HUD 2006 CoC and ESG Awards

More than 5,300 local homeless programs throughout the nation will receive nearly $1.4 billion in funding announced today by U. S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson. HUD grants will support a record number of local programs, providing critically needed emergency shelter, transitional housing and permanent support more than 150,000 individuals and families.

For a detailed local summary of the projects awarded funding, go to www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/budget/2006/06_illinois_totals.xls.

HUD’s funding is provided in two ways:

- HUD’s Continuum of Care programs provide permanent and transitional housing to homeless persons. In addition, Continuum grants fund important services including job training, health care, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment and child care. More than $1.2 billion in Continuum of Care grants are awarded competitively to local programs to meet the needs of their homeless clients.

- Continuum grants fund a wide variety of programs from street outreach and assessment programs to transitional and permanent housing for homeless persons and families. Half of all Continuum funding awarded today, nearly $618 million, will support new and existing programs that help to pay rent and provide permanent housing for...

(Continued on page 8)

FY08 Budget Proposed, FY07 Spending Bill Passed

On February 5, the President sent his FY08 budget request to Congress. HUD programs did not fare well. The FY08 HUD budget request of $35.2 billion is 8 percent below the FY07 funding resolution that is currently under consideration in the Senate and passed the House on January 31 (see related article elsewhere in Memo).

The President’s FY08 budget request does not include sufficient funding for the voucher program and would change the voucher funding formula. The President would lift the cap on vouchers to allow PHAs that have additional funds to assist additional families, a scenario that would divorce voucher funding from the known number of vouchers in use (or not in use), similar to making the voucher program a block grant program.

(Continued on page 8)
Use Updated HUD APR Report Immediately!

HUD has just released an unchanged but updated Annual Progress Review (APR) Report for all HUD Supportive Housing Program (SHP), Shelter Plus Care (SPC) and Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation for Single Room Occupancy (SRO) grantees. The updated APR, which expires on November 30, 2009, replaces the current APR, which expired on July 31, 2006.

The questions are unchanged but the definitions have been expanded and more have been added. Who makes up a family, who are single individuals, who are adults and children in families and the chronically homeless are added and expanded definitions. Also included are expanded explanations of data to be entered in the answer fields.

This updated APR (HUD-40118) is available for immediate use from HUD’s website (www.HUD.gov) under the handbooks/forms option or from HUDclips (www.HUDclips.org). You are required to start using this updated APR immediately.

A noteworthy change is for those grantees who received Acquisition, New Construction or Rehabilitation funds and who do not receive any other SHP funding (supportive services, operations, leasing, etc.). These grantees must continue to report to HUD after their grant term expires, in order to fulfill their twenty-year operating commitment. Upon expiration of the grant term, grantees must submit their APR report by June 30, each year for the remaining twenty-year operating period. These grantees must not use the Annual Certification of Continued Project Operation form, which is no longer required.

One copy of the APR must be sent to:
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Ray E. Willis, Director,
Community Planning and Development Division
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Room 2401
Chicago, Illinois 60604

A second copy must be sent to:
U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Attn: APR Data Editor
Room 7262
451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410.

Be on the lookout for the new and revised APR due out in middle to late 2008. This APR will have new and revised questions, including HMIS related questions. If you have any questions, please contact your local HUD CPD Representative.

Heartland Training Center for Human Service Excellence
Case Management Series in Chicago

March 30
Models and Systems, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Intake and Assessment, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

April 6
Motivating Clients and Ourselves, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Goal Setting, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

April 13
Documentation 101, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Making an Appropriate Referral, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

April 20
Effective Client Advocate, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Substance Use Disorders, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

April 27
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Relationship Termination and Closure, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Price (includes ceu’s): $50.00/Session ($100.00/day)

Must register in advance!

For further information, and registration, contact Erin Keiper at (312) 660-1860 or ekeiper@heartlandalliance.org

Heartland Training Center
for Human Service Excellence
Case Management Series in Chicago

The Illinois Community Action Association has published the monthly Homeless Headlines and the Homeless Hotline since 1991 under contract with the Illinois Department of Human Services.

