Lifting Up What Works

PolicyLink

# The President's 2011 Budget
## Creating Communities of Opportunity

by Radhika Fox, Federal Policy Director and Sarah Treuhaft, Senior Associate

## Overview

The federal budget is a singularly powerful document, with the ability to boost opportunity for millions of Americans.

President Obama's 2011 budget lays out a compelling vision not only for economic recovery, but for more equitable and sustainable economic growth. By supporting innovation and small business development, transportation and clean energy infrastructure, education and workforce training system reform, and much more—the budget sets out a policy framework for a stronger, more inclusive America. It is a plan that provides immediate assistance to those suffering most in these tough economic times—low-income people, working families, and communities of color—while creating pathways for all to prosper.

While the annual budget request is a vehicle for the President to communicate his priorities and vision to the American people, it is Congress that holds the purse strings—ultimately deciding what programs are funded and at what level. Congress has begun budget deliberations, and political pundits on both sides of the aisle predict it will be months before the FY 2011 budget is signed into law (FY 2011 begins October 1, 2010).

To inform the still unfolding budget debate, PolicyLink prepared this document to educate policymakers and advocates about important components of the President's 2011 budget request that promote communities of opportunity—places that provide everything one needs to thrive including quality employment, good schools, affordable housing, efficient public transportation, safe streets, services, parks, and healthy food retailers.

Decades of research confirm that where you live plays an important role in shaping access to the critical opportunity structures that can lead to economic and social success, and allow

**The PolicyLink Communities of Opportunity Paper Series**

This document is the first in a series of federal policy briefs that PolicyLink will issue in 2010 on how federal policy and programs can expand communities of opportunity in America.

The second paper will offer a more in-depth discussion of local and state strategies to advance communities of opportunity and suggest how federal policy can support these approaches well beyond the 2011 budget. Remaining papers in this series will focus on issues such as community engagement, capacity building, and national objectives to advance communities of opportunity.

The papers will be available on the PolicyLink website at **www.policylink.org**.

people to be healthy and productive. We also know that this opportunity infrastructure is not evenly distributed: Many Americans, particularly low-income people and people of color, live in neighborhoods where these components of healthy communities are vanishing or absent.

Local leaders working in diverse sectors across the nation have been developing innovative policies and practices to promote communities of opportunity. These strategies fall within three broad approaches:

1. **Make all neighborhoods stable, healthy, and livable.** In every part of the country—cities, suburbs, rural areas, and tribal nations—some communities face long-term decline in their economies and housing markets. Community builders have been working across traditionally siloed sectors such as housing, education, health, and economic development, to implement catalytic strategies that renew and rebuild distressed communities.

2. **Link people to opportunities and supports spread across regions.** Many lower-income residents, and particularly people of color, live in neighborhoods located far from job centers and services: what economists call the "spatial mismatch". Practitioners and policymakers are implementing several strategies to bridge this gap: mobility strategies that improve transportation access to jobs; land use strategies to co-locate jobs, transportation, and affordable housing; economic development strategies to generate job growth in distressed communities; and human development strategies that provide education and training opportunities that lead to good jobs.

3. **Enable all to live near regional opportunity.** Some neighborhoods already have safe parks, grocery stores, good schools, and job centers—but they rarely include an adequate number of affordable homes or apartments. Public officials, housing advocates, and nonprofit developers are working to open up these opportunity-rich neighborhoods to lower-income families and non-white residents through inclusive development practices, legal strategies, and supportive land use policies.

This paper analyzes the 2011 budget in the context of these three approaches, describing 19 new, expanded, or restructured programs that, if included in the final budget enacted by Congress, can pave the way to opportunity for low-income people and communities of color. The first nine pages of this document characterize several new directions undertaken by the Obama administration since taking office in January 2009; offer a recap of key elements in the President's 2011 budget request; and provide a grid that summarizes programs that support communities of opportunity. More detailed descriptions of the programs summarized in the grid begin on page 10, organized by approach and dollar amount.

While this paper highlights many exciting and innovative programs that can strengthen communities across America, it is not an exhaustive review of all programs that help low-income people and communities of color. We do not, for example, review critical safety net programs such as Food Stamps and Medicaid that help people meet their basic needs, or the Earned Income Tax Credit, which can help low-income families save and build assets.

Many of the programs profiled in this report are new, expanded, or in the process of being redefined. It should be noted that this paper does not provide in-depth analysis of the specific policy debates around some of the programs profiled. We focus on the broad directions and framework undergirding the programs, recognizing that many of the program details remain to be determined by the Obama administration, Congress, advocates, and other stakeholders.

We hope that this document will inform the decision-making process of policymakers and fuel the advocacy efforts of those committed to improving the life prospects for our nation's most vulnerable communities.

# New Directions to Tackle Unprecedented Challenges

The need for rebuilding communities is clear. Even before unemployment and foreclosures began to soar, millions of Americans were barely making ends meet. For nearly everyone except those at the very top, incomes have been stagnant for decades, even as costs for healthcare and other necessities have mushroomed. At the same time, poverty has spread from the urban core to the suburbs, and thousands of neighborhoods have been decimated by foreclosures, falling home values, and crumbling infrastructure.

We need a new approach to economic growth, one not based on speculative boom-and-bust cycles but on sustainable and inclusive development. This is a long-term imperative for our nation that will take years to achieve, but for which we must begin laying the groundwork.

Since President Obama came into office, the White House and federal agencies have undergone a quiet transformation that is setting the course for a more equitable future. While the changes may not yet have materialized on Main Street, and have largely gone unnoticed in the mainstream media, within the federal government there is a clear shift in strategy and policy.

Some important new directions that we believe are critical to realigning our federal government to fight poverty and promote shared prosperity include:

- → **Place Matters.** While previous administrations have implemented some place-based approaches and strategies (i.e., strategies that are focused on a specific, defined community), the Obama administration is the first to look comprehensively at how its policies and programs affect places. In August 2009, the President asked all agencies to review how their policies impacted places, and suggest best practices and innovative approaches to maximizing effective place-based policy. Many new programs in the 2010 and 2011 budgets (e.g., Promise Neighborhoods, Choice Neighborhoods, and the Sustainable Communities Initiative) are place-based.

- → **Silo Busting.** Achieving national goals for economic competitiveness, inclusion, and sustainability requires breaking down bureaucratic barriers to integrated planning, policy, and development. Transportation, housing, economic development, and improvements to the environment all work in concert to shape the character of neighborhoods, cities, and regions. But federal policy is almost always made within separate realms, with too little coordination, targeting, or cross-pollination of ideas and investments. The new administration understands this and is taking steps to coordinate programs, both across federal agencies and among different sectors within localities. One mechanism for better coordination is the White House Office of Urban Affairs, which was created in February 2009 to advance competitive, sustainable, and inclusive economic growth through cross-agency partnerships.

- → **A Focus on Results and Investing in What Works.** Many local implementers of federal programs have long advocated for policies and programs to be selected and expanded based on their proven effectiveness in addressing particular problems. The new administration is embracing this approach, both by learning from successful local practice and by implementing new evaluation procedures. A new initiative, launched by the Office of Management and Budget, has every agency and every program head selecting strategies based on tangible evidence of effectiveness, setting concrete and measurable goals, and implementing evaluation procedures that track progress and allow for mid-course corrections and improvements.

→ **A Renewed Focus on Civil Rights.** Over the past year, the federal government's enforcement of our civil rights laws has expanded dramatically. The Civil Rights Division's budget was increased by 18 percent in 2010 and an 11 percent increase has been proposed for 2011. The division set a goal to increase its criminal civil rights caseload by 34 percent and its non-criminal civil rights caseload by 28 percent. In addition, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has recommitted itself to enforcing fair housing laws.

→ **Transparency and Openness.** While much more needs to be done, the Obama administration has made an unprecedented commitment to transparency, public engagement, and accountability, working to both put crucial information and data in the hands of the public and to solicit feedback before the details of new programs or strategies are finalized. The White House Office of Urban Affairs' listening tour of nine cities, extensive use of internet and communications technologies, the process of putting out an "advanced" Notice of Funding Availability for public comment and feedback on the new Sustainable Communities Initiative, and the revamped Office of Public Engagement are just a few examples of this shift toward a more responsive and engaged government.

# A Bird's Eye View of the 2011 Budget

The President's budget comes at a moment of continuing challenges for the American people, particularly low-income people and communities of color. While all signs point to an end to the economic freefall of last year, unemployment remains high, housing markets unstable, and uncertainty lingers on both Main Street and Wall Street. In the face of these unprecedented challenges, the President's budget seeks to balance the short-term imperative of boosting the economy and fostering job creation with the longer-term priority of reining in deficits and investing in sustainable economic growth.

Some broad priorities of this administration as articulated in the 2011 budget request include:

- **Striking a Balance between High Priority Investments and Fiscal Discipline.** While the President's 2011 budget request caps overall domestic discretionary funding slightly below 2010 levels, the budget request increases funding in 2011 in several high-priority discretionary areas such as education, clean energy, infrastructure, and basic research and development.[1] At the same time, the budget reduces or terminates funding for lower-priority programs, and reduces deficits by about $1.3 trillion over 10 years, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

- **Strengthening Safety Net and Assisting Low-Income and Working Families.** Recognizing that those hit hardest by the recession will continue to suffer for years to come, the budget provides much-needed help to the most vulnerable. A few of the budget items in this category include: $7.6 billion for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women and Infants (more commonly known as WIC) to fully serve all eligible families; an additional $989 million for Head Start and Early Head Start; an additional $1.6 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) to expand childcare opportunities and improve health, safety, and outcomes for children; and $3.3 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to help low-income families with their home heating and cooling expenses.

