



Self-Help Newsletter

SPRING 2010

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Green Fund Capacity Building Grant Funds Availability

The Home Depot Foundation awarded a generous grant to the Housing Assistance Council (HAC) for the pursuit of activities designed to promote green building and healthy homes in affordable rural housing. With the Foundation's support HAC has created the Green Fund Capacity Building Grant Program, a re-granting program of awards up to \$15,000, to fund local rural, sustainable affordable housing developments. Selected grant recipients must use the awarded funds to support green building/healthy home techniques and practices in their housing development activities.

Grants will be awarded to both experienced green developers and those affordable housing developers new to green/healthy homebuilding: novice green builders must demonstrate clear plans to pursue green/healthy homes.

Uses of the HAC Green Building/Healthy Homes Initiative grant funds are flexible. Some examples of uses include construction and development costs, staff support, and training. Units built must be for low-income households in rural areas.

This competitive program opened March 8, 2010, with applications due by April 5, 2010

For further information and Green Fund Application visit hac@ruralhome.org, or call 202-842-8600

High Performance Green Building: Principles For Non Profit Housing Developers

Join the Housing Assistance Council in Atlanta, GA on April 20—22, 2010 for a valuable training event that will help your organization integrate green and healthy home building principles with construction science. Case studies, hands-on demonstrations, and breakout sessions with veteran green, affordable housing developers and construction experts will help your organization prioritize green strategies on a tight budget.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is getting ready to announce Energy Star 2011, its third and most ambitious set of energy efficiency guidelines for residential construction. As more federal and state agencies require Energy Star certification for affordable housing, nonprofit developers cannot afford to miss this training event. They will discuss Energy Star 2011 guidelines, changes and how they will impact affordable housing development.

⇒ Register online at www.regonline.com/AtlantaGreen2010

⇒ Draft Agenda

⇒ Training Flyer

For information, contact Dan Stern, 202-842-8600, Fax 202-347-3441,
registration@ruralhome.org

Article taken from HUD Pub.

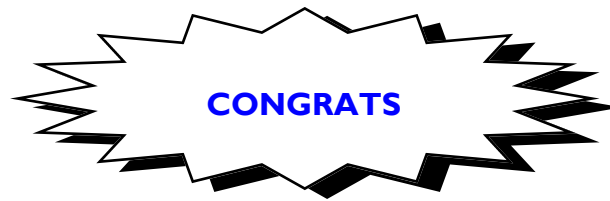
SELF-HELP FORUMS

Responding to President Obama's initiative for an open, transparent government, the Rural Housing Service is holding public forums to solicit feedback from the public on whether the current method of delivering the self-help program is the most efficient and cost effective in terms of cost and program delivery. Those unable to attend may provide written responses to debra.arnold@wdc.usda.gov as directed in the published notice.

For a list of questions to be distributed at the Forum and updates to the schedule visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rhs/Admin/2010SelfHelpForums.htm>

The Forum Schedule at this time is :

February 18, 2010	William j. Clinton Library—Great Room 1200 President Clinton Ave. Little Rock, AR 72201	Arkansas
March 5, 2010	Sacred Heart university Barat Sur Building Faculty Room Santurce, PR	Puerto Rico
March 12, 2010	McKimmon Center 1101 Gorman Street Raleigh, NC 27606 Phone 919-515-2277	North Carolina
March 29, 2010	Jackson State university—Convention Hall 1230 Raymond Road Jackson, MS 39204	Mississippi
April 9, 2010	Arizona State university, Downtown Campus 411 N. Central Avenue Phoenix, AZ	Arizona
April 23, 2010	The Ohio State university main Campus The Fawcett Event Center 2400 Olentangy River Columbus Road, Ohio 43210	Ohio
May 14, 2010	To Be Announced	Washington
June 4, 2010	To Be Announced	Vermont
June 11, 2010	Southeastern Community College 1500 West Agency Road West Burlington, IA	Iowa
June 18, 2010	Jefferson Auditorium , USDA South Building 1400 Independence Ave. SW Washington, DC 20250	Washington



Florida Home Partnership, in Ruskin, Florida has closed their Section 523 Grant for \$1,714,570.00. They plan to assist 83 families build their homes during this grant period in Hillsborough and Pasco Counties.

Avoiding Foreclosure

Whether you're in foreclosure now or worried about it in the future, there is a lot of information available that can help.

GET HELP NOW!

- ⇒ Talk to a foreclosure avoidance counselor
- ⇒ Talk to your lender
- ⇒ Find state and local foreclosure resources
- ⇒ Contact HOPE NOW

KEEP YOUR HOME

- ⇒ Are you at risk of foreclosure?
- ⇒ Tips for avoiding foreclosure
- ⇒ Foreclosure scams

REFINANCE OPTIONS

- ⇒ Making Home Affordable Program
- ⇒ Learn about HOPE for Homeowners
- ⇒ Who to call when a lender won't work with you

IF YOU CAN'T KEEP YOUR HOME

- ⇒ Redemption period—your last chance to save your home.
- ⇒ Local renting resources
- ⇒ Rental Assistance
- ⇒ Relocation resources
- ⇒ U.S. Postal Service Movers Guide.

For additional information visit

http://portal.hud.gov/portal/page/portal/HUD/topics/avoiding_foreclosure

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HUD FY2011 BUDGET FOCUSES ON FISCAL DISCIPLINE, INVESTING IN PEOPLE AND PLACES

February 1, 2010

WASHINGTON - U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan unveiled the Department's fiscal year [2011 budget proposal](#) (PDF), following President Barack Obama's presentation of his Administration-wide budget. The HUD budget focuses on fiscal discipline, creating jobs and builds on the administration's first year accomplishments by proposing reform in HUD's housing and community development programs to make them more streamlined, efficient, and accountable. [Read more>>](#)

Census 2010 How It Affects the Nation

We Can't Move Forward Until You Mail It Back

It's so important that you fill in the form and promptly mail it back. Census information affects the number of seats your state occupies in the U.S. House of Representatives. People from many walks of life use census data to advocate for causes, rescue disaster victims, prevent diseases, research markets, locate pools of skilled workers and more.

When you do the math, it's easy to see what an accurate count of residents can do for your community. Better infrastructure. More services. A brighter tomorrow for everyone. In fact, the information the census collects helps to determine how more than \$400 billion dollars of federal funding each year is spent on infrastructure and services like:

- Hospitals
- Job training centers
- Schools
- Senior centers
- Bridges, tunnels and other-public works projects
- Emergency services

Participation isn't just important—it's mandatory