For a free subscription, contact:
Illinois Community Action Association
3435 Liberty Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Telephone: (217) 789-0125
Fax: (217) 789-0139
www.icaanet.org
Homeless Headlines

Not Even a Place in Line 2007

Public housing and rental assistance programs cannot keep up with the demand for housing assistance, leaving thousands of low-income Illinois households without secure and affordable housing.

According to: Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Capacity and Waiting Lists in Illinois, a report by the Mid-America Institute of Poverty of Heartland Alliance, the number of households on waiting lists for housing assistance far exceeds available housing choice vouchers and public housing units.

Across Illinois, waiting lists for public housing or housing choice vouchers are often closed, meaning many families eligible for housing assistance cannot even secure a place in line to receive assistance.

Continuing declines in funding levels for housing assistance programs, combined with new rules affecting the funding and flexibility of local public housing authorities have resulted in long waiting lists and thousands of eligible Illinois families unable to get needed housing assistance.

Key Findings of the report:

- The number of Illinois households on waiting lists for public housing units exceeds the number of existing units.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Housing Choice Voucher Waiting Lists in Illinois</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Housing Authority</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Champaign County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About 65,184 Illinois households are on the waiting lists for 63,810 public housing units.

(Continued on page 7)

Making the Connection

General Assistance, Part II
Contributor: DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform

The authors of this column welcome your comments and questions. See contact information at the end of the article.

Last month a general overview of the General Assistance program was provided. This month I will discuss some of the different benefits available through the township or county offices, as well as some issues regarding the General Assistance program rules and policy.

General Assistance, Township Assistance, Workfare, County Assistance, and Transitional Assistance are all names used to identify public benefits issued to individuals who do not qualify for other public welfare programs. Most often, these benefits are provided to low income single adults. Where you live may influence the name of the program. Get to know what the name is in your area, so you can effectively refer people. As you know often if you don’t ask the right question, you do not get the right answer.

In Making the Connection training sessions, some participants have told us about excellent programs operated by local townships. Others, however, have stated that it is difficult to understand how the township determines eligibility for their programs, and that township staff will not share this information with you.

First, it is important to understand that the eligibility rules for General Assistance can vary between townships. (e.g. some townships say an individual may be eligible only if s/he is able to work and in other townships, an individual may be eligible only if s/he has been determined to be unemployable.) Even though the rules can vary, they have to be written.

Most townships operate their local GA program using a standard set of rules developed by the Township Officials of Illinois (TOI). Some townships do not use the TOI manual and have adopted their own rules or operate using the State of Illinois’ General Assistance manual. Regardless of the rules used, they have to be in writing and available to be reviewed by the general public. If

(Continued on page 7)
McKinney-Vento Reauthorization Bill

On February 6, Representatives Julia Carson (D-IN), Geoff Davis (R-KY), Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Rick Renzi (R-AZ) introduced H. R. 840, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH). The bill would consolidate all HUD McKinney-Vento housing programs except Emergency Shelter Grants into one competitive program with a broad set of eligible activities, including homelessness prevention, permanent or transitional housing for any homeless population and supportive services. This is the first time that homelessness prevention would be an eligible activity under the competitive portion of HUD’s homeless assistance grants.

HEARTH would also: codify the Continuum of Care (CoC) process, ensuring that local agencies serving all homeless populations participate in the CoC; align the HUD definition of homelessness more closely with the definition used by other federal agencies by including people who are living in doubled-up situations or in hotels/motels due to lack of adequate alternatives; protect victims of domestic violence by prohibiting the disclosure of any information collected by a housing or social service provider that could identify them and by permitting victims of domestic violence who may be in danger to immediately move to a safer living situation; require a 25% match to be met either in cash or with in-kind contributions for all housing and supportive services; require HUD to release its annual Notice Of Funding Availability (NOFA) no later than three months after enactment of each year’s appropriations bill; ensure that HUD will make grant awards no later than five months after NOFA applications are due; and instruct HUD to create an official appeals process for grantees who do not receive funding.