- **Investing in Job Creation.** A number of programs aim to catalyze job growth, addressing the loss of seven million jobs since the recession began in December 2007. These include major investments in clean energy; providing access to credit for small businesses; investing billions in science, research, and development; and $75 million in planning grants to develop competitive regional economic clusters.

- **Revitalizing Communities and Laying the Foundation for Growth through Infrastructure Investment.** The President's budget request continues the process of revamping our nation's infrastructure, with significant investments in transportation through the proposed $4 billion National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund, $1 billion for high-speed rail, $7.2 billion to expand broadband deployment, and additional investments to modernize the nation's energy grid and build clean water infrastructure.

- **Reforming and Rebuilding a Pipeline of Education and Training.** Recognizing that an educated workforce is essential in a 21st century global economy, the 2011 budget request includes strong education reforms that set high standards, encourage innovative teaching practices, and reward success, such as the Race to the Top competition. The budget also increases overall funding for the workforce system, and streamlines it to focus on high-growth sectors of the economy.

→ **Putting Dollars behind the Push for Interagency Collaboration.** The President's budget request embodies the adage "put your money where your mouth is" in terms of putting real dollars behind the call for greater collaboration and alignment between federal agencies. The 2011 budget request includes funding for several exciting programs that will be jointly administered by several agencies including: the Sustainable Communities Partnership (HUD, DOT, EPA); the Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HHS, USDA, TR); and the Workforce Innovation Partnership (DOL and ED).

→ **Investing in Innovation and Engagement by All.** The President's budget provides resources to support Americans of all ages to serve their country and foster community innovation. The budget proposes $1.4 billion for the Corporation for National Community Service—an increase of $266 million from 2010. This will support a continued expansion of the AmeriCorps program that began with the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act in 2009. It will also provide an additional $60 million for the Social Innovation Fund, which was established in FY 2010 and designed to test promising new approaches to major challenges, leverage private and foundation capital, and grow evidence-based programs.

### *Department/Agency Abbreviations Used In This Paper*

| | |
|---|---|
| CNCS | Corporation for National and Community Service |
| DOD | Department of Defense |
| DOE | Department of Energy |
| DOI | Department of the Interior |
| DOL | Department of Labor |
| DOT | Department of Transportation |
| ED | Department of Education |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| HUD | Housing and Urban Development |
| GSA | General Services Administration |
| USDA | Department of Agriculture |
| TR | Department of the Treasury |
| VA | Veterans Administration |

# Programs in FY 2011 Budget that Support Communities of Opportunity

***Click on the page number to go to the detailed program description.***

## Make All Neighborhoods Stable, Healthy, and Livable

| Program and Agency | Proposed Allocation | Description | Page Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Healthy Food Financing Initiative (USDA/HHS/TR)** | $345 million | The Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) is a new interagency effort to increase access to healthy foods in underserved urban, rural, and suburban communities by providing financing for new or expanded grocery stores, farmers' markets, and other healthy food retailers. | 10 |
| **Weatherization Assistance Program (DOE)** | $300 million | The Weatherization Assistance Program aims to reduce residential energy costs for low-income families by improving the energy efficiency of homes. | 11 |
| **Choice Neighborhoods (HUD)** | $250 million | First included in the 2010 budget, the Choice Neighborhoods initiative will transform distressed neighborhoods and public and assisted projects into viable and sustainable mixed-income neighborhoods by linking housing improvements with appropriate services, schools, public assets, transportation, and access to jobs. | 12 |
| **Promise Neighborhoods (ED)** | $210 million | Modeled after the Harlem Children's Zone, Promise Neighborhoods is a competitive grant program designed to support comprehensive, cradle-through-college services and academic opportunities for children in targeted geographic areas. | 13 |
| **Catalytic Investment Competition Grants (HUD)** | $150 million | The Catalytic Investment Competition Grants is a new program that will provide bridge funding to help economic development projects seeded by other HUD place-based programs attain greater scale—creating more jobs and economic activity. | 15 |
| **Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiative** and **Attorney General's Initiative on Children Exposed to Violence (DOJ)** | $25 million<br><br>$37 million | The Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiative and the Attorney General's Initiative on Children Exposed to Violence would, respectively, fund community efforts to reduce violence in high-crime neighborhoods and intervene and support youth who are exposed to violence. | 17 |
| **Healthy Communities Initiative (EPA)** | $27 million | The Healthy Communities Initiative is a new effort at EPA, focused on environmental improvements—clean air and water, healthy schools, brownfields cleanup—in disadvantaged and overburdened communities, as a component of sustainability efforts. | 18 |

## Link People to Opportunities and Supports Spread Across Regions

| Program and Agency | Proposed Allocation | Description | Page Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| **National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund (DOT)** | $4 billion | A competitive grant program that would invest in a range of transportation projects of regional and national significance including public transit, roads, ports, and airports, as well as projects that support multiple transportation modes. | 20 |
| **Race to the Top (ED)** | $1.35 billion | First funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), Race to the Top is a competitive program to support school reforms (by states and localities) that lead to significant improvements in student achievement, high school graduation rates, college enrollment rates, and significant reductions in achievement gaps. | 21 |
| **Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities (EPA/DOT/HUD)** | $688 million | This new partnership between the agencies responsible for housing, transportation, and the environment will coordinate their investments to build more sustainable communities that offer affordable housing and transportation options to all while addressing the challenges of climate change. | 23 |
| **Investing in Innovation Fund (ED)** | $500 million | First funded in ARRA, the Investing in Innovation Fund would support the development of innovative strategies to improve student outcomes by providing grants to school districts and nonprofits to develop promising practices and expand proven programs. | 24 |
| **Workforce Innovation Partnership (DOL/DOE)** | $321 million | The Workforce Innovation Partnership gives competitive grants to explore and test promising new approaches to workforce training for disadvantaged, hard-to-reach populations and out-of-school youth. | 25 |
| **Regional Innovation Initiative (USDA)** | $280 million | The Regional Innovation Initiative supports regional planning and coordinates USDA assistance in rural communities for initiatives that are likely to have a strong regional economic impact. | 26 |
| **Green Jobs Innovation Fund (DOL)** | $85 million | The Green Jobs Innovation Fund supports competitive grants for job training and career pathway programs in the green economy. | 27 |

## Enable All to Live Near Regional Opportunity

| Program and Agency | Proposed Allocation | Description | Page Number |
|---|---|---|---|
| **National Housing Trust Fund (HUD)** | $1 billion | The National Housing Trust Fund would provide states with a steady, reliable source of funding to create or preserve primarily rental housing units for extremely low-income families. | 28 |
| **Transforming Rental Assistance (HUD)** | $350 million (phase 1) | Transforming Rental Assistance (TRA) is an ambitious, new multiyear project to combine HUD's 13 different rental subsidy programs into a single coherent program, preserve assisted rental housing units, and expand housing choices for low-income families. | 28 |
| **Housing and Services for Homeless Persons Demonstration (HUD, HHS, ED)** | $85 million | The demonstration project would increase access to stable housing for vulnerable populations by providing new Housing Choice Vouchers to chronically homeless single adults with mental health or substance abuse problems and families with children who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. | 30 |
| **Fair Housing Affirmative Obligation Pilot Program (HUD)** | $2 million | The new Fair Housing Affirmative Obligation Pilot Program would help localities that receive HUD funding ensure fair housing by pairing them with fair housing groups that can help them assess barriers and develop strategic plans to address them. | 31 |

# Conclusion

The administration's FY 2011 budget proposal is a blueprint for President Obama's vision of the country's future. Fostering communities of opportunity—places with quality schools, access to good jobs with family-supporting wages, quality housing choices, public transportation, safe and walkable streets, services, parks, access to healthy food, and strong social networks—is clearly a part of this vision. Now it is time for Congress to act to provide the resources needed to ensure that all can participate and prosper.

# Appendix A: Make All Neighborhoods Stable, Healthy, and Livable

The 2011 budget includes a collection of new and improved programs to turn distressed neighborhoods in cities, suburbs, rural areas, and tribal nations into safer, healthier, greener places with stronger, more resilient, more inclusive, and more sustainable economies. These programs demonstrate the administration's commitment to building federal policy based on effective local programs such as the Harlem Children's Zone, Operation Ceasefire, and the Pennsylvania Fresh Food Financing Initiative. They also illustrate a new emphasis on approaches to community transformation that reach across sectors. For example, developing grocery stores and farmers' markets as critical neighborhood assets for resident nutrition as well as for local jobs, or integrating people-focused strategies such as financial services and education with bricks-and-mortar neighborhood development activities.

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|---|---|
| Program | Healthy Food Financing Initiative |
| Amount | $345 million |
| Agencies | USDA, HHS, TR |

## Program Description

The Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) is a new interagency effort to increase access to healthy foods in urban, rural, and suburban communities that are underserved by supermarkets and grocery stores. It is an unprecedented collaboration between the Departments of Agriculture, Health and Human Services, and Treasury to invest in the health of people, communities, and our food and agricultural systems.

Modeled after a successful program in Pennsylvania, the HFFI would provide one-time start-up financing in the form of loans and grants to support healthy food retail projects in underserved communities. Experience has shown that food retailers can be successful in underserved areas, but they face higher initial barriers to entry into underserved communities. A relatively small initial infusion of funds can lead to sustainable community-serving businesses.

