



**DATE: September 26, 2014**

**Advanced CDBG/Underwriting Training – McAllen, TX – October 20-21**  
**NCDA Region VI Conference – McAllen, TX – October 22-24**  
**NCDA Region IV Conference – Altamonte Springs, FL – November 5-7**  
**CDBG Basic Training (2-day) – Manchester, NH – November 18-19**  
**Region I Conference – Manchester, NH – November 20-21**

### **FEATURED ARTICLES**

- ✓ **Appropriations Update; Congress Approves Continuing Resolution**
- ✓ **H. Res. 668 Update**
- ✓ **HUD NEWS – Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Assessment Tool**  
**Proposed Rule Released; NOFA for the FY14 Continuum of Care (CoC)**  
**Funding Process Competition Now Available; Promise Zones**  
**Competition Announced; National Disaster Resilience Competition Announced**
- ✓ **NCDA NEWS - Training Available; Training and Technology Survey/Request for**  
**Section 108 Projects; Would You Like to Serve on an NCDA Subcommittee?; NCDA**  
**Regional Conferences; Save the Dates for the 2015 NCDA Winter and Annual**  
**Conferences**

### **Appropriations Update; Congress Approves Continuing Resolution**

On September 18, the Senate passed by a vote of 78-22 the House-passed Continuing Resolution (CR), H. J. Res 124. The House passed the measure on a vote of 319-108. The CR avoids a government shutdown and keeps all federal programs operating at essentially current funding levels through December 11. Lawmakers will return after the November mid-term elections to craft a more permanent spending solution. "...We can use the coming months wisely to craft agreement on all 12 spending bills by December 11," said Nita Lowey, the ranking Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee. "There is absolutely no reason to punt our responsibilities into the next year and the new Congress."

Some House conservatives had pushed for a longer CR – one that would run until March – so that a new Congress, one possibly controlled totally by Republicans, could set the spending levels.

What does this mean for HUD's programs? It means all HUD programs – including CDBG and HOME – will continue operating at their existing funding levels until a final FY15 omnibus spending bill is enacted. Final FY15 program funding levels will be decided in the omnibus bill.

## **H. Res. 668 Update**

The CDBG Coalition is working with a set of bi-partisan House Members on H. Res. 668 – a resolution that supports CDBG. The resolution will be voted on in the House in November after the mid-term elections. In an effort to gain support for the resolution, we need you to reach out to your House Members. Currently, 83 Members have signed on as co-sponsors. Please see the attached list.

You can reach your House Member's office by contacting the Capitol Hill switchboard at 202-224-3121. Once connected, ask to speak to the staff person who handles the Community Development Block Grant Program – or HUD programs. Ask that person to reach out to Jared Bass in Rep. Chaka Fattah's office at [jared.bass@mail.house.gov](mailto:jared.bass@mail.house.gov) or Vince Erfe in Rep. Mike Turner's office at [vince.erfe@mail.house.gov](mailto:vince.erfe@mail.house.gov) to co-sponsor the resolution.

Please feel free to contact Vicki Watson at [vicki@ncdaonline.org](mailto:vicki@ncdaonline.org) with questions.

## **HUD NEWS**

### **Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Assessment Tool Proposed Rule Released**

HUD released on September 26, 2014, a proposed rule seeking comment on a draft Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Assessment Tool (often referred to as the Assessment of Fair Housing) for CPD entitlement grantees. The Assessment Tool replaces the current Analysis of Impediments process. The Assessment Tool will help grantees identify barriers to fair housing, set fair housing goals, and comply with HUD's AFFH regulation. The Assessment Tool will be completed via a web-based system that will guide users through the data and required analysis. While HUD will provide nationally uniform data that will help program participants complete the Assessment Tool, grantees will be required to use local data and local knowledge to inform their assessments. Grantees can submit the AFH alone or in conjunction with PHAs.

The Federal Register Notice is available at: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2014-22956>

The Assessment Tool – along with HUD-provided data tables and maps – is available at: [http://www.huduser.org/portal/affht\\_pt.html](http://www.huduser.org/portal/affht_pt.html)

Comments are due to HUD by November 25, 2014. NCDA will work with its Community

Development and Housing subcommittees to develop comments on the rule. If you are interested in providing comments on the rule, please send them to Vicki Watson at [vicki@ncdaonline.org](mailto:vicki@ncdaonline.org).

