be given on the following pages.

SAMPLE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the week of April 6-10, 2026, has been designated by the National Community Development Association as National Community Development Week to celebrate the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG Program provides annual funding and flexibility to local communities to provide decent, safe and affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities to low- and moderate-income people; and

WHEREAS, over the past three years, our community has received a total of \$_____ in CDBG funds and has funded a variety of projects that have directly benefited our citizens and neighborhoods; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City/County of _____ designates the week of April 6-10, 2026, as National Community Development Week in support of this valuable program that has made tremendous contributions to the viability of the housing stock, infrastructure, public services, and the economic well-being of our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that our community urges Congress and the Trump Administration to recognize the outstanding work being done locally and nationally with CDBG by supporting increased funding for the program in FY 2026.

SPOTLIGHT: CITY OF DOTHAN, AL PROCLAMATION

P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, the week of April 21-25, 2025 has been designated as National Community Development Week by the National Community Development Association (NCD A) to celebrate the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG Program has empowered communities to address a wide range of needs, including affordable housing, economic development, public facilities, and services for low- and moderate-income individuals and families; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dothan recognizes the importance of community development and the CDBG Program in fostering vibrant, inclusive, and resilient neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years, the City of Dothan has received over \$2.5 million in CDBG funds and has funded a variety of activities and projects that have directly benefited our citizens and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dothan remains committed to leveraging federal resources through the CDBG Program to build a more prosperous future for all residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Saliba, Mayor of the City of Dothan, and in such capacity, do hereby proclaim the week of April 21-25, 2025, as

"COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK"

in the City of Dothan and urge all residents to join in recognizing the CDBG Program and reaffirming our commitment to community development and opportunity for all citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dothan to be affixed the 15th day of April, 2025.

SEAL



Attest:

Wendy Shiver
City Clerk

Mark Saliba
Mayor

SPOTLIGHT: MARION COUNTY, FL PROCLAMATION

Proclamation

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, the week of April 21-25, 2025, has been designated as National Community Development Week to celebrate the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program; and

WHEREAS, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program was enacted through the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; and

WHEREAS, this program is celebrating its 51st year providing annual funding and flexibility to local communities to provide decent, safe, and affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities to low and moderate-income people; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the Florida Association of Counties, Florida Housing Coalition, Florida Community Development Association, and the National Association for County Community and Economic Development partner with Marion County by offering education, resources, and advocacy to strengthen local initiatives and expand opportunities for community growth and development,

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim that **April 21- 25, 2025** be known as

“NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK”

and encourages all citizens of our community to support and endorse this valuable program that has made tremendous contributions to the viability of the housing stock, infrastructure, public services, and the economic well-being of our community.

DULY PROCLAIMED this 15th day of April, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

Kathy Bryant, Chairman

Carl Zalak, III, Vice Chair

Michelle Stone, Commissioner

Craig Curry, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Gregory C. Harrell, Clerk of Court

Matt McClain, Commissioner

SPOTLIGHT: VILLAGE OF OAK PARK, IL VIDEO PROCLAMATION

View here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpTgIFHFSGM>

PRESS RELEASES

Issue a press release announcing National Community Development Week. Follow-up with the passage of a National Community Development Week proclamation by your local elected body. Send the press release and proclamation to local media outlets and to your Congressional delegation. These activities require minimal effort and can be undertaken by every grantee. A sample press release and proclamation are included in this guidebook. Some communities also hold special ceremonies or press briefings to announce the passage of the proclamation to gain further media attention for National CD Week.

TIPS FOR WRITING A PRESS RELEASE

- Use a catchy title and a picture of a CDBG funded project to catch the reader's eye.
- Include the "who, what, when, where, why, and how" at the beginning.
- Provide a timeline of upcoming activities and events to increase public engagement.
- Briefly describe the past and present impact of CDBG on your community.
- Include quotes from local officials and community members regarding CDBG success.
- Include contact information for people who can answer questions about the release.
- Type "# # #" centered below the last line to signal the end of the release.

