

Washington, DC
March 29, 2013
Contact: Vicki Watson, NCDA
240-601-9356

National Community Development Week: April 1-6, 2013

Communities will recognize the importance of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program during National Community Development Week, April 1-6, 2013. The theme this year is “Changing Communities, Changing Lives.” The week-long recognition brings together citizens, government officials, local businesses, the media, and non-profit agencies through events that highlight the work of the programs in the community and visual tours of funded projects.

CDBG

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program was enacted into law as part of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. CDBG provides direct annual grants to 1,209 state and local governments. CDBG’s main purpose is to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing, a suitable living environment and economic opportunities to low- and moderate-income people. To this day, CDBG remains the principal source of revenue for localities to utilize in devising flexible solutions to prevent physical, economic, and social deterioration in lower-income neighborhoods and communities throughout the nation. Every \$1.00 of CDBG leverages another \$3.55 in other funding.

HOME

Enacted into law in 1990, the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program is used to expand the supply of decent, safe, and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households through public-private partnerships. HOME provides direct annual grants to over 600 state and local participating jurisdictions. HOME eligible activities include new construction and rehabilitation of rental and home buyer units, down payment assistance to qualified home buyers, and tenant-based rental assistance.

National Community Development Week started 27 years ago and is spearheaded annually by the National Community Development Association. It initially focused solely on CDBG but has been expanded in recent years to focus on HOME too. Both programs have been cut in recent years – CDBG by 21% since 2010 and HOME by 48% – and National CD Week provides the opportunity for communities to invite congressional members and their staff to learn more about the accomplishments of the programs and visit projects and meet people who have benefitted from the programs.

The CDBG Coalition, a coalition of national organizations that represent local elected officials, CDBG grantees, and local non-profit organizations, is working to increase funding for both programs and many of its local agencies and organizations will participate in National CD Week activities. The following CDBG Coalition members have endorsed National CD Week: U.S. Conference of Mayors, National Association of Counties, National League of Cities, National Association for County Community and Economic Development, Council of State Community Development Agencies, American Planning Association, Rebuilding Together, National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, National Association of Development Organizations, National Rural Housing Coalition, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, International Economic Development Council, and the National Community Development Association which leads the National Community Development Week effort.