Unlike the McKinney-Vento reauthorization bills introduced in the 109th Congress, the Community Partnership to End Homelessness, S. 1801, introduced on September 24, 2005 by Senator Jack Reed (D-RJ), and The Homeless Assistance Consolidation Act, H. R. 5041, introduced by Representative Rick Renzi (R-AZ) on March 29, 2006 (see Memo, 9/30/05 and 3/31/06), HEARTH would not codify a definition of chronic homelessness or a set of incentives designed to end chronic homelessness.

Senator Jack Reed (D-RJ) is expected to reintroduce the Community Partnership to End Homelessness Act with significant additions including new titles on rural homelessness and prevention in the coming months.

HHS Poverty Guidelines Update

(This is an abridged version of the notice published on page 3147 of the January 24, 2007 Federal Register. The full version can be downloaded at http://aspe.os.dhhs.gov/poverty/07fedreg.pdf.)

Section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)) requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to update, at least annually, the poverty guidelines, which shall be used as an eligibility criterion for the Community Services Block Grant program. The poverty guidelines also are used as an eligibility criterion by a number of other Federal programs. The poverty guidelines issued here are a simplified version of the poverty thresholds that the Census Bureau uses to prepare its estimates of the number of individuals and families in poverty.

As required by law, this update is accomplished by increasing the latest published Census Bureau poverty thresholds by the relevant percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). The guidelines in this 2007 notice reflect the 3.2 percent price increase between calendar years 2005 and 2006. After this inflation adjustment, the guidelines are rounded and adjusted to standardize the differences between family sizes. The same calculation procedure was used this year as in previous years. (Note that these 2007 guidelines are roughly equal to the poverty thresholds for calendar year 2006 which the Census Bureau expects to publish in final form in August 2007.) The guideline figures shown represent annual income. Federal program using the poverty guidelines serves any of those jurisdictions, the Federal office that administers the program is generally responsible for deciding whether to use the contiguous- states-and-DC guidelines for those jurisdictions or to follow some other procedure. Due to confusing legislative language dating back to 1972, the poverty guidelines have sometimes been mistakenly referred to as the “OMB” (Office of Management and Budget) poverty guidelines or poverty line. In fact, OMB has never issued the guidelines; the guidelines are issued each year by the Department of Health and Human Services. The poverty

(Continued on page 9)
Poverty Increases in Illinois Counties

Eighty-seven of Illinois’ 102 counties have seen an increase in poverty, according to a report released by the Illinois Poverty Summit. Nearly 1.5 million Illinois residents live in poverty-more than the population of the entire city of Philadelphia, the fifth largest city in the nation.

The report illustrates that many Illinois workers cannot make ends meet. Between the early 1980s and the early 2000s, income increases for low and middle-income families fell far short of keeping pace with inflation. The poorest fifth of families in the state saw their average income increase approximately $145 per year, from $14,969 to just $18,032 during that two-decade period. Middle-income families saw their average income increase from $41,179 to only $50,032, around $420 per year. Looking ahead, 43 percent of new jobs through 2012 are projected to pay less than $23,650 - not enough to help families meet their basic needs.

The report also paints a bleak picture for the future of Illinois’ economy. More than 330,000 young Illinois adults, ages 18 to 29, are living in poverty—the highest poverty numbers for that age group in the Midwest. Severely hindering the competitiveness of Illinois’ future workforce, approximately 18 percent of Illinois young adults do not have a high school diploma-second only to Indiana as worst in the Midwest. Many of the 700,000 Illinoisans, who live in extreme poverty with annual incomes of less than half the poverty line, are children who are hit hardest by insufficient nourishment, inadequate housing, and poor education-conditions which severely restrict opportunities for their future. Exacerbating these problems are the quick fixes used to address the state’s budget shortfalls, which result in a weakened human services infrastructure, unmet service needs that continue to grow, and deepening public debt.