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE TEMPLATE

The City/County of _____ Celebrates National Community Development Week; April 6-10, 2026 Mayor/County Executive _____ and the City/County Council today issued a proclamation supporting the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and recognizing National Community Development Week, April 6-10, 2026. The weeklong celebration brings together citizens, elected officials, government staff, media, program subrecipients and beneficiaries through events to showcase the impact of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

The CDBG program provides grants to over 1,200 local governments to create neighborhood approaches that improve the physical, economic, and social conditions in communities. Every \$1.00 of CDBG leverages more than double in other funding, bringing additional resources to communities.

The CDBG program is needed more than ever to help our most vulnerable citizens and improve the overall condition of our neighborhoods. The City/County will highlight the program during National CD Week by conducting the following activities [Describe your CD Week activities].

SPOTLIGHT: CITY OF DALLAS, TX PRESS RELEASE



Communications & Customer Experience/311
DallasCityNews.net

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 21, 2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

media@dallas.gov

City of Dallas recognizes National Community Development Week

DALLAS - During National Community Development Week, observed from April 21–25, Dallas residents and elected officials will have the chance to see how federally funded initiatives are making a difference in local communities. Programs like the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program, both funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Consolidated Plan, support efforts to expand affordable housing, reduce poverty, and improve infrastructure across the city.

The weeklong celebration will highlight the positive impact of these programs through events and outreach efforts across Dallas, while also emphasizing the need for continued and increased funding.

Community Development Week will engage residents, local leaders, businesses, media, and nonprofits through a variety of activities designed to showcase the transformative effects of CDBG and HOME investments on Dallas neighborhoods—enhancing the city's physical, economic, and social landscape.

Scheduled Events Include:

- **Tuesday, April 22: Special Open House** – Celebrating a CDBG–Funded Out-of-School (After-School) Program from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Leila P. Cowart Elementary School (1515 S Ravinia Dr, Dallas, TX 75211).
- **Wednesday, April 23: Mayoral Proclamation** – A Mayoral Proclamation will declare April 21–25, 2025 as National Community Development Week.
- **Thursday, April 24: In-Kind Donation Drive**: Join our In-Kind Donation Drive supporting the Austin Street Center! Contributions made in advance will be recognized during a special appreciation event on Thursday, April 24th, from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the Austin Street Center (1717 Jeffries Street, Dallas, TX 75226). This drive is part of the CDC-led Public Service Engagement Initiative.
 - Priority items are listed on their Amazon Wish List: <https://amzn.to/42zqfTp>. Please ensure all donations related to this initiative are directed to the attention of Mr. Julian Mensah, Development Director.

In addition, the **Annual Community Development Bus Tour** will be held on **Saturday, May 17**. This year's tour will highlight key projects, including revitalization efforts in the historic Joppa neighborhood, the new affordable Jaipur Lofts community, and public improvement projects in the Bachman Lake area.

For more info, [click here](#).

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HIGHLIGHT CD ACTIVITIES ON DEPARTMENT WEBSITE

SPOTLIGHT: CITY OF HIGH POINT, NC

[Home](#) > [Government](#) > [Departments](#) > [Community Development & Housing](#) > 2025 National Community Development Week

2025 NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK



#CDWeek2025

#CDBGworks

#HOMEworks

CDBG PROGRAM HISTORY AND PURPOSE

Enacted by Congress in 1974 under the Housing and Community Development Act and signed into law by President Gerald Ford on August 22, 1974, the program officially turned 50 on August 22, 2024. The Act consolidated eight federal categorical programs into one block grant – CDBG – and devolved federal decision making for urban issues to local governments. CDBG provides funding to communities across the country to address infrastructure, economic development, housing, disaster recovery, and other community needs. The program provides local communities with the flexibility to design and implement strategies tailored to meet local needs and priorities.

WHO BENEFITS?

Low- and moderate-income people are the direct program beneficiaries. States and entitlement cities and counties receive direct program allocations. Small, rural communities receive assistance through their state. Nonprofit organizations, contractors, and other local partner organizations serve as program subrecipients to deliver local CDBG activities. State and local governments work with their local program partners and harness input from the public to develop community development programs that invest in low- and moderate- income people and neighborhoods. One of CDBG's greatest strengths is its ability to leverage other investments. As a flexible resource designed to accommodate local needs, CDBG often serves to match other sources of public and private funds. Program resources also help projects and services become reality providing gap funding to meet budget needs.