Funds could help entrepreneurs open new grocery stores, cooperatives, and farmers' markets, or help existing stores renovate to remain competitive or begin selling a full line of fresh produce. HFFI would use public dollars to leverage private investment and create a larger funding pool. In Pennsylvania, for example, a $30 million investment by the state led to $190 million in retail projects. Successfully implemented by The Reinvestment Fund and The Food Trust, the program has helped develop 83 supermarkets and other fresh food outlets in urban and rural communities across the state, improving access to healthy food for more than 400,000 people, and creating or retaining more than 5,000 jobs.

## How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity

For decades, low-income people and communities of color have suffered from a lack of grocery stores and other outlets that offer affordable food in their neighborhoods. The "grocery gap" is found in urban and rural America alike, as consolidation within the food industry has led to a few large superstores and fewer small grocers.

## Promoting Healthy Food Access Across Pennsylvania

When the owners of two grocery stores in the small towns of Apollo and Vandergrift outside of Pittsburgh decided to retire and sell their stores in 2007, residents were going to be left with no local grocers. With a $1.2 million loan and $248,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Fresh Food Financing Initiative (FFFI), Pittsburgh-based family grocers Randy and Brenda Sprankle were able to purchase the stores, continuing the tradition of fresh foods and friendly customer service.

Another neighborhood helped by the initiative is Eastwick, Philadelphia. The community's only grocery store closed, leaving residents to catch rides or take multiple trains and buses to reach grocery stores in the suburbs. With grant and loan assistance from FFFI, Jeff Brown, the owner and operator of a small regional chain named Brown's ShopRite, opened a new store in the neighborhood in 2004. Island Avenue ShopRite is a 57,000 square foot full-service supermarket that has brought not only fresh foods but also 258 quality, union jobs to the distressed neighborhood. Most of these jobs have gone to people of color living in the neighborhood, many of whom are reentering the workforce. Based on this experience, Brown's ShopRite has now partnered with the local workforce development agency to develop a customized training program for 2,200 employees in the chain's six Philadelphia stores.

For more information, visit the websites of The Food Trust and The Reinvestment Fund:
www.thefoodtrust.org and www.trfund.com.

Without fresh food retailers, individual and community health is compromised. The presence of stores selling fresh produce and other healthy, affordable food makes it possible to eat a balanced diet. Studies find that better access to healthy food corresponds with better eating habits and lower rates of obesity and diet-related disease. This is particularly important for low-income people, people of color, and rural residents who have higher rates of these illnesses.

Food retailers also contribute to community economic development. Grocery stores and supermarkets are often economic anchors that supply local jobs and create foot traffic for surrounding businesses. Farmers' markets also create healthy and vibrant neighborhoods, providing opportunities for social interaction and entrepreneurship.

The HFFI would increase the availability of healthy foods, take an important step in the fight against obesity, create tens of thousands of much-needed retail and construction jobs, and revitalize distressed neighborhoods.

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| *Program* | **Weatherization Assistance Program** |
| *Amount* | **$300 million** |
| *Agency* | **DOE** |

### *Program Description*

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) reduces residential energy costs for low-income families by improving the energy efficiency of homes. Typical improvements include upgrades to electric, heating and cooling systems, weather stripping, and other services to maximize energy and dollar savings with a whole-house approach. WAP funding is allocated to states as a base amount plus an additional amount calculated based on the number of low-income households and their residential energy expenditures and environmental conditions. DOE reserves funds for national training and technical assistance, as well as training and technical assistance (T&TA) for states and localities.

The FY 2011 budget proposes $300 million for WAP, which is a 43 percent increase from the $90 million provided in the 2010 budget. This builds on the $5 billion of weatherization assistance in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

This year, DOE also announced a $30 million funding opportunity for a Weatherization Innovation Pilot Program to improve the effectiveness of weatherization efforts. The pilot program is looking for sites using new materials and technologies, leveraging financial resources, and partnering with non-traditional allies. The 2011 budget intends to continue this activity.

### *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

Over the past 33 years, the WAP has provided services for 6.4 million households, with an average annual reduction of $350 in utility costs per household. Lowering utility costs for those most in need is critical to overall neighborhood stabilization. These improvements can help families manage volatility in energy costs and reduce financial burdens that can make the difference in paying the next mortgage or rent bill. Increasing residential energy efficiency is also key to addressing climate change and dependency on foreign oil. As the weatherization program expands, it provides opportunity for local community agencies to hire additional staff and subcontract with local businesses and contractors, which supports economic development.

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| *Program* | **Choice Neighborhoods** |
| *Amount* | **$250 million** |
| *Agency* | **HUD** |

### *Program Description*

The Choice Neighborhoods initiative will transform distressed neighborhoods and public and assisted projects into viable and sustainable mixed-income neighborhoods by linking housing improvements with community services, schools, public assets, transportation, and access to jobs. The Choice Neighborhoods program seeks to build upon the successes of public housing transformation under HOPE VI (Housing Opportunities for People Everywhere) to provide support for the preservation and rehabilitation of public and HUD-assisted housing. The program seeks to support locally-determined approaches to concentrated poverty through a comprehensive approach with housing as the center of revitalization. In addition to public housing authorities, the initiative will involve local governments, non-profits, and for-profit developers in undertaking comprehensive local planning with residents and the community.

Choice Neighborhoods debuted in the 2010 budget, where it was funded as a component of HOPE VI (Choice received $65 million as a demonstration program; HOPE VI received $200 million). At the end of May 2010, HUD issued a Notice of Funding Availability Pre-Notice for the $65 million to give potential applicants guidance before the NOFA is released. The Pre-Notice sets forth the core goals of the initiative, identifies key program elements and activities, and outlines the framework of the competition HUD will use to award FY 2010 Choice Neighborhoods funding. Hope VI program requirements and selection criteria will apply to Choice Neighborhoods grants for FY 2010, and grantees may not spend more than 15 percent of the grant amount for supportive services.

In 2011, the President is calling for $250 million for Choice Neighborhoods directly. Authorizing legislation to create the Choice Neighborhoods program is currently being considered by Congress.

As with several others programs such as the Sustainable Communities Initiative, HUD is placing a strong emphasis on coordination with other federal agencies, with the expected result that federal investments in education, employment, income support, and social services will be better aligned in targeted neighborhoods. To date, the Departments of Education, Justice, and Health and Human Services are working with HUD to coordinate investments in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty, including those targeted by Choice Neighborhoods.

### Murphy Park, St. Louis: Building on HOPE

Murphy Park is a mixed-income 413-unit rental development that has transformed three neighborhoods just north of downtown St. Louis. The area called Murphy Park also includes a 200-unit public housing development, a senior living facility, and a renovated brewery housing 140 market-rate and low-income units. Between 1996 and 2003, the developer, McCormack Baron Salazar took a comprehensive approach to revitalizing these underinvested communities.

Murphy Park now includes new housing and community facilities, supportive services for residents, and a community-based organization (COVAM) to partner and facilitate new opportunities for residents and youth. The enhanced neighborhood school, Jefferson Elementary, has been the keystone of improving the lives of existing residents and attracting new residents to the area. Collaboration with St. Louis foundations and educational institutions, along with $4 million in private funds, focused on upgrading the physical building, revamping curriculum, and increasing teacher support. The school hosts programming year round and provides after-hours community services.

While coordinating these efforts among the community-based organization, the public housing authority, and the school districts is complex, the results are marked. Educational achievement and attendance rates have improved in the school, rates of homeownership have increased, and participation in community programs has increased.

For more information, visit McCormack Baron's website: www.mccormackbaron.com/HTML/developments.html.

### *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

For decades, public housing was located in the poorest areas of cities and targeted to people with the lowest incomes (and greatest need) to live in them. These neighborhoods often lacked the opportunity structures and supports that residents needed to pull themselves out of poverty. Recognizing the need for reform, in 1989 the National Commission on Severely Distressed Public Housing crafted a strategy to improve conditions in the country's worst public housing developments, which led to the HOPE VI program. HOPE VI is considered a successful model for redeveloping troubled, isolated public housing projects. However, in a number of places the housing redevelopment displaced lower-income residents, or did not lead to broader neighborhood transformation.

With the expanded goal of functioning, sustainable mixed-income neighborhoods, and its focus on inclusive planning and coordination with investments in improved social services, transportation, jobs, and public schools, Choice Neighborhoods seeks to build on the best practices of Hope VI to create communities of opportunity with housing as a centerpiece.

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| *Program* | **Promise Neighborhoods** |
| *Amount* | **$210 million** |
| *Agency* | **ED** |

### *Program Description*

Promise Neighborhoods (PN) is a competitive grant program that seeks to improve the educational and life outcomes for children living in the most distressed urban, rural, and tribal communities, and to transform those communities. Modeled closely after the Harlem Children's Zone, the initiative takes a comprehensive approach to fighting poverty by focusing on effective schools and strong systems of family and community support. The goal of the program is to ensure that children have access to a continuum of cradle-through-college-to-career solutions, with strong schools at the center that will support academic achievement, healthy development, and college and career success.