#### **NOFA for the FY14 Continuum of Care Funding Process Competition Now Available**

On September 18, HUD announced a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) [Docket No. FR-5800-N-30] of \$1.83 billion for FY 2014 Continuum of Care (CoC) Funding. Although HUD expects this funding level will be adequate to fund all renewal projects, applicants will still be asked to rank all projects in two tiers. HUD will set-aside approximately \$40 million for a Permanent Supportive Housing Bonus to create new permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless people. The CoC Program Competition closes on October 30, 2014.

Applicants will be required to complete and submit their applications in e-snaps at [www.hud.gov/esnaps](http://www.hud.gov/esnaps). See Section VI of the NOFA for application submission requirements. The notice is available at the following link:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4032/nofa-for-fy2014-funds-in-the-fy2013-fy2014coc-program-nofa>

Questions concerning program requirements should be directed to the local HUD CPD Field Office at [www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/about/staff/fodirectors/index.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/about/staff/fodirectors/index.cfm)

#### **Promise Zones Competition Announced**

The Obama Administration has announced a competition to designate a second round of Promise Zones. HUD will designate six urban communities and the USDA will designate one rural community and one tribal community under the competition. The deadline for submission of applications is November 21, 2014. Application materials are available at <http://www.hud.gov/promisezones>.

The Promise Zones Initiatives focuses on building public-private partnerships and funneling resources to high poverty areas to create jobs, provide affordable housing, and improve educational opportunities and public safety. The first round of Promise Zone communities were announced earlier this year and included San Antonio, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Southeastern Kentucky, and the Choctaw National of Oklahoma.

#### **National Disaster Resilience Competition Announced**

The competition will award nearly \$1 billion in disaster recovery funds to help communities in their recovery efforts from past disasters and prepare for natural disasters in the future. The Rockefeller Foundation will work with HUD to provide technical assistance and training to eligible recipients in considering future vulnerabilities in planning and decision-making surrounding natural disasters and assist state and local governments in applying for this funding.

All states with counties that experienced a Presidentially-declared major disaster in 2011, 2012 or 2013 are eligible to submit applications that address unmet needs as well as “vulnerabilities to future extreme events, stresses, threats, hazards, or other shocks in areas that were most impacted and distressed as a result of the effects of the Qualified Disaster.” In addition, 17 local governments are eligible to apply directly for funds (Birmingham, AL; Tuscaloosa, AL; Jefferson County, AL; Chicago, IL; Cook County, IL; Du Page County, IL; Jefferson Parish, LA; New Orleans, LA; St. Tammany Parish, IL; Springfield, MA; Joplin, MO; Minot, ND; New York City, NY; Moore, OK; Dauphin County, PA; Luzerne County, PA; and Shelby County, TN). More information is available at the following link:

<http://www.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=NDRCFactSheetFinal.pdf>

## **NCDA NEWS**

### **Training Available**

NCDA is pleased to announce two Fall training courses.

#### ***Advanced CDBG; CDBG and HOME Underwriting Training (Two-Day Course)***

Course Fee: \$250 members/\$300 non-members

Location: McAllen, TX

Dates: October 20-21, 2014

Training Site: Embassy Suites Hotel

Hotel Rate: \$86.00/single; \$96.00/double

Hotel Reservation, Call: 956-686-3000; mention “NCDA Conference”

To register for the course, go to <http://www.ncdaonline.org/cdbg.asp>

This course will provide a 1-1/2 day advanced training on the CDBG program. The class will include information and discussion on effective program planning, allocation of funding, program implementation challenges, conflict of interest, cross-cutting regulations, leveraging other resources, and overall program problem solving. The course will also provide a half-day session on the new HOME underwriting/subsidy layering requirements and because HUD is going to be requiring CDBG grantees to establish underwriting policies/guidelines, how the HOME underwriting guidelines may serve as the basis for establishing CDBG underwriting guidelines.

#### ***CDBG Basic Training (Two Day Course – No Test)***

Course Fee: \$250 members/\$300 non-members

Location: Manchester, NH

Dates: November 18-19, 2014

Training Site: Radisson Hotel Manchester Downtown

Hotel Rate: \$119.00/single; \$129.00 double or triple; \$138.00/quad

Hotel Reservation, Call: 800-333-3333; mention “NCDA 14”

To register for the course, go to <http://www.ncdaonline.org/cdbg.asp>

This course will provide a basic overview of the CDBG program and will provide a hands-on approach to learning the program through lecture and in-class exercises. Course participants will learn how to read the regulations, determine timeliness in spending CDBG funds, what activities are eligible under the program, how to document national objectives, and how to calculate low-mod income (LMI) benefit. Participants will also learn important program definitions, the components of the Consolidated Plan and the Annual Action Plan, what's covered under the administration and planning activities, and how to prepare for HUD monitoring as well as important information on how to monitor sub-recipients. Class participants will learn important financial management information including an overview of the OMB Circulars, pre-award costs, audits, program income, and keeping financial records. Finally, participants will learn about compliance with the lead-based paint regulations and the Davis-Bacon labor standards.