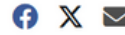
HOME PROGRAM HISTORY AND PURPOSE

Authorized in 1990 through the Cranston-Gonzalez Affordable Housing Act, the HOME program is the largest federal block grant to state and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. HOME funds are awarded annually as formula grants to more than 600 participating jurisdictions. HOME funds can be used to support rental and homeownership through new construction, rehabilitation, down payment assistance, and tenant-based rental assistance. HOME funds benefit persons at or below 80 percent of area median income (AMI).

NEWS ARTICLES

Reach out to local news sources to publish stories about CD Week and upcoming CDBG/HOME funded projects in your community.

TAMPA BAY'S MORNING BLEND



Pasco County Celebrating National Community Development Week

PARTNER CONTENT

Clearwater highlights local impact of CDBG, HOME programs for National Community Development Week

During National Community Development Week, the City of Clearwater highlights the important role of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) programs in affordable and workforce housing.

BY CHRISTOPHER CURRY • GENERAL • APRIL 22, 2025



TULSA CELEBRATES NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK

The City of Tulsa marks National Community Development Week by highlighting key programs benefiting more than 16,000 residents.

Tuesday, April 22nd 2025, 9:32 am
By: Tiffany Lane

Milwaukee

WEST ALLIS RAISES AWARENESS DURING NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK AMID THREAT OF CDBG FUNDING CUTS

By Noah Harper

Published on April 22, 2025

Macomb County Celebrates Community Development Week

22 April 2025



Mt. Clemens, MI - Macomb County Planning and Economic Development (MCPED) is marking National Community Development Week by celebrating its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, a 50-year-old federal initiative that provides essential funding to communities that can address infrastructure, economic development and housing needs.

See:

- National Community Development Week
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program

Little Rock showcases affordable housing initiative

HIGHLIGHT PROGRAM SUCCESSES

Utilize news outlets and social media to advertise Community Development Week by shining a spotlight on local projects and organizations that have been funded by the CDBG Program. Raising awareness is essential for gaining community support for future funding.

INVOLVE PROGRAM PARTNERS AND BENEFICIARIES

The CDBG and HOME stories cannot be told without incorporating the testimony of the many subrecipients and beneficiaries who are served through the program. Subrecipients and program beneficiaries are on the front lines of providing and receiving CDBG assistance. They are essential to telling the CDBG story. Because of their connection to the program, they need to be part of National CD Week. Put a face on your programs by including beneficiaries and subrecipients in your National CD Week events.

TOUR LOCAL PROJECTS, HOST PROJECT GROUNDBREAKING AND KICKOFF EVENTS

Invite Congressional offices to tour local CDBG projects. Select projects that positively showcase the CDBG program. Develop a written project description to hand out during the tour. See the example below from the City of St. Louis, MO. Make sure participants meet program beneficiaries – people who have directly benefitted from the program.

SPOTLIGHT: MCHENRY COUNTY GROUNDBREAKING ANNOUNCEMENT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Alicia Schueller
Director of Public Affairs

APRIL 2, 2024

815-334-0309

AASchueller@mchenrycountyil.gov

County Breaks Ground on Taylor Place Apartments

WOODSTOCK, Ill. – McHenry County celebrated the first day of Community Development Week on Monday by officially breaking ground in the City of McHenry on the Taylor Place Apartments.

When completed, Taylor Place Apartments will begin to address the growing need for workforce housing in McHenry County. Located at 4105 W. Crystal Lake Ave., Taylor Place will create 50 housing units, complete with energy-efficient appliances and wireless internet. Forty-six of the units will be built in a three-story, elevated apartment building, while the other four will be built in a walk-up townhome model. The historic Old Feed Mill at the site will be repurposed into a community center for residents, a leasing office, a fitness center and business center.

Taylor Place will be open to individuals and families whose incomes fall within 30% and 80% of the county median. It is being funded in part by an \$800,000 grant through the Advance McHenry County initiative, which the McHenry County Board created to invest tens of millions of dollars of American Rescue Plan Act funding directly into thoughtful and impactful projects.