President Obama committed to creating 20 Promise Neighborhoods during his campaign. The program debuted in the 2010 budget, dedicating $10 million for competitive, year-long, $400,000 to $500,000 planning grants for up to 20 non-profit organizations

## Harlem Children's Zone: A New Paradigm for Fighting Poverty

For more than 30 years, the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) has been developing and refining its approach to help Harlem's children succeed and to rebuild the social fabric of Harlem, which has been torn apart by crime, drugs, and decades of poverty. HCZ began working on one block in the 1990s and has since expanded to 97 blocks, home to 10,000 children. The HCZ model is based on five core principles:

1. Serve an entire neighborhood comprehensively and at scale.
2. Create a comprehensive pipeline of programs for children from birth through college graduation and wrap that continuum in supports for families.
3. Build community among residents, institutions, and stakeholders, who help to create the environment necessary for children's healthy development.
4. Evaluate program outcomes and create a feedback loop that cycles data back to management for use in improving and refining program offerings.
5. Cultivate a culture of success rooted in passion, accountability, leadership, and teamwork.

The HCZ pipeline begins with The Baby College®, a series of workshops for parents of children ages zero to three, and goes on to include best-practice programs for children of every age through college: early childhood, in-school, after-school, college-prep and in-college support, social service, health, and community-building programs. Sixty-five percent of the children in the community are touched by one or more of these programs.

The indicators of HCZ's success are numerous, ranging from aggregate measures such as the fact that 100 percent of the third graders attending HCZ's schools outperform their peers citywide and statewide on their math exams, to the individual accomplishments of Harlem kids who credit the program for putting them on the path to success in their life and careers.

For more information, visit the Harlem Children's Zone website: www.hcz.org.

or institutions of higher education. Grants could be used to conduct needs assessments, form partnerships, and develop comprehensive, long-term programs in schools and neighborhoods. The Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) for this program was released on April 30, 2010 and the deadline to apply is June 25, 2010. The department expects to make planning grant announcements in September 2010.

The 2011 proposed budget devotes $210 million for PN. $198.5 million of the funds would go toward the first round of five-year implementation grants for 10 communities. Communities do not need to have received PN planning grants to apply for the implementation funds. Another $9.25 million would fund a second round of planning grants for an additional 18 to 20 communities.

The Promise Neighborhoods program encourages grantees to show their ability to build partnerships and leverage resources, including private and philanthropic resources and investments from other federal agencies. Choice Neighborhoods, YouthBuild USA, and the Workforce Investment Act are some of the key federal programs that could coordinate with PN resources, along with Head Start, Child and Adult Care Food Program, 21st Century Schools, Title V (after-school), and the National Endowment for the Arts.

PN is part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), which is up for reauthorization, but the administration will seek the full $210 million through the appropriations process even if ESEA reauthorization does not happen this year.

## Evergreen Cooperatives in Cleveland: Community-based Economic Development

Cleveland's Greater University Circle is home to both world-renowned cultural and civic institutions and severely distressed, under-invested communities. In 2005, the Cleveland Foundation began to convene the executives of four of the major anchor institutions to coordinate and leverage their expected $2.5 billion in capital investments and their annual $3 billion in purchasing to transform the surrounding six neighborhoods.

Several organizations partner to support the Evergreen Cooperative Initiative, including The Democracy Collaborative (a national nonprofit organization), the Ohio Employee Ownership Center, and the Cleveland Foundation. In the next three to five years, Evergreen aims to create a network of 10 new for-profit, worker-owned cooperatives based in Greater University Circle that employ at least 500 community residents. Today, two businesses are up and running: a green commercial-scale healthcare bed linen laundry and a clean energy and weatherization company. Two more businesses will launch later this year, including a year-round food production hydroponic greenhouse and a 'hyper-local' newspaper and media outlet. These enterprises all address the needs and new opportunities presented by the local and regional institutions. The initiative's business model for all of the enterprises is based on being fully self-sustaining for-profit ventures while hiring locally, paying family-sustaining wages, and offering asset-based wealth generation to workers (including an equity ownership stake in each business).

The Cleveland Foundation provided $750,000 in grant dollars for seed capital for the laundry, which secured an additional $5 million in funding from a variety of public and private sources. The initiative has leveraged nearly $20 million in public investment (including New Markets' Tax Credits, HUD 108, Brownfields Economic Development Initiative dollars, and DOE grants).

For more information, visit the Evergreen Cooperative Initiative's website: www.evergreencoop.com.

### *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

Too often, effective social services and school improvement efforts address one area of need, and often for a small portion of children and families, or for only a few years. Too many children fall through the cracks, and the cycle of poverty continues.

Promise Neighborhoods explicitly focuses on helping poor children succeed by improving schools and the neighborhood environment. The emphasis on ensuring that children have access to a continuum of cradle-through-college-to-career solutions at the neighborhood level recognizes that meaningfully addressing childhood poverty in America requires a multifaceted approach that seeks to transform the life circumstances of a young person.

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| *Program* | **Catalytic Investment Competition Grants** |
| *Amount* | **$150 million** |
| *Agency* | **HUD** |

### *Program Description*

The Catalytic Investment Competition Grants (also called the Catalytic Investment Fund) is a new program that would provide funds to ramp up established economic revitalization projects to create jobs and strengthen markets in severely distressed communities.

Housed with the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, the Catalytic Investment Fund would provide a critical source of bridge funding for projects seeded by other HUD place-based programs (such as the Neighborhood Stabilization Program or Choice Neighborhoods)

## Chicago's Operation CeaseFire

The idea for Operation CeaseFire came from an epidemiologist at University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health, Gary Slutkin, who believed that gun violence should be treated as a public health issue and modeled after successful public health campaigns.

Slutkin's Chicago Project for Violence Prevention launched CeaseFire in 2000 after several years of assessment and planning. Its three goals are to provide alternative forms of conflict resolution, change community norms around violence, and increase the costs of violence. The process begins with an aggressive public education and community mobilization campaign around a targeted goal —reducing shootings. Posters placed around the neighborhood and carried at post-shooting rallies spread messages such as "Don't shoot. I want to grow up" next to a child's face, and the direct "The killing must stop."

The heart of the work is carried out by "violence interrupters," people with experience in violent street life, often former gang members, who have turned their lives around. They work on the streets and in the hospitals with those most at risk of carrying out shootings to mediate or de-escalate conflicts and talk grieving families and injured victims out of retaliatory shootings. Faith-based leaders also counsel individuals and the program connects at-risk youth with services that will help them move away from gang activity.

A rigorous evaluation released in 2009 found that six out of seven CeaseFire areas studied—Auburn-Gresham, Englewood, Logan Square, Southwest, West Humboldt Park, and West Garfield Park—saw marked (16 to 28 percent) reductions in shootings attributable to CeaseFire, and the seventh, Rogers Park, saw a significant cooling of violent hot spots (along with three others).[2] The CeaseFire model is being replicated in several other cities, including Baltimore, Newark, and Kansas City. One challenge CeaseFire programs have faced is variable funding for the outreach workers, whose trust-building and continuous availability for at-risk individuals is a key part of the program.

For more information, visit Operation CeaseFire's website: www.ceasefirechicago.org.

to take innovative and potentially transformative projects to scale. The competitive grant pool seeks to capitalize and build on established, long-term programs that are already working to improve conditions in the most distressed communities and show additional promise.

Projects that reclaim vacant properties, build green infrastructure, facilitate economic development, and support transit oriented development would be eligible for the grants. Applicants are required to leverage other federal community development funds. Unlike traditional CDBG funding which goes to local governments, consortia that include non-governmental entities could apply for these funds.

### *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

The sustained hammering of the foreclosure crisis and the economic recession have left many communities severely distressed, with multiple obstacles to revitalization, including extensive vacant property and very high levels of unemployment. When local recovery efforts, including those launched with help from ARRA, are showing some success, it is important to build from that strength and maximize their ability to turn neighborhoods around.

The Catalytic Investment Competition Grants would provide critical gap financing to make the most out of prior public investments in place-based strategies, injecting capital when it can maximize job creation and catalyze market recovery.

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| *Program* | **Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiative (CBVPI)** and **Attorney General's Initiative on Children Exposed to Violence (AGICEV)** |
| *Amount* | **$25 million for CBVPI; $37 million for AGICEV** |
| *Agency* | **DOJ** |

## *Program Description*

The Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiative and the Attorney General's Initiative on Children Exposed to Violence are two Department of Justice programs focused on integrated, collaborative, place-based efforts to prevent crime and address its effects.

Modeled on effective programs such as Chicago's Operation Ceasefire, the Community-Based Violence Prevention Initiative provides grants to community-based organizations to conduct street-level outreach, conflict mediation, and the changing of community norms to reduce violence, particularly shootings. These programs train community members as "violence interrupters," and engage religious leaders to reach out to at-risk youth and to prevent escalation of conflicts. Working with governmental partners to assess crime data and develop strategies targeted at violence hot spots is another essential element of the program. CBVPI is part of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

The Attorney General's Initiative on Children Exposed to Violence (AGICEV) would develop and expand coordinated approaches to treat and support children who are exposed to violence—whether at home, at school, or in the community, and as victims or witnesses—in order to reduce the developmental effects of that exposure and break the cycle of violence. AGICEV would fund four demonstration sites to spend three years developing a rigorous and comprehensive plan covering service delivery and law enforcement, from first responders through longer-term treatment. The program would also provide 30 or more seed grants for communities to implement specific evidence-based interventions, funding for law enforcement training, and funding for research and statistical work to better understand the problem. AGICEV falls under State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance, and would work across a number of DOJ offices, including Juvenile Justice, Bureau of Statistics, and the Crime Victims' Office, as well as in partnership with HHS.

CBVPI was new in FY 2010, and funded at $10 million; the President's FY 2011 budget asks for $25 million for the program. AGICEV would be new in FY 2011.