The 2007 Report on Illinois Poverty documents how Illinois families are experiencing significant hardship. Some of the findings include:

- Illinois children are 53 percent more likely to be poor than working age adults. Rural child poverty in the state rose 26 percent from 1999 to 2000. Nearly 68 percent of poor children live in families that worked in the last year.
- Lack of adequate health insurance causes health and financial hardship. More than 430,000 working age, insured Illinoisans incurred health costs not covered by insurance in 2004 that totaled one quarter or more of their annual earnings. Nearly 55 percent of Illinoisans ages 18 to 64 in extreme poverty completely lack health insurance compared to 16 percent of those not in extreme poverty.
- Income support programs, designed to supplement worker’s low wages, are not reaching eligible families. Despite increased participation in the Food Stamp program in Illinois, the program does not reach even half of Illinoisans who are eligible. Additionally, only 2 out of 10 people who are eligible for housing support or TANF actually receive the benefit. This new analysis was provided by the Center for Economic and Policy Research whose forthcoming report includes additional analyses on the receipt of the Earned Income Tax Credit, Medicaid/SCHIP, and Child Care Subsidies.
- Assets such as homeownership often keep families financially secure, yet troubling disparities in wealth exist in Illinois. Illinois renters have a poverty rate of 28 percent compared to a poverty rate of less than 4 percent for Illinois families who own their homes. White Illinois households have a 515 percent higher median net worth than minority households.
- There are 57 Illinois counties on the 2007 Poverty Watch or Warning lists. These counties are failing in key areas and need to determine where improvements can be made to combat poverty. County-specific data are available in the report’s appendix. To determine the Poverty Watch/Warning lists, the report assesses four key indicators of wellbeing in Illinois: high school graduation, unemployment, teen birth, and poverty.

For the first time, the report offers policy recommendations that state leaders should implement to begin addressing poverty and economic insecurity in Illinois. Key legislative opportunities identified for 2007 include:

- Hold statewide legislative hearings to inform a plan to reduce by half the number of Illinoisans living in extreme poverty by 2015.
- Strengthen communities’ abilities to respond to rising costs of providing services through a cost of doing business adjustment for human services programs.
- Expand transitional and vocational job programs to ensure that even the lowest skilled workers and job seekers can obtain and retain employment.
- Generate new funding for affordable housing by reforming the real estate transfer tax.
- Increase family financial asset building by developing a state plan for a universal children’s savings account, ensuring every Illinois child can save for a more secure financial future.
- Expand the state Earned Income Tax Credit program so low-income workers can keep more of their earnings.

The report will be presented in March at the seventh annual briefing of the Illinois Poverty Summit, a bipartisan group that analyzes poverty trends in Illinois. The summit is staffed by the Mid-America Institute on Poverty of Heartland Alliance, a service-based human rights organization that provides housing, healthcare, human services, and human rights protections to the most poor and vulnerable people in our society.

The report, which includes county-specific data, can be viewed online at: www.heartlandalliance.org/mapresearch.html#Illinoispoverty
Community Housing Developers Institute

The development of sustainable, quality affordable rental housing requires special skills and knowledge. The Community Housing Developers Institute is a workshop series focusing on affordable housing development for community-based organizations throughout Illinois. The five-part series is being provided by Housing Action Illinois and Illinois Community Action Association with funding from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

March 6-7: Preparing for Development - Instructors: Teresa Prim, Linda Greene
- Organizational Assessment
- Community Housing Needs Assessment,
- Forming the Development Team,
- Development Process Overview
- Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs)

May 15-16: Financing Development - Instructor: Ben Applegate
- Pro formas
- Sources of Financing
- Low Income Housing Tax Credits
- HOME Program

June 5-6: Construction Management - Instructor: TBA
- Choosing a contractor
- Inspections
- Payout Process
- Insurance

September 11-12: Single-Family Development - Instructor: TBA
- Organizational Readiness
- Acquisition
- Finance
- Marketing
- Mortgage Products

October 16-17: Property and Asset Management Instructor: TBA
- Tenant/landlord Roles and Responsibilities
- Reporting Requirements
- Maintenance
- Rent Collection
- Evictions

Unless otherwise noted, each workshop will take place from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. each day.

