



HAC News

HUD OFFERS HOUSING COUNSELING FUNDS. HUD-approved counseling agencies can apply by January 12. Visit <http://www.grants.gov> or <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm>. Contact a HUD homeownership center.

SECTION 202 DEMONSTRATION PRE-DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AVAILABLE. Appropriated in FY10, these grants can be used by those with FY10 Section 202 awards to cover architectural and engineering work, site control, and other planning related expenses that are eligible for Section 202 funding. Deadline is January 18. Visit <http://www.grants.gov> or <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm>. Contact Denise Taylor-Parker, HUD, 202-402-2892, denise.l.taylor-parker@hud.gov.

CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU REQUESTS SUGGESTIONS FOR REGULATIONS. The CFPB is responsible for regulations originally written by other agencies, including rules for the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act, and the SAFE Mortgage Licensing Act. It requests specific suggestions by March 5 for ways to streamline "inherited" regulations and practical measures to make compliance easier. See [Federal Register, 12/5/11](http://www.federalregister.gov) or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact Jane Gell, CFPB, 202-453-7700.

RULES ISSUED FOR EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS, HMIS, AND NEW DEFINITION OF HOMELESS. The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act) made numerous changes in HUD's homeless programs. Rules for the Continuum of Care program and the Rural Housing Stability Assistance program have not yet been proposed. Comments on an interim rule for the *Emergency Solutions Grants* program, which replaces the Emergency Shelter Grants program, are due February 3. See [Federal Register, 12/5/11](http://www.federalregister.gov), or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Regulations are proposed for *Homeless Management Information Systems* (HMIS), with comments due February 7. See [Federal Register, 12/9/11](http://www.federalregister.gov), or <http://www.regulations.gov>. A final *definition of homeless*, broader than in the past, is effective January 4. See [Federal Register, 12/5/11](http://www.federalregister.gov). All three regulations are also posted at <http://www.hudhre.info>. Contact Ann Marie Oliva, HUD, 202-708-4300.

HUD RELEASES FY12 MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME LIMITS. The limits and other materials are available at <http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/il/il12/index.html>. Contact a HUD office.

CHANGES PROPOSED TO HUD'S WETLANDS AND FLOODPLAINS RULES. Updated procedures would apply to HUD and to state, tribal, and local governments responsible for environmental reviews under HUD programs. Comments are due February 10. See [Federal Register, 12/12/11](http://www.federalregister.gov), or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact Jeremiah Sanders, HUD, 202-402-4571, jeremiah.j.sanders@hud.gov.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS DROP IN HOMELESSNESS. On a single night in January 2011, HUD states, 636,017 people were homeless, a reduction of 2.1% from January 2010 and 5.3% since 2007. The study report provides national data and figures for each Continuum of Care. HUD's press release, with a link to the report, is posted at http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/press/press_releases_media_advisories.

REPORT SUGGESTS HOW STATES CAN HELP SENIORS AGE IN PLACE. *Aging in Place: A State Survey of Livability Policies and Practices*, by the National Conference of State Legislatures and AARP, examines state policies on land use, transportation, and housing, including consideration of rural issues. Visit <http://www.aarp.org/home-garden/livable-communities/info-11-2011/Aging-In-Place.html> or contact AARP, 202-434-3890.

NOMINATIONS DUE JANUARY 6 FOR COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AWARDS. The National Community Reinvestment Coalition will make several awards, including one for a rural nonprofit. Visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2012ncrcawards>. Contact Karen Taylor, NCRC, ktaylor@ncrc.org, 202-464-2716.

HAC RELEASES OVERVIEW OF NONPROFITS' HOUSING CAPACITY IN DELTA. A new report provides a directory to Lower Mississippi Delta housing nonprofits and summarizes their programs, geographic service areas and gaps, and capacity strengths and weaknesses. [Nonprofit Capacity in the Lower Mississippi Delta Region](http://www.nonprofitcapacity.org) is free at <http://www.ruralhome.org> or \$5.00 from Dan Stern, dan@ruralhome.org, 202-842-8600.

HAC EXAMINES RURAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING ISSUES RELATED TO PRISONER REENTRY. [Rural Reentry: Housing Options and Obstacles for Ex-Offenders](http://www.ruralhome.org) also reviews the regulations associated with housing formerly incarcerated persons, suggests resources, and makes recommendations. The report is free at <http://www.ruralhome.org> or \$5.00 from Dan Stern, dan@ruralhome.org, 202-842-8600.

SEASON'S GREETINGS! HAC's board and staff wish peace, happiness, and affordable housing to all!