## *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

Crime does not happen in a vacuum. Violence generates further violence, with young victims or witnesses at greater risk of becoming both repeat victims and offenders themselves. A survey in a 2009 DOJ report on the extent of children's exposure to violence found that more than 6 in 10 children were exposed to violence, either directly or indirectly; within the past year, nearly 5 in 10 had been assaulted, and 1 in 10 were victims of maltreatment (including physical and emotional abuse, neglect, or a family abduction).

Certain types of violence—driven by poverty, the drug trade, and lack of opportunity for youth—are more prevalent in struggling communities. Addressing crime by focusing on the identification and prosecution of individual perpetrators is not enough to break the cycle in these high-crime areas, nor does it address the effects of crime on neighbors.

These two DOJ programs incorporate a community- and prevention-minded attitude, combining the place-based approach of focusing

## Hunts Point and Brownfields: The Need for Community-Level Approaches

The Hunts Point neighborhood has long been a site for noxious industrial uses—it was originally a landfill, then the site for gas plants that left coal tar deposits on the ground, and is currently one of the largest food distribution centers in the world, where 15,000 trucks pass through each day, leading to significant air pollution and exceedingly high rates of asthma.[3] Though the population is low-income, real estate values are high, and most contaminated sites are underutilized, rather than vacant. The scores of contaminated sites reduce neighborhood quality of life, and measurable improvement would require tackling the cleanup and redevelopment of multiple sites.

Recognizing the need for community-level brownfields cleanup, the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation (BOEDC) brought in the SUNY Brownfields Center to conduct a systematic review of the area, examining sites, trends, and opportunities from 2003 to 2007. The center recommended a comprehensive plan based on redeveloping three key brownfields sites to promote a working waterfront, transportation hub, economic development/local hiring strategy, and destination area centered around the regional food distribution hub.[4] With funds from a New York state Brownfields Opportunity Areas (BOA) grant, BOEDC, the Pratt Institute, and the Bronx River Watershed Alliance are now completing a comprehensive land use assessment and analysis, economic and market trends analysis, and survey of all brownfield sites to identify strategic sites for development that are catalysts for revitalization. Their goal is to make recommendations for future uses and actions that reclaim the waterway, prevent displacement, and improve the health and economic opportunities for the residents of the neighborhood.

For more information on Hunts Point, visit the Pratt Center for Community Development website: www.prattcenter.net/greening-south-bronx.

on crime hotspots and community response to them with the people-based approach of caring comprehensively for all those affected by crime.

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| *Program* | **Healthy Communities Initiative** |
| *Amount* | **$27 million for new programs;** changes the focus of existing programs, including $215 million for brownfields cleanup |
| *Agency* | **EPA** |

### *Program Description*

The Healthy Communities Initiative (HCI) is a new effort at EPA focused on environmental improvements—clean air and water, healthy schools, brownfields cleanups—in disadvantaged and overburdened communities as a component of sustainability efforts. The initiative would create a number of new programs and shift the focus of several existing programs to increase the agency's focus on communities and people who are most at risk of living in unhealthy environments. Some highlights include:

- **Clean, Green, Healthy Schools ($6 million):** HCI would devote $6 million to extend its current school environmental health programs addressing issues such as asthma, indoor air quality, and enhanced use of Integrated Pest Management. EPA will work in partnership with ED and HHS to better coordinate and integrate their healthy school programs.
- **Community Water Priorities ($9.5 million):** Based on a 2010 pilot program, this new grant program would provide targeted technical assistance to urban communities to help them restore polluted urban waterways and the land surrounding them. Activities may include civic engagement and public outreach, youth involvement, risk screening, environmental education, sustainable financing, technical support and training, and development of an urban waters vision plan.

- **Smart Growth/Sustainable Communities ($5 million):** HCI provides an additional $5 million to fund the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities with DOT and HUD (described in the next section).

- **Community Brownfields Planning ($215 million):** EPA announced a high-priority goal to start 20 community-level (as opposed to site-level) brownfields cleanups in disadvantaged/underserved areas by 2012. This would allow communities to assess and address multiple sites within a given area, multiplying the health and redevelopment effects of cleanup resources and empowering communities to make decisions about public investments in environmental improvement. EPA would also coordinate its enforcement efforts and other funding to leverage the work in these communities and work with other federal agencies to do the same.

EPA's 2011 budget request also has a sharpened focus on environmental justice. In addition to expanded funding for enforcement and compliance assurance, the EPA will conduct an environmental justice review of policies and spending at the national level to assess whether they adversely affect the environment and public health or disproportionally harm disadvantaged communities.

### *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

As the environmental justice movement has made clear, disadvantaged communities are disproportionately burdened by environmental ills such as water and air pollution, unsafe buildings and the presence of toxins, contaminated sites, and degraded ecosystems. These problems affect the health and outlook of residents who live with them day after day and prevent them from turning around. HCI programs focus heavily on disadvantaged communities and the kinds of improvements that would turn them into communities of opportunity by improving both the health and physical surroundings of residents.

# Appendix B:
# Link People to Opportunities and Supports Spread Across Regions

A number of programs in the 2011 budget would build the infrastructure—such as transportation routes or education and training programs—to connect people to economic opportunities. Some of these programs initially support regional economic development and land use planning processes (Regional Innovation Fund, Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities) and then provide implementation funds in subsequent funding rounds. Others provide funds to explore and test innovative and promising approaches and programs (Investing in Innovation Fund, Workforce Innovation Partnership). This cadre of programs also exemplifies the administration's shift to offering funding via competitions instead of formula funds, as well as the continuation of programs initially launched in ARRA. Lastly, these programs illustrate new interagency partnerships—between EPA, HUD, and DOT as well as between DOL and ED.

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| Program | National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund |
| Amount | $4 billion |
| Agency | DOT |

## Program Description

The proposed National Infrastructure Innovation and Finance Fund (NIIF Fund) is a new $4 billion program within DOT that would invest in a range of transportation projects—including public transit, roads, ports, and airports, as well as projects that support multiple transportation modes. The purpose of the fund is to support projects of regional and national significance via a competition. This marks an important departure from the federal government's traditional way of spending on infrastructure which has primarily occurred through grants to specific states and localities.

The fund would first provide planning, feasibility, and analytical capacity to help identify potential high-value projects around the country, especially those that might be overlooked by traditional funding methods. Then, it would make competitive awards of grants, loans, or a mix of the two, based on a project's potential for national or regional economic significance, merit, and solid performance measures. It is expected to focus on capital projects of more than $25 million, or a coordinated series of small projects—though this minimum may be waived for smaller cities and metropolitan areas.

The fund would be overseen by a board that would include DOT officials and other federal agency representatives. The board would solicit input from those outside the government.

## How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity

For decades, federal investment in transportation infrastructure projects has occurred through narrowly defined programs administered by DOT. This has made it very difficult to coherently prioritize projects, assess the appropriate balance of transit and road work, or focus infrastructure upgrades where they will have the most economic impact. Shovel-ready projects overseen by state transportation agencies, such as new roads, often get funded over more complicated projects that might require investment in a range of transportation modes. Important large-scale projects that cross jurisdictions or funding categories have often been hard to fund.

## South Coast Rail Extension: Connecting Boston to Smaller Industrial Cities

Fall River and New Bedford, Massachusetts, two smaller cities that have long struggled with plant closings and loss of jobs, along with the city of Taunton, have been the only cities within 50 miles of Boston that do not have a commuter rail connection. The Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation (EOT) is in the planning stages of the South Coast Rail Project, which would extend rail south from Boston, with stations in Fall River and New Bedford.

The proposed expansion pairs regional and municipal land use planning with transportation planning to ensure that the rail extension does not result in excessive sprawl development, but rather channels economic development into core areas around downtown stations, especially in Fall River and New Bedford. All 31 municipalities affected by the extension are collaborating with the state to identify priority areas for preservation and development, and the state is gathering input from residents and local groups.

Local government authorities in New Bedford and Fall River believe the stations will both provide their residents with improved access to Boston jobs and attract new residents looking for more affordable places to live. But they also do not want to become bedroom communities, and they are actively thinking about how stations downtown can stimulate local economic activity as well.

EOT also recognizes that the arrival of rail service may drive up real estate prices and is building into its plans concerns for maintaining housing affordability. A route is expected to be chosen in 2010 and completion is expected by 2017. However, the financial difficulties facing the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) have many calling for the project to be put off. The NIIF Fund could help projects like this stay on track.

For more information, visit the South Coast Rail Extension website: www.southcoastrail.com.

Increasing funding of infrastructure will itself generate good jobs in the regions with funded projects. But the nature of the competitive award process and its criteria means these infrastructure projects would also be likely to improve connectivity and economic vitality in many regions, opening up regional opportunity to more residents.

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| *Program* | **Race to the Top** |
| *Amount* | **$1.35 billion** |
| *Agency* | **ED** |

### *Program Description*

Race to the Top is the President's challenge grant program designed to incentivize K-12 public school systems to undertake comprehensive reforms to better prepare children for college and careers and reduce the educational achievement gap for black and Latino students. First created by ARRA, Race to the Top is a competitive grant program that exemplifies the Department of Education's new incentives-based approach to improving public schools in America.

The program emphasizes the following reforms:

- **Designing and implementing rigorous standards and high-quality assessments,** which prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace, by encouraging states to work jointly toward a system of common academic standards.
- **Supporting data systems that inform decisions and improve instruction,** by fully implementing a statewide longitudinal data system, assessing and using data to drive instruction, and making data more accessible to key stakeholders.

