



**HAC News**

**RD OFFERS FUNDS, EXTENDS MULTIFAMILY PRESERVATION TO FARMWORKER HOUSING.**

Three separate notices provide application details for rental housing preservation, new construction of Section 515 rental housing, and Section 514/516 off-farm farm labor housing. For the first time, Section 514/516 off-farm properties are eligible for the preservation program. See *Federal Register*, 3/12/08, or <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/nofas/index.html>. Visit [http://www.ruralhome.org/infoAnnouncements\\_2008RDNOFAs.php](http://www.ruralhome.org/infoAnnouncements_2008RDNOFAs.php) for links and other FY 2008 USDA NOFAs.

Program	Deadline	Eligible Applicants	Contact
Multifamily revitalization (MPR)	May 12	Owners or purchasers of Sec. 515 or Sec. 514/516 (off-farm) rental property	Sherry Engel, 715-345-7677 or <a href="mailto:sherry.engel@wi.usda.gov">sherry.engel@wi.usda.gov</a> ,
Sec. 515 new construction	May 12	Nonprofits, for-profits, individuals, partnerships, public agencies, etc.	RD state offices
Sec. 514 farm labor loans (off-farm)	May 12	Nonprofits, farmers, public agencies, tribes, partnerships with nonprofit GP	RD state offices
Sec. 516 farm labor grants (off-farm)	May 12	Nonprofits, public agencies, farmworker ass'ns, tribes	RD state offices

**I'M HOME MANUFACTURED HOUSING FUNDS AVAILABLE.** CFED's Innovations in Manufactured Homes program invites concept papers by April 18 for activities addressing barriers to asset building for owners of manufactured homes. Visit <http://www.cfed.org/go/imhome/rfp> or email [imhome@cfed.org](mailto:imhome@cfed.org).

**HUD ENCOURAGES GRANTS.GOV REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL.** Applicants for HUD programs under the SuperNOFA to be published this spring, excluding Continuum of Care, will be required to use [grants.gov](http://grants.gov). Those who registered in previous years must renew in order to apply this year. See *Federal Register*, 3/10/08, pp. 12751-55 or <http://www.hudclips.org>. Contact HUD's Grants Management Office, 202-708-0667.

**SECTION 538 GUARANTEE FEE DUE DATE MOVED.** Lenders' annual fees will be due Feb. 28 instead of Jan. 1. See *Federal Register*, 3/05/08, pp. 11811-12. Contact C.B. Alonso, 202-720-1624, [cb.alonso@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:cb.alonso@wdc.usda.gov).

**POLL SHOWS INCREASE IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONCERNS.** A poll for the Housing America Campaign found nine out of ten Americans believe affordable housing provision is an important issue in their communities. The Campaign is a coalition of organizations including HAC. For details visit <http://www.nahro.org/pressroom/2008/229.cfm> or contact Mary Barron, NAHRO, 202-289-3500 ext. 7223.

**NEW GUIDANCE ISSUED ON "REASONABLE MODIFICATIONS" UNDER THE FAIR HOUSING ACT.** New guidelines from HUD and the Justice Department explain the Fair Housing Act's requirement that a housing provider must permit reasonable modifications of premises occupied by a tenant with a disability, at the tenant's expense. Visit <http://www.hud.gov/offices/fheo/disabilities>.

**RESEARCH UNCOVERS PREDATORY LENDING IN INDIAN COUNTRY.** Preliminary results from a study by First Nations Development Institute and the National American Indian Housing Council show the extent of predatory lending in Native communities involving payday and car title loans and refund anticipation loans, as well as burdensome mortgages. The study also documents solutions currently in use. Visit <http://naihweb.net/index.php/newsletters/Issue-4-2007/6/> or contact Sarah Dewees, FNDI, 540-371-5615.

**STUDY FINDS HOUSING NEED FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES EXCEEDS HUD ESTIMATES.** The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Housing Task Force calculates households that include non-elderly adults with disabilities constitute 35-40% of the country's 6 million worst case needs households rather than 9-12% as estimated by HUD. A future report will calculate total housing need for people with disabilities. *The Hidden Housing Crisis: Worst Case Housing Needs Among Non-Elderly Adults With Disabilities* is free at <http://www.tacinc.org>.

**CENSUS ATLAS INCLUDES HOUSING MAPS.** A new Census Bureau comprehensive atlas of the U.S. presents data from 1790 through 2000, with most maps showing county-level detail. The atlas is free at [http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/census\\_2000/011433.html](http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/census_2000/011433.html) or \$165.00 from the U.S. Government Printing Office, <http://bookstore.gpo.gov> or 1-866-512-1800 (toll free).

**SAVE THE DATES FOR THE NATIONAL RURAL HOUSING CONFERENCE 2008: WORKING FOR CHANGE, BUILDING OUR FUTURE!** The conference will be held December 3-5, 2008 in Washington, D.C. Watch for registration information in the *HAC News* and at <http://www.ruralhome.org/Conf2008/index.php>.