The apartments will create a community that will enrich the City of McHenry and the entire county, County Board Chairman Mike Buehler said at the groundbreaking.

“I’ve ended more than one of my annual State of the County Addresses with my firmly held belief that McHenry County is the best place to live, work and raise a family. But in order to maintain that goal, McHenry County has to be a place where the workers who staff our businesses, manufacture our goods, teach our children and police our streets can live and make rent,” Buehler said.

Officials joining Buehler included US Rep. Bill Foster, whose office was instrumental in securing federal funding for the project through the Housing, Opportunity, and Community Development Division.

Monday’s groundbreaking is the end of a three-year journey involving local, state and federal cooperation. Buehler expressed hope that more projects like Taylor Place are built to meet the increasing need, and that the approval process becomes more streamlined and efficient.

Foster is having a statement honoring McHenry County and the Taylor Place groundbreaking read into the Congressional Record, which is the official record of the proceedings and debates of Congress.

“The availability of workforce housing is a challenge facing communities large and small throughout our country. As McHenry County continues to grow, it’s imperative that there are housing options to meet the needs of everyone who calls our community home,” Representative Foster said. “The Taylor Place Apartments is a prime example of that effort, and I’m proud to be in attendance at its official groundbreaking today.”

Also at the ceremony, McHenry County presented Senior Care Volunteer Network with its Community Development Partner of the Year Award. The SCVN, through its network of more than 250 volunteers, helps senior citizens who require assistance to live independently.

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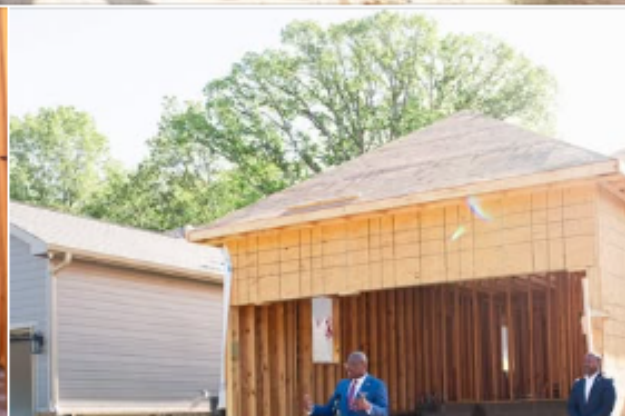
SPOTLIGHT: LITTLE ROCK, AR PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT



City of Little Rock Housing & Neighborhood Programs

April 21 · 🌐

During the first day of National Community Development Week, the City of Little Rock is proud to announce the development of a single-family home designed to provide high-quality, affordable housing for a low- to moderate-income household located at 4411 Bowers Street Little Rock AR, after construction this will be a beautiful 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom home will combine thoughtful design with modern amenities, energy efficiency, and long-term affordability. [#CDWEEK2025](#) [#CDBGworks](#) [#HOMEworks](#)



👍❤️👏 12

3 shares

👍 Like

💬 Comment

SPOTLIGHT: DAVENPORT, IA PROJECT TOUR

Davenport hosts tour of renovated properties for National Community Development Week



Davenport hosts tour of renovated projects for National Community Development Week

By [KWQC Staff](#)

Published: Apr. 22, 2025 at 6:12 PM EDT | Updated: Apr. 22, 2025 at 7:25 PM EDT



DAVENPORT, Iowa (KWQC) - The City of Davenport gave a tour of some of their renovated properties Tuesday to celebrate National Community Development Week.

Every year, the city renovates dozens of properties with community development block grants and home funds.

The city receives about \$2 million in federal funds each year for the projects.

DEVELOP A PROGRAM FACT SHEET

Complete this fact sheet and give it to your Congressional delegation and local press during National Community Development Week (April 6-10)

Executive Summary

Attach a brief executive summary that answers the following questions:

- Why is the CDBG program important to my community?
- Who is served by the program?
- How is program funding used in my community?
- Why is more CDBG funding needed in my community?