- → **Attracting and keeping great teachers in America's classrooms,** by revising teacher evaluation, compensation, and retention policies to encourage and reward effectiveness, expanding supports, and placing effective teachers in the schools and classrooms where they are most needed.
- → **Turning around struggling schools,** by asking states to prioritize and transform persistently low-performing schools.

ARRA provided $4 billion for two rounds of Race to the Top competitions. Forty states and the District of Columbia applied for the first competition, and Delaware and Tennessee each won federal grants (of approximately $100 million and $500 million, respectively) to implement their school reform plans over the next four years. Strong buy-in from all their state's school districts and teachers unions, and plans to reach 100 percent of students, made their applications stand out, according to Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan. (In keeping with the administration's commitment to transparency, all of the applications, scores, and videos of presentations for 16 finalists are available on the Department's website).

The second phase of the competition is currently underway, with applications for the remaining $3.4 billion due June 1, 2010, and award announcements in September 2010. Secretary Duncan has said he expects more states to become winners in the second round (possibly 10 to 15). To be eligible to compete, states must: prove they do not have any legal, statutory, or regulatory barriers to linking data on student achievement or student growth to teachers and principals for evaluation purposes; have approved State Fiscal Stabilization plans; and stay within defined budget parameters. Applicants with a focus on integrating science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) into their reform efforts can receive an additional 15 points (out of a possible 500).

The 2011 budget proposal provides $1.35 billion to continue the President's Race to the Top challenge and to expand the competition from states to school districts that are ready for comprehensive reform.

### *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

A strong public education system—schools that prepare children for college and careers—is essential to ensuring that all children have the chance to succeed in an economy increasingly driven by knowledge and technology. But our current system is failing many children, and particularly low-income children and children of color. Black students are less likely to be taught by teachers who know their subject matter, be exposed to a rich curriculum compared to white students, and their schools are more likely to receive less state and local funding. According to 2007 data from the Department of Education, black fourth graders scored 28 points lower, on reading and math on a 500-point scale, than their white counterparts: seven points less than in 1992, but still a significant gap. Non-white students are far more likely to drop out of high school than white students (50 percent compared to 30 percent).[5]

By offering significant grant funds to states and localities that make serious commitments to reforming their school systems, Race to the Top has the potential to improve the quality of public education for the most vulnerable students. While it will take some time before we can assess the outcomes for students, the competition has prompted aspiring grantee states to change their laws and regulations to create a supportive policy environment for school reform. Twenty-six states have already passed laws that remove legal barriers to education reform, such as allowing data systems to link the individual student performance data to their teachers (California, Indiana). Some communities, including Austin (Texas), New Haven (Connecticut), and Jefferson County (Colorado), have developed new performance-based approaches to teacher evaluation, tenure, and reward.

| Program | Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities |
|---|---|
| Amount | $688 million |
| Agencies | EPA, HUD, DOT |

### Program Description

In 2009, DOT, HUD, and EPA established a high-level interagency partnership to improve access to affordable housing, increase transportation options, and lower transportation costs while protecting the environment in communities nationwide. Through a set of livability principles and an agreement that will guide the agencies' efforts, this partnership will coordinate federal housing, transportation, and other infrastructure investments to protect the environment, promote equitable development, and help to address the challenges of climate change. The 2010 budget included $150 million in the HUD budget for competitive planning grants which will be awarded by the end of the fiscal year.

The President's 2011 budget request includes resources within the three agencies to deepen and expand this innovative collaboration:

- $527 million to DOT, with:
    - $307 million in transit funding to increase the planning and project development capabilities of communities[6];
    - $200 million in highway funding for a competitive livability grant program to assist states and local governments in integrating planning processes within transportation, land use, and natural resource conservation; and
    - $20 million to establish an Office of Livable Communities in the Office of the Secretary to coordinate multimodal and interagency livability efforts. $12 million would be set aside for grants and technical assistance to states, regions, and localities.
- $150 million under HUD's Community Development Block Grant Program for the Sustainable Communities Initiative to encourage further integrated regional planning to link transportation, housing, and land use decisions. The funding for these goals takes shape in Sustainable Communities Planning Grants, Challenge Grants, and the creation of Capacity Building and Tools Clearinghouse.
- $11 million to the EPA's Smart Growth Program, allowing the agency to fully participate in the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities and to continue providing direct technical assistance and research to help communities meet economic and environmental challenges with sustainable solutions.

Beyond the proposed funding, the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities is working on ways to measure and assess progress toward more sustainable, coordinated regional investments and on aligning their agencies' own practices to support these goals.

### How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity

In fragmented regions without a comprehensive plan, local decision-making about housing, transportation, environmental sustainability, and land use is disjointed, both within and across jurisdictions. The effects of these individual decisions on region-wide mobility and livability are rarely taken into account, resulting in jobs-housing mismatches, long commutes, sprawl, increased pollution, and the continued isolation of disadvantaged communities. It also means that there are multiple missed opportunities to get a much larger impact out of the same level of public spending in each of these arenas.

By encouraging coordination at both the regional level and within the federal government, the Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities helps build integrated and whole

## The Great Communities Collaborative: Driving Equitable TOD in the Bay Area

Transit oriented development (TOD) is a key strategy for achieving goals for economic growth, inclusion, and sustainability. But the benefits of TOD do not automatically flow to the low-income communities and communities of color who live near the station. Local community engagement in planning processes and strong policy and financing tools can make all the difference in determining whether the new or revitalized transit station leads to greater transportation and housing opportunities for low-income residents and, in high-cost housing markets like the San Francisco Bay Area, does not lead to excessive gentrification and residential displacement.

The Great Communities Collaborative (GCC), a nonprofit/community foundation partnership, has been working since 2006 to engage residents in more than 25 communities—particularly low-income people and people of color—in local TOD planning processes to ensure that by 2030 all people in the Bay Area can live in complete communities, affordable across all incomes, and with nearby access to quality transit. Common goals of GCC's local efforts include increasing the amount of affordable housing (as well as total housing density), services, and jobs included in station-area plans. In planning for San Leandro's new bus rapid transit route, for example, community involvement spurred an increase in the total amount of housing allowed downtown from 500 units to 3,400 units, and approval of a 100-unit development targeted at very low-income families—the first affordable development since 1999.

GCC also works to establish supportive policies at the regional and state levels on policies and programs that support its goals. In early 2010, it partnered with the regional transportation agency to launch a $40 million revolving loan fund that will support land acquisition for 1,100 to 3,800 new affordable homes located near rail or bus stops.

For more information, visit the Great Communities Collaborative website at: www.greatcommunities.org.

regions. Greater coordination to promote improved access and availability of affordable housing and transportation options can go a long way toward building communities of opportunity across America.

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| *Program* | **Investing in Innovation Fund (i3)** |
| *Amount* | **$500 million** |
| *Agency* | **ED** |

### *Program Description*

First funded by ARRA, the goal behind Investing in Innovation Fund (i3) is to support the further development and implementation of innovative learning models that have already demonstrated success in improving student achievement or student growth, closing achievement gaps, decreasing dropout rates, increasing high school graduation rates, or increasing college enrollment and completion rates. Like Race to the Top, i3 is a competitive grant program. Local educational agencies, their nonprofit partners, and school consortia that show a record of success are eligible to apply for grants to expand and further develop their activities.

Three types of i3 grants are available:

- **Scale-up grants** of up to $50 million for practices, strategies, or programs for which there is strong evidence that they will have a statistically significant effect on the specific student outcomes described above;
- **Validation grants** of up to $30 million for practices, strategies, or programs that show promise, but for which there is currently only moderate evidence that they will have a statistically significant effect on the specific student outcomes described above; and
- **Development grants** of up to $5 million for high-potential and relatively untested practices, strategies, or programs that deserve further study and consideration.

Applicants are required to meet the needs of high-need students, secure a 20 percent private funding match, and address one of the four educational priorities within Race to the Top. All must conduct an independent evaluation of their activities.

ARRA's competition for $650 million in i3 grants began March 12, 2010, with applications due May 11, 2010 and grant announcements in September 2010. The Department of Education has said that it expects as many as 2,500 applications with at least two from every state.

In the 2011 budget request for an additional $500 million for i3 grants, the program adds a cross-cutting emphasis on technology and dedicates $150 million for projects involving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education.

### How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity

Local leaders are in the best position to develop new models and strategies to address challenges such as education reform, but they usually lack the "research and development" funding common in the private sector needed to test out particularly promising ideas, and to take even well-tested strategies to scale. I3 grants would help schools and nonprofit partners to develop innovative local solutions to our crisis in public education, and with its emphasis on high-need children, promises to reach the schools most in need.

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| *Program* | **Workforce Innovation Partnership** |
| *Amount* | **$321 million** |
| *Agencies* | **DOL, DOE** |

### Program Description

The Workforce Innovation Partnership (WIP) comprises two funds—the Workforce Innovation Fund and the Youth Innovation Fund—that would provide competitive grants to explore and test promising new approaches to workforce training, especially for disadvantaged or hard-to-reach populations and out-of-school youth.

A joint program of the Department of Labor and the Department of Education, the WIP would be new in FY 2011. It would be funded by a 5 percent contribution from the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) adult and dislocated worker program, a 15 percent contribution from the WIA youth program, and $60 million in new appropriations from the Department of Education's adult training programs.

In combination with the administration's focus on funding infrastructure and green jobs, the WIP promises to support (and evaluate) new and promising workforce training models that reach those in danger of being left behind and that operate on a regional and/or sectoral level. The intent of the Workforce Innovation Partnership is to promote rigorous evaluation of practices that already show promise, such as "learn and earn" strategies like apprenticeships and on-the-job training.