Registration
Registration is required and space is limited. To register or for further information, contact Nate Hutcheson at (312) 939-6074 or nate@housingactionil.org.

Workshops are provided at no cost for CHDOs,

All workshops will be held at the ICAA Training Facility located at 3435 Liberty Drive in Springfield, IL 62704. Phone: 217-789-0125

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Progressive Housing Legislation Models for States

Progressive Agenda for State Housing Policy 2007, a report from the Center for Policy Alternatives, notes that as the federal government continues to cut funding for subsidized housing programs, states can adopt cost-effective policies to assist households spending more than half their income on housing.

The report recommends 10 successful policies that some states and localities are using to address the affordable housing crisis for low-income families and provides explicit policy models for each.

Housing trust funds, which permanently dedicate a source of public revenue to the production and preservation of affordable housing, are the most widely-used of the policies, currently operating in 33 states and more than 300 cities and counties.

To help working families obtain housing close to their place of employment, which also helps employers by increasing worker productivity and the environment by reducing air pollution from traffic, the report recommends adopting an Employer-Assisted Housing Tax Credit.

Because federal fair housing law does not protect tenants from the 70% of landlords who refuse to rent to Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher recipients, the report notes that 12 states have acted to prohibit discrimination against renters based on source of income.

For low income homeowners, the report suggests that states enact legislation to protect against predatory lending and mortgage rescue scams. Only 11 states currently provide such protection.

Other policies discussed include Building Rehabilitation Codes, Employer-Assisted Housing for Public Employees, Green Housing, Inclusionary Zoning and Mobile Home Park Tenant Rights.

The report’s contents are available from www.stateaction.org/issues/index.cfm. Scroll down to the housing section and select an article. You may also download the entire document (308 pages) with information on areas other than housing.
General Assistance

(Continued from page 3)

you want to review the state General Assistance manual you can find it on the internet by going to http://www.dhs.state.il.us/hcd/GA/manual/ or you can go to your local government office that provides General Assistance and ask to see the manual and policies that they use.

Last month the difference between General Assistance (aka Workfare, Transitional Assistance, etc.) and Emergency Assistance was discussed. The key difference between the two programs is that General Assistance is mandated by state statute, while Emergency Assistance is a voluntary program. If a township decides to offer Emergency Assistance, it must comply with state statutes limiting the assistance to only once in any twelve month consecutive period.

If a person receives General Assistance, s/he must also be provided medical assistance. Medical assistance however is restricted and will only pay for necessary and essential medical services. Preventive care is not considered essential. Some townships find it more cost effective to cover the cost of COBRA insurance payments, or other health plans, rather than pay the medical costs for GA recipients. It is important to ask if your township would be able to do this before insurance is discontinued.

Townships also have the option to provide Transient Assistance. This is assistance for individuals who wish travel assistance to a job out of the County. The assistance is usually sufficient funds to cover a one-way bus ticket to the desired location or as close as the nearest bus station. This assistance can only be received one time in twelve months. Ask your local government unit if they provide Transient Assistance.

Under Illinois law recipients of General Assistance who are mentally and physically able, may have to “work off” their assistance. Individuals who apply will be told of this requirement and that s/he will be placed in a “job” (usually some type of community service) for the number of hours necessary to offset the cost of the general assistance. (The number hours “worked” is then determined by the amount of the General Assistance divided by the hourly state minimum wage.) Assistance may be denied if the person who is required to participate refuses to do so.

Individuals who are applying for SSI and/or Social Security Disability (or have an appeal pending with Social Security) may be able to receive GA while waiting for a final decision from the Social Security Administration. If an individual applies and receives GA while an application is pending, s/he is often not required to participate in Workfare programs, but has to sign an agreement to repay any General Assistance received. In fact, when back Social Security benefits are issued, the state will receive the first check; contact the township to find out the amount owed, and will issue an adjusted check to the client after deducting the amount owed to the township.

Next month: the application and appeal process.

The DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization focused on advocacy and planning in DuPage County, Illinois and designer and trainer of Making the Connection: A Guide to Accessing Public Benefits, The DuPage Federation is affiliated with Northern Illinois University, Regional Development Institute. Questions can be directed to knelson@dupagefederation.org or cking@dupagefederation.org

In Line

(Continued from page 3)

units. Over twice as many families are in need of public housing compared to the number of units available.

Over half of Illinois housing authorities that offer housing choice vouchers have closed waiting lists.

Fifty-six percent of waiting lists for housing choice vouchers statewide are closed. In more than half of Illinois communities where vouchers exist, families seeking rental assistance cannot even get in line to receive future vouchers.

Most new vouchers replace lost affordable housing and other new vouchers approved for Illinois cannot be fully utilized.

While Illinois’ public housing authorities have seen an increase in the number of approved housing choice vouchers, the increase mainly reflects the need to provide vouchers to families displaced from public housing and other forms of federally-funded affordable housing. Additionally, inadequate funding formulas that do not adequately support rising rent costs prevent public housing authorities from issuing all the vouchers that they are provided.

To obtain a copy of the report, Not Even a Place in Line: Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Capacity and Waiting Lists in Illinois, call Bindu Batchu at (312) 660-1314 or visit www.heartlandalliance.org/maip/research.html.  

Homeless Headlines

Making the Connection: A Guide to Accessing Public Benefits, The DuPage Federation is affiliated with Northern Illinois University, Regional Development Institute. Questions can be directed to knelson@dupagefederation.org or cking@dupagefederation.org

To obtain a copy of the report, Not Even a Place in Line: Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Capacity and Waiting Lists in Illinois, call Bindu Batchu at (312) 660-1314 or visit www.heartlandalliance.org/maip/research.html.
Homeless Headlines

CoC and ESG

Disabled homeless individuals and their families.

Emergency Shelter Grants provide funds for homeless shelters, assist in the operation of local shelters and fund related social service and homeless prevention programs. HUD is awarding $160 million in Emergency Shelter Grants that are allocated based on a formula to state and local governments to create, improve and operate emergency shelters for homeless persons. These funds may also support essential services including job training, health care, drug/alcohol treatment, childcare and homelessness prevention activities. By helping to support emergency shelter, transitional housing and needed support services, Emergency Shelter Grants are designed to move homeless persons away from a life on the street toward permanent housing.

Illinois Grants

Total Illinois grants came to approximately $79.6 million (up from $75.1 million in 2005). (See tables on pages 3, 4 and 5. HUD officials acknowledge that there may be some errors in this data.) Of Illinois’ share, approximately $72.0 million will go to projects serving homeless families and individuals in areas covered by twenty-one Continuums of Care in the State.

Each Continuum of Care in Illinois brings together non-profit groups, the private sector and local and state governments in a partnership to design local programs to help homeless people become self-sufficient. Programs funded by the Continuum of Care grants will provide transitional and permanent housing assistance and will help people overcome problems that can lead to homelessness, such as a lack of basic education and job skills, mental illness and drug addiction. The amounts awarded to states, local governments and non-profit groups based on a number of factors that measure the effectiveness of their respective individual plans to help homeless people.

An additional $7.6 million in Emergency Shelter Grants were also awarded in Illinois to eleven entitlement communities, and to the State of Illinois for distribution to non-entitlement areas. Those resources will provide food and shelter on a short-term basis to homeless people. These grants are awarded through a formula based on a community’s housing and poverty needs. States and cities select projects to receive funding.

For further information, contact Darrel Bugajsky of the Chicago HUD office at (312) 353-1696, ext. 2720 or the address in Headlines Directory.

Budget/Spending

The budget would cut public housing capital funds and only provide enough public housing operating funds to meet 85 percent of actual need.

The request also seeks decreased funding for project-based Section 8 contract renewals.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program would receive a reduction of $700 million, a 20 percent cut from the FY07 funding resolution. The budget would cut Section 515 multifamily housing development program and a decrease in funding for the Section 521 rental assistance programs.

A detailed review of the budget request is available at www.nlihc.org/doc/020907budget.pdf.