Program Accomplishments

- For every dollar of CDBG funding another \$_____ in private and public funding was leveraged.
- CDBG assisted _____ LMI persons in the past three years.
- CDBG created or retained _____ jobs in the past three years.
- CDBG funds in the amount of \$_____ were spent on economic development activities (outline the types of activities and the beneficiaries assisted).
- CDBG funds in the amount of \$_____ were spent on public improvements (outline the types of activities and the beneficiaries assisted).
- CDBG funds in the amount of \$_____ were spent on public services (outline the types of services and the beneficiaries assisted).
- CDBG funds in the amount of \$_____ were provided for housing activities (outline the types of activities and the beneficiaries assisted).

SECTION 4: CONGRESS

MEET WITH CONGRESS

Meeting with your Congressional members or their staff is one of the most effective ways of supporting CDBG. Meetings allow Congressional members to hear first-hand how funds are being used. Highlighting the work that occurs with CDBG dollars in your community creates a tangible connection for lawmakers between the funding they appropriate for the program and improvements to their states and districts. CD Week attracts publicity which is instrumental in creating the next generation of CDBG champions on Capitol Hill. Congressional members like to hear directly from the organizations and people being served. If possible, put a face to your program by including beneficiaries and subrecipients in the meeting. Come prepared with a fact sheet that outlines program accomplishments.

If your Congressional offices are not available to meet during CD Week, try to schedule a meeting during August or another recess period when all members will be back home. You can create a short YouTube video that documents your CD Week activities and highlights recently funded/completed CDBG projects. Creating a video in-house is an economical and easy method of sharing your successes with wider audience.

SCHEDULING A MEETING

Contact their secretary/scheduler to make an appointment. Go to the links below to locate the district office information for your Congressional delegation. It is usually posted at the bottom of their web page. You will need to identify who handles scheduling for your legislator and what is required by the office to submit a formal invitation. Start by calling your most local district office - phone numbers for district offices are available on the legislators' web sites. Some offices schedule exclusively through their DC office.

House of Representatives:

<https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

Senate:

<https://www.senate.gov/senators/contact>

Before the meeting:

1. **Schedule in advance.** Be aware of the legislator's busy schedule.
2. **Prepare your issues.** Research facts and specific CDBG funded project examples. Be ready to explain how the program affects you personally, or consider bringing a program beneficiary to the meeting with you.

During the meeting:

1. **Build a positive relationship.** Arrive on time, introduce yourself, act professionally, and thank your Member of Congress for listening to your concerns.
2. **Present your request.** For example, reverse recent CDBG funding cuts. Clearly and concisely explain the importance of CDBG to your community.
3. **Follow-up.** Send a thank you letter or email and provide any additional information that was requested during the meeting.

WRITING GUIDE

Another option is to contact legislators via post or email to let them know how important the CDBG and HOME programs are to you. Email is the fastest way to let them know how important these programs are to your community. When doing so, remember to be brief and direct. Take time to personalize the message by telling the legislator how CDBG has helped your community.

Your request for CDBG funding increases should be made in the first and last paragraphs of the letter. The letter should be no more than one page and should always be proofread before sending. Letters that are too long or have incorrect spelling may not be prioritized by legislative staff.

EMPHASIZE LACK OF PROGRAM FUNDING!

Meeting with Congress is the ideal time to emphasize the recent lack of program funding for CPD programs. Despite their measured successes, CDBG and HOME have both faced significant funding cuts in recent years. **Over the past 24 years, CDBG funding has been reduced by \$1.1 billion while the number of eligible grantees continues to rise.**

CONGRESSIONAL LETTER TEMPLATE

To a Senator:

The Honorable (Full Name)

District Office Address

Dear Senator (Last Name):

To a Representative:

The Honorable (Full Name)

District Office Address

Dear Representative (Last Name):

I am writing to you today to inform you of the great work of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program in your district as we celebrate National Community Development Week in 2026. This program has impacted so many people in your district. For example, [insert highlight, statistics of local projects include beneficiary story]

Countless communities, including [insert community/district/org] rely on annual CDBG funds to provide necessary improvements to housing, infrastructure, economic development, and disaster recovery. Without consistent or increased funding to underserved populations, community needs will not be met in the coming years, and the significant progress that CDBG has made may be lost. As we celebrate the countless successes of CDBG over the past 52 years, it is important to reaffirm our commitment to the principle of community development. I am confident that your leadership and dedication to [insert district] will help secure the necessary funding to support the CDBG program.