### How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity

To address the staggering unemployment rates among low-income people and communities of color, we must significantly scale up effective training programs that help people access jobs in strong and growing sectors of the economy. The regional or "sectoral" focus of the Workforce Innovation Partnership will help workforce development providers align their training offerings to growth sectors of the economy. Workforce training programs are highly uneven in quality, especially at giving the hardest to employ the skills and connections to connect to good jobs in the labor market on the ground. If funded, the Workforce Innovation Partnership's focus on testing new approaches and rigorous evaluation can help foster uniform quality and standards in the training of disadvantaged people moving forward.

## Capital IDEA: Education for Careers in Austin, Texas

Capital IDEA gives disadvantaged people the training and intensive support they need to access living wage, skilled jobs. Working with a range of employer partners, Capital IDEA identifies careers that are growing and have plenty of job opportunities available (e.g., nurses, x-ray technicians, network administrators, automotive technicians, and HVAC technicians).

Participants must have a GED or high school diploma; at least a fifth grade reading level; be below 200 percent of the federal poverty line; and demonstrate strong commitment to a career pathway. Once accepted, the entire cost of the education—tuition, books, and fees—is covered in full. Assistance in paying for childcare is also provided, along with emergency living and transportation expenses if needed, and ongoing counseling, support, and job placement services.

This kind of intensive support and financial sponsorship leads to strong results for participants: Capital IDEA participants who are in college for the first time have a 47 percent completion rate for their programs within six years; the statewide six-year completion rate for first-time-in-college community college students is 31 percent. Participants entering employment in 2008 nearly tripled their average annual income, with average starting salaries of $37,989.

For more information, see Capital IDEA's website: www.capitalidea.org.

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| Program | **Regional Innovation Initiative** |
| Amount | **$280 million** |
| Agency | **USDA** |

### *Program Description*

The Regional Innovation Initiative at USDA is designed to promote economic opportunity and job creation in rural communities. Under the program, USDA would set aside roughly 5 percent of the funding from approximately 20 existing programs and allocate these funds competitively among regional pilot projects tailored to local needs and opportunities. By creating a regional focus, the proposed USDA Regional Innovation Initiative will have more concentrated effects of program funding, enabling greater wealth creation, quality of life improvements, and sustainability.

The programs that would be reallocated as a regional funding pool include a variety of grants, direct loans, revolving loan funds, and loan guarantees. These funds have gone toward activities including technical assistance for rural business development, workforce training, hospital and educational facility construction, on-site renewable energy use, rural broadband, farmers' markets, and value-added agricultural processing.

The initiative will include $1.4 million for USDA to conduct or support regional planning activities and $135 million for project implementation. The set-aside would amount to over $135 million in budget authority, which would be sufficient to support a program level of about $280 million (including the value of direct loans and loan guarantees).

The effort is developed in parallel with other efforts at the Department of Commerce. USDA Rural Development will lead the initiative and draw upon programs in several divisions of USDA, including Rural Development, Marketing and Regulatory Programs, and Natural Resources and Environment.

### *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

Many rural communities across the nation are struggling with declining populations, retaining jobs, and growing income disparities. The Regional Innovation Initiative at USDA can be a catalyst to promote regional economic growth by prioritizing applications with a regional or place-based focus on economic development. In addition, applicants may be able to combine features of many programs into one linked initiative. An example of this type of regional approach is the "Great Regions" initiative within the USDA's Rural Business Opportunities Grants program (funded by the FY 2010 budget). This initiative identifies five regional development priorities that receive preference in the grant review process, including: local and regional food system development; renewable energy generation; expansion of broadband to assist small businesses; improving rural capital access; and the promotion of natural resource-oriented businesses.

| | |
|---|---|
| Program | Green Jobs Innovation Fund |
| Amount | $85 million |
| Agency | DOL |

## Program Description

The Green Jobs Innovation Fund is a program of DOL's Employment and Training Administration (ETA). First funded in FY 2010 at $40 million, it offers competitive grants for job training and career pathways programs in the green economy. Grants are especially focused on renewable/clean energy and energy efficiency, but are also available to all sectors that have large impacts on the environment, such as transportation, waste management, construction, sustainable agriculture, forestry, and environmental protection/restoration work.

The Green Jobs Innovation Fund builds on the $500 million for "research, labor exchange, and job training" in energy efficiency and renewable energy as part of its investment in "high growth" industries that was included in ARRA. These grants are being used by community colleges, community-based agencies, and industry partnerships to fund programs to prepare disadvantaged and dislocated workers to move into green careers. For example, the Shenandoah Valley Workforce Investment Board, Inc. (SVWIB) in Harrisonburg, Virginia, is using the funds for the Shenandoah Valley Energy Partnership, an outreach, support, and three-tiered training program focusing on preparing workers for emerging regional jobs in green technology, energy, and green construction/retrofitting.

ETA hopes that the Green Jobs Innovation Fund will support a range of approaches, including: pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship programs; targeted sectoral strategies and partnership efforts; programs that better connect existing green training programs to the private sector; and helping connect community-based organizations in underserved communities with the workforce investment system and a new focus on green industry sectors. The FY 2011 appropriation is expected to fund 40 to 50 grants and that would serve more than 14,000 participants.

## How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity

The green economy is expected to become one of the highest growth sectors in the economy. To ensure that jobs are accessible to low-income workers and workers of color who are facing disproportionately high unemployment rates in this recession, training programs and career pathway development targeted toward them are essential.

# Appendix C:
# Enable All to Live Near Regional Opportunity

Several programs in the 2011 budget take major steps forward to help communities preserve existing affordable homes, enforce fair housing laws, increase housing resources available to the homeless, and open up existing opportunity-rich communities to lower-income families and people of color. One of the programs, Transforming Rental Assistance, simultaneously demonstrates the administration's commitment to reforming government (by streamlining more than a dozen separate funding streams available for rental housing).

| | |
|---|---|
| *Program* | **National Housing Trust Fund** |
| *Amount* | **$1 billion** |
| *Agency* | **HUD** |

### *Program Description*

The National Housing Trust Fund—authorized by legislation in 2008 but not yet capitalized—is intended to provide a steady, reliable source of funding (not reliant on yearly appropriations), distributed through the states for use in creating or preserving primarily rental housing units for extremely low-income families. All funds must benefit households at 50 percent of area median income or less, and 75 percent of the funds must benefit households at 30 percent of area median income or less. Ninety percent of the funds must be directed to rental units. Funds are distributed to states on a formula basis.

The fund was intended to receive revenue from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, but those contributions were suspended in December 2009 due to their fiscal condition. The $1 billion proposed in FY 2011 would be its first capitalization.

### *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

Having a dedicated and reliable source of funding to create affordable rental housing for those with the most challenging housing needs is an important part of preventing homelessness and providing stability to our nation's most vulnerable households. If coordinated with other programs that support fair housing, job access, transit oriented development, and mixed-income housing, the Housing Trust Fund could be a key financing mechanism for an array of community revitalization projects. Stable housing for the lowest-income households helps to build social networks, improves educational outcomes, and creates access to economic opportunities.

| | |
|---|---|
| *Program* | **Transforming Rental Assistance** |
| *Amount* | **$350 million (phase 1)** |
| *Agency* | **HUD** |

### *Program Description*

Transforming Rental Assistance (TRA) is an ambitious, multiyear project to combine HUD's 13 different rental subsidy programs into a single coherent program, preserve rental housing units, and expand housing choices for low-income families. If funded at the proposed $350 million, the initiative would preserve approximately 300,000 affordable rental homes while making HUD rental programs more user-friendly for public housing authorities, private owners, and tenants.

TRA is a sweeping overhaul that would work toward a uniform funding stream, set of regulations, and eligibility criteria for the millions of rental units supported by HUD. HUD hopes

## The William E. Sadowski Act: Florida's State and Local Housing Trust Funds

The National Housing Trust Fund was modeled after the many successful state housing trust funds, though it targets even lower incomes more deeply than most state funds. Florida is a top state in devoting funding to housing trust funds, thanks to the William Sadowski Act, which was passed in 1992, with the help of a broad-based coalition that includes housing advocates and homebuilders. The act raised the documentary stamp tax and redirected some of the existing tax, and split its funding 31 percent to a state housing trust fund and 69 percent to local governments (counties and CDBG entitlement cities).[7]

All the funds must benefit households of moderate income or below, with at least 30 percent reserved for very low-income households and another 30 percent reserved for at least low income. Other restrictions include: 65 percent must support homeownership and 75 percent must go to construction/rehab activities.[8]

Approximately $175.4 million is expected to be deposited into the Sadowski fund in FY 09-10. Every $1 million of Sadowski Act spending generates $7.66 million in economic activity, 77 jobs, and $73,000 in sales tax revenue, as well as leverages significant private and federal funds.[9]

In a state where, despite the housing crash, most housing is still unaffordable for most of the service industry workers its economy relies upon, the housing financed through the Sadowksi Act is a critical part of allowing all of Florida's residents to access affordable, quality housing near employment and other opportunities.

For more information, visit the Florida Housing Coalition's website: www.flhousing.org/2010-trust-fund-advocacy.

this will encourage private investment in assisted housing, stem the loss of subsidized housing units, increase administrative efficiency and, ultimately, increase the share of assisted families living in safe neighborhoods with access to high-performing schools and employment opportunities.

