



OFFICE OF PUBLIC & INDIAN HOUSING

April 25, 2024

Dear Executive Director –

Choice Neighborhoods is one of the most important programs that HUD administers. Not only does the program bring communities together as part of a comprehensive planning process, it brings vital resources to communities in need of investment and helps stakeholders secure a wide array of amenities and services for the benefit of families and individuals. Applying for a Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant is the first step on this transformative journey.

Today, I had the great privilege of being in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, to join the community for the [opening of the first phase](#) of Brown School Lofts. The City and Housing Authority of Winston-Salem applied for and received a \$500,000 Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant in 2013 to put to paper a vision for what transformation might mean at the site of Cleveland Avenue Homes. In 2019, HUD invested in their vision in the form of a \$30 million Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. The results, after much hard work and planning, are incredibly impressive.



For PHAs ready to imagine a new future, I am excited to announce **the application window for Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants is now open!** The NOFO and application package are available [here](#) through Grants.gov with **applications due Monday, June 10, 2024.**

We've also published a [FY24 NOFO webpage](#), which includes a [copy of the NOFO](#) and frequently asked questions. We will convene a webinar on the NOFO and application submission process shortly and potential applicants can email questions to ChoiceNeighborhoods@hud.gov.

These grants empower PHAs to play a major role in neighborhood revitalization from funding market studies, environmental reviews, and resident surveys to hiring a planning coordinator to help with resident engagement and partnership development. In addition, up to \$150,000 of the Planning Grant can be used to build momentum for the community's vision through placemaking activities like public art.

From a [new fresh food market](#) in Denver, new [climate resilient housing](#) in Norwalk, CT, and [improving education outcomes](#) for children in Atlanta – Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants lead to [real results](#) for public housing communities. I recently heard how a Planning Grant can be [successfully implemented in small cities](#) at a groundbreaking in Lewiston, ME.



I encourage PHAs and communities of all sizes to apply for Choice Neighborhoods grants and I also strongly encourage everyone to [sign up for the Choice Neighborhoods newsletter](#) where you'll get important updates on Planning and Implementation Grant competitions, and you'll see the incredible work being done by your colleagues nationwide through the Choice Neighborhoods Program.

Many thanks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard J. Monocchio".

Richard J. Monocchio
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Public and Indian Housing