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing how your support will positively impact the lives of residents in our community. Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,
(Your Name)

SECTION 5: CD WEEK AWARDS

JOHN A. SASSO AWARD

Each year, NCD A presents the John A. Sasso National Community Development Week Award to members who display outstanding efforts to promote and celebrate the CDBG and/or HOME programs during national CD Week. This year marks the 26th anniversary of these awards.

In 1979, John A. Sasso founded The National Community Development Association (NCD A) and became its Director until retiring in 2002. He was a tireless advocate for communities and empowerment of citizens and was a driving force in the community development field.

Last year's John Sasso applicants and award winners showcased their unique outreach and community engagement efforts which successfully spread the word about the importance of CDBG and HOME. See the following projects and events which can be replicated in your city.

Look out for an email from NCD A for more information about applying for this year's John A. Sasso National Community Development Week Award.



CD WEEK SPOTLIGHT: INFORMATIONAL VIDEOS

This year, a large number of participants created informational videos for CD Week. The videos promoted work being done by the city and emphasized the importance of the CDBG program. Videos are an effective way to share information with large audiences.

Take a look at the videos below to find inspiration for your department:

City of Champaign, IL

<https://www.facebook.com/ChampaignCity/videos/community-development-week-2025/1317937025940486/>

City of Fort Worth, TX

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Na7JyUwZ_M

City of Frederick, MD

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRK2aEq49Wg>

City of Kettering, OH

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ZW0PUin8i4>

City of Lafayette, LA

<https://www.facebook.com/lafayetteconsolidatedgovernment/posts/this-national-community-development-week-were-proud-to-spotlight-the-incredible-/1098686185627071/>

City of Roanoke, VA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7dYCxFhWzTc>

City of Surprise, AZ

<https://www.facebook.com/ SurpriseCares/videos/happy-national-community-development-week-cdweek2025-cdbgworks-homeworks/1202638724848224/>

City of Waco, TX

<https://www.facebook.com/cityofwacotx/videos/celebrating-national-community-development-week/651123944455652/>

City of Waterloo, IA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1yWSINnPmE>



CD WEEK SPOTLIGHT: ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

YOUNGSTOWN, OH - COMMUNITY DAY EVENT

The City's Community Development Division hosted invited businesses and organizations to educate the community, showcase local initiatives and connect businesses, nonprofits and public officials with those they serve. The event featured food trucks, games, live music and other entertainment, community resources, vendor booths, and networking opportunities.



LAREDO, TX - HOUSING FAIR

The City of Laredo's Community Development Department hosted a Housing Fair to raise awareness about local housing programs, services, and initiatives supported through CDBG and HOME. The public event brought together various community partners, housing professionals, and non-profit organizations to provide information on homeownership assistance, housing rehabilitation programs, and other valuable resources.

2025 Community Development Week

WALKING TOUR

NEAR NORTH SIDE CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS

21
APRIL

This walking tour offers a unique opportunity to witness firsthand the positive changes resulting from the NNS Choice Neighborhoods initiative. As you traverse these historic areas, you'll witness a harmonious blend of public art installations, rehabilitated housing, and community-driven projects that show the collective power of community collaboration and strategic investment in fostering sustainable urban development.

1:00 PM - Starting At Loretta Hall Park (corner of 14th and Cole Streets)



MORE INFO



Tour distance is approx. 3 miles. Dress comfortably. Driving or biking between stops is welcome.

ST. LOUIS, MO - CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS WALKING TOUR

The Community Development Administration of St. Louis hosted a walking tour through neighborhoods that had benefitted from city initiatives and grants. The tour showcased new and rehabilitated affordable housing units, public art installations, and new green spaces and recreational facilities.