The first phase of TRA would involve two components:

- $290 million for the preservation of 300,000 units of public housing and HUD-assisted multifamily rentals through their conversion to project-based rental assistance contracts that preserve the affordability of the unit over the long-term. Participation would be voluntary for the public housing authorities and private owners, and funding would be available to ensure the contracted units are well-maintained and, if cost-effective, more energy-efficient.

  The contracts would provide a "mobility feature," meaning that if residents in the converted properties choose to move, they would have access to Housing Choice Vouchers, as they become available, for use in finding housing on the private market.

- $50 million to expand housing choices for tenants through: 1) "regionalizing" the administration of Housing Choice Vouchers by offering one-time financial incentives for the consolidation of program administration in 50 regions across the country; and 2) conducting outreach to landlords to encourage wider participation in the program, especially in lower-poverty communities. One of the goals behind these efforts is to help housing agencies coordinate with human services and transportation initiatives in the region.

### *How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity*

HUD's rental assistance programs serve 4.6 million vulnerable, very low-income families, preventing them from becoming homeless. But many of these homes are at risk. Every year, the inventory of privately and publicly owned deeply affordable rental units shrinks, sometimes due to physical deterioration, but often due to owners' frustrations with HUD's labyrinthine administrative procedures and roadblocks. In addition, many of these units need upgrading and reinvestment: HUD estimates that the public housing stock needs $18 to $24 billion in work.

The system is also not easily navigated by people in need of rental assistance, and participation often limits their housing choices. To receive assistance, people must put their names on multiple different waiting lists. Wait times vary, which can lead to unfair and inequitable outcomes. After families receive vouchers, they may not be able to use them in opportunity-rich communities where there tend to be fewer rental units in general and landlords are less likely to accept vouchers. Tenants living in subsidized units but who don't have "mobility options" must stay in their unit or lose their rental assistance.

By simplifying the fragmented system of multiple rental assistance programs and increasing housing choices for tenants, TRA would make it easier for public agencies and private landlords to provide quality affordable rental homes to families in need while providing housing security and enabling low-income families to move to strong, opportunity-rich neighborhoods.

| | |
|---|---|
| *Program* | **Housing and Services for Homeless Persons Demonstration** |
| *Amount* | **$85 million** |
| *Agencies* | **HUD, HHS, ED** |

### *Program Description*

This demonstration project would target $85 million in new Housing Choice Vouchers to be directed at two vulnerable populations—chronically homeless single adults with mental health or substance abuse problems, and families with children who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

For disabled adults, the vouchers would be directed for use in affordable permanent supportive housing, providing an alternative between homelessness and expensive and unnecessary institutionalization. HHS would coordinate with HUD to make sure that these individuals would, at the same time, get health and behavioral health services financed through Medicaid as well as additional wraparound services funded by grant to support housing stability. The program will closely track the savings in emergency and inpatient healthcare costs from this proactive approach.

For families, 6,000 new Housing Choice Vouchers will be made available on a competitive basis to public housing authorities that demonstrate a coordinated plan to prevent homelessness in families with children and quickly and stably rehouse those families that are homeless. The plan must be targeted to an area with high levels of homeless families; involve local TANF agencies, public schools, and additional community partners; and show how the HUD assistance will be used to generate housing stability, support finding employment, and promote healthy child development. HHS will work with its local TANF agencies on ways they can support families receiving these vouchers (and families at risk of homelessness in general). ED will help schools identify families at risk of homelessness and make referrals, as well as provide appropriate academic support to the children involved.

### How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity

Stable housing is crucial for children's well-being and academic success, and allows parents to prepare for and access employment opportunities. Housing Choice Vouchers allow families to move to neighborhoods that can best meet their needs and provide access to opportunity. Increasing the amount of Housing Choice Vouchers available to homeless families and people with disabilities, in coordination with services, can provide them with the stability they need to make use of community resources and educational opportunities.

| | |
|---|---|
| Program | Fair Housing Affirmative Obligation Pilot Program |
| Amount | $2 million |
| Agency | HUD |

### Program Description

Although HUD's fair housing budget request is slightly lower than last year ($61 million compared to $72 million), the increased willingness by the Department of Justice to aggressively prosecute fair housing cases bodes well for improved fair housing. So does a small pilot program within HUD's Fair Housing Initiatives Program, which funds fair housing organizations to implement the Fair Housing Act.

The Fair Housing Affirmative Obligation Pilot Program seeks to help localities receiving HUD funding take a proactive stance toward fair housing, rather than simply respond to complaints of overt discrimination. HUD also recognizes that examining how housing programs connect with other critical components of healthy communities, such as transportation access and economic and educational opportunities, is one component of this affirmative commitment.

The pilot project would fund fair housing organizations to help jurisdictions understand what it means to fulfill their "affirmative obligation" to provide fair housing. Activities would include conducting analyses of the impediments to fair housing choice in their region and developing plans to overcome them.

### How Program Promotes Communities of Opportunity

Continued discrimination, along with exclusionary zoning policies (such as large minimum lot sizes) continue to limit the housing options available to low-income people and people of color in more affluent communities. Fair housing must go beyond correcting the behavior of rental or real estate agents to foster affordable housing options in opportunity-rich communities. The Fair Housing Affirmative Obligation Pilot Program would bring together fair housing experts and responsible public agencies to analyze the current local situation and develop tailored strategies to increase housing opportunity in the community.

## Westchester Fair Housing Ruling

In August 2009, the Department of Justice, in collaboration with HUD, announced a landmark settlement in a case against Westchester County claiming that the wealthy county, which lies just north of New York City, had falsely represented its efforts to desegregate predominantly white towns when applying for federal funding.

Segregation is dramatic in Westchester County: 74.9 percent of non-Hispanic blacks would have to move to make them spread evenly across the county. Using measures of isolation, the average non-Hispanic white resident of the county lives in a neighborhood that is 92.4 percent white. The average non-Hispanic black resident lives in a neighborhood that is 65.8 percent black. Similar patterns hold true for Hispanics. Income differences do not explain the segregation.[10]

Reviewing the county's affordable housing construction from 1990 to 1999, a federal court ruled that the county had made no effort to introduce affordable housing in towns that were resisting it. The few areas of the county with high concentrations of non-white residents had more affordable housing built than was allocated to them by the county's housing plans; those with lower concentrations had far less built than were allocated; and those with the highest percentage of white residents had no affordable housing built at all.[11]

The settlement requires the county to build or acquire hundreds of affordable units in overwhelmingly white areas of the county (under 3 percent black, under 7 percent Hispanic) and "aggressively" market them to low- and moderate-income people of color. A full 120,000 acres of the county (41.7 percent) meet this criteria.[12] Westchester County subsequently agreed to build 750 units of affordable housing in such areas.

The suit is an example of the type of cases the Obama administration is willing to pursue, and it was brought by the nonprofit Anti-Discrimination Center, an experienced nonprofit that could provide its expertise under the new pilot program.

For more information, visit the Anti-Discrimination Center's website: www.antibiaslaw.com.

# Notes

[1] For more information on deficit reduction, discretionary funding, and other definitions and analysis about the federal budget, see the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities website at www.cbpp.org.

[2] Wesley G. Skogan, et al., *Executive Summary: Evaluation of CeaseFire-Chicago, Institute for Policy Research*, Northwestern University, IL: 2008, http://www.northwestern.edu/ipr/publications/ceasefire.html. Rogers Park also saw reduced shootings, but variable comparison data made it hard to attribute the reduction to CeaseFire.

[3] City of New York Hunts Point Task Force, *Hunts Point Vision Plan*, Available at: http://www.nycedc.com/ProjectsOpportunities/CurrentProjects/Bronx/HuntsPointVisionPlan/Documents/HPVisionPlan_ImprovementTraffic.PDF.

[4] Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation and SUNY Center for Brownfield Studies, *Hunts Point Food Village: A Neighborhood Brownfield Reinvestment Strategy for Hunts Point*, February 2008.

[5] http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/31911075/ns/us_news-education/.

[6] This funding includes re-purposed funds from the Job Access and Reverse Commute Program, Alternatives Analysis grants and Formula grants for State and Metropolitan planning to support planning for and implementation of livable and place-based investments in transportation.

[7] PolicyLink, *The William E. Sadowski Act, Case Studies: Housing Trust Funds, Equitable Development Toolkit*, http://www.policylink.org/site/c.lkIXLbMNJrE/b.5137017/k.7B9F/Case_Studies.htm#9, accessed April 26, 2010.

[8] Ibid.

[9] Sadowski/Workforce Housing Coalition, *Economic Impact of Sadowski Act,* White Paper, analysis by the Hendrickson Company, 2009, http://flhousing.jtmgdevelopment.com/sites/default/files/sadowski%20white%20paper2%2018.pdf.

[10] *Initial Expert Report of Andrew Beveridge*, filed September 30, 2008, www.antibiaslaw.com/sites/default/files/files/BeveridgeInitialReport.pdf.

[11] Ibid.

[12] Sam Roberts, *Westchester Adds Housing to Desegregation Pact*, The New York Times, August 11, 2009, http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/11/nyregion/11settle.html.

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**Headquarters:**
1438 Webster Street
Suite 303
Oakland, CA 94612
t 510 663-2333
f 510 663-9684

**Communications:**
55 West 39th Street
11th Floor
New York, NY 10018
t 212 629-9570
f 212 629-7328

**Washington, DC:**
1200 18th Street NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
t 202 906-8034

**www.policylink.org**



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