For questions concerning NCDA training, please contact Vicki Watson at [vicki@ncdaonline.org](mailto:vicki@ncdaonline.org)

### **Training and Technology Survey/Request for Section 108 Projects**

In an effort to better meet the training and technology needs of members, NCDA is in the process of developing a short survey to gain feedback on the types of training needed, the use of webinars, and the use and improvement of the NCDA website. Moreover, NCDA has developed an outline to collect Section 108 project information from members to help in NCDA's advocacy of the program with Congress. The survey and Section 108 project request will be posted to the NCDA website at [www.ncdaonline.org](http://www.ncdaonline.org) within the next week.

### **Would You Like to Serve on an NCDA Subcommittee?**

NCDA is looking to fill several vacant slots on its six standing subcommittees. The subcommittees meet at least annually (at the Winter Conference in Washington, DC each January) and additionally as needed. Subcommittee members are charged with serving as a resource for data and best practices, relative to the subcommittee's mission, in response to inquiries from HUD and/or Congress and in providing information in response to proposed regulations and legislation. The six standing subcommittees consist of the Community Development Subcommittee, Housing Subcommittee, Economic Development Subcommittee, Membership Subcommittee, Technology Subcommittee, and Planning and Professional Development Subcommittee. To view the mission of each subcommittee please go to [www.ncdaonline.org/subcommittees-info.asp](http://www.ncdaonline.org/subcommittees-info.asp)

Please contact Vicki Watson at [vicki@ncdaonline.org](mailto:vicki@ncdaonline.org) if you would like to join a subcommittee.

### **NCDA Regional Conferences**

Region VI, Region IV, and Region I will all hold conferences this Fall. We strongly encourage you to participate in these conferences, particularly if you are located within the region, as they provide an affordable means for participants to meet other community development professionals, receive training, and learn new techniques for managing and implementing community development, economic development, and affordable housing programs.

### *Region VI Conference*

The NCDA Region VI Conference will be held in McAllen, TX on October 22-24 at the Embassy Suites Hotel located at 1800 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street,, McAllen, TX. The hotel rate is \$86.00/single and \$96.00/double. Please call the hotel at 956-686-3000 and ask for the “NCDA Conference” to receive the special hotel rate.

The conference fee is \$175 for members/\$225 for non-members if participants register by September 30. After this date, the conference fee will be \$200 members/\$250 non-members. Please go to <http://ncdaregionvi.weebly.com> to view the conference agenda and register for the conference. Please contact Piedad Martinez at [pmartinez@mcallen.net](mailto:pmartinez@mcallen.net) with any questions.

### *Region IV Conference*

The NCDA Region IV Conference will be held in Altamonte Springs, FL on November 5-7 at the Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs located at 350 S. Northlake Blvd., Altamonte Springs, FL. The hotel rate is \$83.00 per night plus tax. Please call the hotel at 800-678-4380 and mention the “National Community Development Association” room block.

The conference fee is \$100 for members and \$125 for non-members. To register for the conference, please go to:

[http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/cms\\_application\\_placeholder.aspx?page=CMSForm&formid=94](http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/cms_application_placeholder.aspx?page=CMSForm&formid=94)

An updated conference agenda is attached. For questions concerning the conference, please contact John Callow at [jcallow@murfreesborotn.gov](mailto:jcallow@murfreesborotn.gov)

### *Region I Conference*

The NCDA Region I Conference will be held in Manchester, NH on November 20-21 at the Radisson Hotel Manchester Downtown located at 700 Elm Street, Manchester, NH. The hotel rate is \$119/single; \$129/double or triple; \$139 quad. Please call the hotel at 800-333-3333 or 603-206-4109 and mention “NCDA14” to receive the special hotel rate.

To register for the conference go to <http://ncdaregion1.yolasite.com>. A draft agenda will be posted to the Region I website shortly. For questions concerning the conference, please contact Sean Glennon at [sglennon@quincyma.gov](mailto:sglennon@quincyma.gov).

### **Save the Dates**

The NCDA Winter Conference will be held on January 21-23, 2015 at the Washington Marriott Georgetown in Washington, DC. The draft agenda and registration form will be posted to the website shortly.

The NCDA Annual Conference will be held on June 23-27, 2015 at the Arlington Hilton in Arlington, TX. A preliminary agenda will be posted to the website soon.