



August 21, 2020



Flashback Friday: Picture Your Community Here!

Last year, the **Mid-Atlantic region received more than \$46 million in funding** to support local efforts to eliminate dangerous lead hazards from lower income homes, stimulate private sector investment in lead hazard control and educate the public about the dangers of lead-based paint. In Delaware, New Castle County received \$3,000,000 in Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction grant program funding and \$300,000 in Healthy Homes Supplemental funding. With this award, the County is addressing lead hazards in 130 housing units providing safer homes for low- and very low-income families with children. The grant also provides funding to perform healthy homes assessments in an additional 130 homes. In the communities covered by the grant, **more than 1,100 children under the age of six tested for lead had elevated blood lead levels (over 5 micrograms per deciliter)**—among the highest in the state.

JUST A REMINDER: On August 24, 2020, applications are due for the agency’s **Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for more than \$275 million to help address lead-based paint hazards and other health and safety hazards in PRE-1978, privately-owned housing.** You’ll find the application requirements posted on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov). We’d like to make an announcement in YOUR community this year. So, let’s turn this year’s challenge into an opportunity!



“EnVisioning” New Federal Partnerships in the Commonwealth of Virginia

Last week, leaders from the EnVision Centers in Virginia joined HUD’s Richmond Field Office Director Carrie Schmidt as she convened ten federal agency partners to help them learn more about the federal resources available to assist residents in their communities. During the 90-minute virtual **HUD EnVision Center Federal Partners Roundtable**, attendees were introduced to various federal agency programs that support one or more of the four pillars—economic empowerment, educational advancement, health and wellness, and character and leadership—and the mission of the EnVision Centers. We have been fortunate to work in partnership with the housing authorities in Bristol, Newport News, Norfolk and Roanoke to open EnVision Centers in those cities. We look forward to announcing the addition of EnVision Centers in Cumberland Plateau and Hopewell in the very near future.

Photo caption (Clockwise from upper left): DHHS SAMHSA Region III Regional Administrator Jean Bennett, USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Director Eric Ratchford, FDIC Youth Banking Network Project Manager Ron Jauregui, SBA Lead Economic Development Specialist & Public Information Officer Martin Short, Cumberland Plateau Regional Housing Authority Executive Director Keith Viers, HUD Richmond Field Office Director Carrie Schmidt and VA Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement’s Julian Wright await the start of the virtual Roundtable.



Kudos to Region III’s 2020 Secretary’s Award Honorees!

Each year, we honor the work, sacrifice, and professional excellence of our employees who have displayed a special dedication to HUD’s mission. Not only did I have the honor of serving as a co-emcee for this year’s virtual celebration, I have the pleasure of announcing not one, but seven individuals in the Mid-Atlantic recognized for their great work during the 2020 Secretary’s Awards Ceremony. Receiving the Secretary’s Outstanding Leadership Award – Seasoned Leader in the Field is our own Regional Counsel Sheryl Johnson. Receiving the Secretary’s Award for Excellence, Deputy Regional Counsel Brad Rader and Trial Attorney Patricia McGarvey-Knebels (pictured left to right at top). Bringing a new definition to “Are You Telework Ready?” during the current pandemic are Information Technology (IT)

Field Services Delivery Manager – Regions 1-10 who also serves as Region III IT Director, Debbie Jankowski and her nationwide team that received the Exceptional Field Operations Award. In addition to Debbie, Region III team members Danny Myers, Miriam Kuperstein and Tram Trinh (pictured left to right bottom) were honored for their exceptional work in supporting the agency during this challenging time. Please join me in congratulating each one!



We hope you were able to join us for this week's **Mid-Atlantic Economic Empowerment Webinar** to learn how **Section 3** can offer those who receive housing assistance a **path forward towards jobs, wealth creation and economic improvement**. Please feel free to reach out to [Brandon Porinchak](#) or [John McLaughlin](#) in our Office of Field Policy and Management if you have questions or special requests. If you missed the webinar, the recording is now available via our [HUD Mid-Atlantic YouTube](#) playlist.

summer reading

Scott Turner
Former Professional Football Player

Dr. Ben Carson
Secretary of HUD

Summer Reading Series with Secretary Carson Continues

You may see a familiar face in Secretary Ben Carson's latest Summer Reading series video. In his most recent episode, **Secretary Carson is joined by former National Football League player Scott Turner in reading "Don't Throw it to Mo," a story about a young football player who learns a powerful life lesson.** Scott Turner currently serves as the Executive Director of the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council. In addition to reading, the series will also highlight several of HUD's initiatives that focus on educational

advancement, such as the EnVision Center initiative and Book Rich Environments. To view the video, [click here](#).

Neighbors Helping Neighbors In the District of Columbia

Several weeks ago, Secretary Carson toured the **District of Columbia Housing Authority's new Customer Solutions Center** while he was on-hand for his Summer Reading Series. Now you can tour, too! The soon-to-open center will allow DCHA customers to meet with DCHA staff, submit rent



payments and recertification forms, participate in fair hearings, connect with housing specialists, and much more. Customers will schedule an appointment in advance and will be able to conduct a safe, socially distanced visit for their DCHA business needs at one of the center's cubicles. Spaces will be cleaned and sanitized between each transaction. For a sneak peek, just [click here](#)!



In Roanoke, Virginia

It was a beautiful day for a Farmer's Market! What better way to teach children the value of a dollar than by letting them buy their own healthy fruits and vegetables. **City of Roanoke Redevelopment and Housing Authority's EnVision Center** partnered with Kids Soar and Feeding America Southwest Virginia to make it all happen. Check out their bounty, just [click here](#).

I look forward to the time when we can be together again, and I can thank each one of you personally. We will get through this difficult time together.

Stay safe, stay sane and be well.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe".

Joe DeFelice, Region III Regional Administrator
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Region III Recap, August 21, 2020

Region III Recap & HUDLines, HUD's Region III e-News Brief

We welcome your feedback and invite you to share your news with Lisa A. Wolfe at lisa.a.wolfe@hud.gov. If you know anyone who would like to receive our new Region III Recap or our quarterly HUDLines, please feel free to share. We safeguard and do not rent, sell or permit the use of our lists. To subscribe, visit [HUDLines](#). You may also [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

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