QUINCY, MA - PUBLIC SERVICES SUMMIT

The City of Quincy's Planning Department hosted a Public Services Summit for over a dozen local nonprofits. Organizations had the opportunity to share the services they provide, the work they do in the community, and the ways that they benefit from the CDBG program.



In celebration of Community Development Week, we invite you to join us for a public services summit. We are asking each agency to **prepare a 10-15 minute overview of your organization.**

THURSDAY

APRIL 24TH 12:00PM

FORE RIVER CLUBHOUSE
16 NEVADA RD, QUINCY

RSVP to Rhiannon by March 28!

12:00PM-1:00PM: Lunch and Lawn Games

1:00PM-2:30PM: Welcome by Richard Ash, Ward 2 Councilor
Public Service Agencies Overview

2:45PM - 3:15PM: Guest Speaker: Chief Mark Kennedy

4:00 PM: 50th Anniversary CDBG Celebration!

All Public Service Agencies are encouraged to stay for the CDBG 50th Anniversary Celebration with Mayor Koch and Congressmen Lynch!

GREENVILLE, NC - EVENT SCHEDULE FLYER

This flyer from the City of Greenville easily shares the date and time of public events hosted by the city each day of CD Week 2025.



National Community Development Week
April 21–25, 2025

You Are Invited! Join Us to Celebrate the Impact of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Programs!

MONDAY, APRIL 21

CD Week Kickoff Luncheon
11:00 AM–12:30 PM
City Hall 3rd Floor Gallery • 200 W 5th St

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

Mandatory Contractors Workshop
11:00 AM–1:00 PM
City Hall 3rd Floor Gallery • 200 W 5th St

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

Land Loss Prevention Lunch & Learn
12:00 PM–1:00 PM
CM Eppes Recreation Center
400 Nash St

Annual Action Plan Public Meeting
6:00 PM–7:00 PM
Dream Park Community Building
1700 Chestnut St

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

Community Service Day
► 8:00 AM–11:00 AM
Pitt County Council on Aging
4551 County Home Rd
► 11:00 AM–1:00 PM
Community Crossroads
207 Manhattan Ave

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

Down Payment Assistance Lunch & Learn
12:00 PM–1:00 PM
Dream Park Community Building
1700 Chestnut St



Scan the QR Code or visit GreenvilleNC.gov for more info!

For additional information, please visit us online at GreenvilleNC.gov or call (252) 329-4295.



Find yourself in good company*



TUSCALOOSA, AL - EVENT SCHEDULE FLYER

This flyer from the City of Tuscaloosa uses an engaging theme to promote events hosted by the city each day of CD Week 2025.

City of TUSCALOOSA
COMMUNITY & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

Weaving the Future:
A Tapestry of Community Development

EVENTS SCHEDULE **APRIL 21 - 25**

2025 National Community Development Week

MON 21 **The Thread of Service:** Tying Tuscaloosa Together
CDBG and HOME Community Service Drive

MON 21 **A Pattern of Voices:** Consolidated Public Hearing
2025 - 2029 Consolidated Plan, 2025 Action Plan, and 2025 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
5:00 - 7:00 pm
Daugherty Conference Room | Annex 1- City of Tuscaloosa's City Hall

TUE 22 **Woven Wellness:** Healthy Homes, Stronger Futures
A Healthy Homes Workshop hosted by CNS Housing Counseling Agency & Habitat Tuscaloosa
6:00 - 7:30 pm
Registration Required
Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama | Regions Boardroom

THU 24 **Future Fest:** Sticking Solutions for Tuscaloosa's Tomorrow
A Community Resource & Assessment Forum
5:30 - 7:30 pm
Richard A. Curry Environmental Services Complex

SECTION 6: SOCIAL MEDIA

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDANCE

Social media is an easy and intuitive way for large amounts of people to learn about and act on all kinds of issues. Having an active social media presence is crucial not only for informing your own members, but also for engaging with the wider public and growing support for your cause. We're encouraging members to use the hashtags #CDWeek2026 and #CDBGworks on all related posts. These labels will increase the likelihood of others seeing your post when searching for similar posts.



X/Twitter allows for short and immediate updates and is perfect for sharing a single project highlight or event reminder. Tweeting regularly will help you build validity as you become a reliable CDBG news source for your followers.



Instagram is formatted well for sharing CDBG success stories, event posters, statistics, and short testimonials. Be sure to use high quality photographs, and generally avoid text-heavy posts.



Facebook is useful for sharing existing content as well as original posts. Articles regarding CDBG projects and funding, CDBG 50th anniversary announcements, and event registrations should all be shared here.



LinkedIn allows organizations and professionals to connect with others, share their latest projects and successes, and spread the word about innovative CD practices. Consider promoting CD Week activities on your department's LinkedIn page.



TikTok is a powerful tool for quickly distributing digestible information to mass audiences. Some members have used popular social media trends to become more relatable with the general public while simultaneously sharing relevant information for CD beneficiaries.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDANCE

National Community Development Week, April 6-10 2026 #CDWeek2026, #CDBGworks

Importance of the # (Hashtag) - #CDWeek2026, #CDBGworks

- Hashtags (#) label posts for ease of searching for social media content by topic. This increases the chances of engagement with others who are posting about the same topic.
- Engagement drives reach. The more reach the posts have, the more “return on investment” of the time staff is putting into social media posting.

Practical Applications

- Use social media to “call to action” such as asking followers to call legislators about CDBG funding in the Federal budget.
- Share exciting stories in more than one format. Give readers more than a headline by writing a blog article. Share more than one photo per post to give viewers a broader perspective of the story behind the post.
- Cross-reference and utilize multiple media channels. Post links or photos of newspaper articles. Include event registration links in press release or in posts if applicable. Be aware of formatting content appropriate to each platform. Make yourself familiar with each platform and how they are different.
- Post familiar faces. Include photos of Mayor, other dignitaries, and participants. Use photo release for children under 18.
- Engage with individuals and organizations both in person and online. Engage with other pages to drive engagement on your page. Make the request for individuals and organizations to participate in the social media campaign and provide guidance. Consider enhanced content options such as podcasts, recorded videos, live streaming, infographics, and blogs.

Keep in mind when using social media:

- Make posts clear and concise. Details and full articles can be linked.
- Share and retweet posts from other members and similar communities to increase collaboration.
- Interact with other users. Use comments to ask and answer questions that others have about CDBG. The more you interact, the more the public will see what you have to say.

DAILY SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

National Community Development Week, April 6-10, 2026 #CDWeek2026,
#CDBGworks

Monday - April 6

**#CDBG attracts investment in underserved communities. Every \$1.00 of #CDBG leverages more than double in additional funding.
#CDBGworks #CDWeek2026**

Tuesday - April 7

The need for affordable housing has never been greater. #CDBG has helped provide safe housing to over 2 million LMI households since 2005. #CDBGworks #CDWeek2026

Wednesday, April 8

#CDBG strengthens communities through infrastructure. Over 59 million people have directly benefitted from CDBG-funded public improvements since 2005. #CDBGworks #CDWeek2026

Thursday, April 9

#CDBG helps create and retain local jobs having created/retained over 563,000 economic development jobs since 2005. #CDBGworks
#CDWeek2026

Friday, April 10

#CDBG benefits the nation and is accessible to every Congressional district. #CDBGworks #CDWeek2026

SHARING PROGRAM SUCCESSES: THE CDBG COALITION IMPACT REPORT

Throughout Community Development Week, we encourage you to share how CDBG funding has revitalized your community. Local success stories and project highlights demonstrate the immense impact that CDBG has on program beneficiaries. Stories are a valuable resource because they emphasize CDBG’s flexibility and usefulness in a variety of situations.

Every year, the CDBG Coalition develops a **CDBG Impact Report** which details the success stories of CDBG across the country and the number of people served by the program. The Report is an important resource when advocating for increased program funding with Members of Congress.

To access last year’s Impact Report, visit NCD A’s website or click [here](#).



To have a project featured in this year’s report, contact qcomstock@ncdaonline.org.

2026 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WEEK IS PRESENTED BY:



Inspiring program administrators to build
inclusive, sustainable, and affordable
communities.

Want more resources? [Join NCDA!](#)

#CDWeek2026
April 6-10, 2026