FY 2007 Spending

The Senate voted 81-15 on February 14 to pass H. J. Res. 20, which will fund most federal programs for the remainder of FY07. Efforts to amend the funding bill were thwarted, so that the bill passed by the Senate is identical to the bill passed by the House on January 31. This allowed the bill to be sent directly to the President, who signed the resolution on February 15, the day that the last continuing resolution expired. The completion of the long overdue federal budget for the fiscal year that began on October 1, 2006 closed out one budget season just as the next one is getting underway.

A budget chart that contains the final numbers in the Joint Resolution and the amounts the President requested for FY08 for selected housing programs can be found at www.nlihc.org/doc/013007chart.pdf.

For further information, contact the National Low Income Housing Coalition at the address in Headlines Directory.
Guidelines

(Continued from page 4)

guidelines may be formally referenced as “the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2).”

Some programs use a percentage multiple of the guidelines (for example, 125 percent or 185 percent of the guidelines), as noted in relevant authorizing legislation or program regulations. Non-Federal organizations that use the poverty guidelines under their own authority in non-federally-funded activities can choose to use a percentage multiple of the guidelines such as 125 percent or 185 percent.

The poverty guidelines do not make a distinction between farm and non-farm families, or between aged and non-aged units. (Only the Census Bureau poverty thresholds have separate figures for aged and non-aged one-person and two-person units.)

Note that this notice does not provide definitions of such terms as “income” or “family.” This is because there is considerable variation in how different programs that use the guidelines define these terms, traceable to the different laws and regulations that govern the various programs. Therefore, questions about how a particular program applies the poverty guidelines (e. g., Is income before or after taxes? Should a particular type of income be counted? Should a particular person be counted in the family or household unit?) should be directed to the organization that administers the program.

Institute

(Continued from page 6)

Hotel Information:
The following hotels are within two miles of the ICAA training facility. Quoted pricing is based on the “state rate”; pricing depends on availability.
Center for Community Change
1536 U Street NW
Washington, DC 20009
Telephone: (202) 339-9300
http://www.communitychange.org

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
820 First Street, NE, Suite 510
Washington, DC 20002
Ph: (202) 408-1080
Fax: (202) 408-1056
http://www.cbpp.org

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
1325 S. Wabash, Suite 205
Chicago, IL 60605
Telephone: (312) 435-4548
Fax: (312) 435-0198
http://www.enteract.com/~cch/index.htm

Coalition of Citizens With Disabilities in Illinois
300 E. Monroe, Suite 100
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: (217) 522-7024
Fax: (217) 522-7016
http://www.ilcld.org/

Corporation for Supportive Housing
203 N. Wabash, Suite 410
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: (312) 332-6690
Fax: (312) 332-7040
Email: Il@csa.org
www.csh.org

Food Research and Action Center
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, # 540
Washington, D.C. 20009
Telephone: (202) 986-2200
Fax: (202) 986-2525
foodresearch@frac.org

Housing Action Illinois
11 E. Adams, Suite 1501
Chicago, IL 60601
Telephone: (312) 935-6074
Fax: (312) 939-6822
http://www.housingactionil.org

Housing Assistance Council
1025 Vermont Ave. NW, Suite 606
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 832-8600
Fax: (202) 347-3441
http://www.ruralhome.org

Illinois Coalition to End Homelessness
Matthew Hanafee, Executive Director
P.O. Box 3956
Oak Park, IL 60303-3956
Telephone: (708) 263-3590
Email: ILHomeless@aol.com

Illinois Housing Development Authority
401 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 206
Chicago, IL 60611
Telephone: (312) 836-2000
Fax: (312) 836-2526
TDD: (312) 836-2222
http://www.ihda.org/

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
60 W. Lawrence, 2C
Springfield, IL 62762
Telephone: (217) 782-1317
Fax: (217) 524-6029
http://www.state.il.us/agency/dhs/

Illinois Department of Human Services
Homeless Services and Supportive Housing
400 W. Lawrence, 2C
Springfield, IL 62762
Telephone: (217) 782-1317
Fax: (217) 524-6029
http://www.state.il.us/agency/dhs/

Illinois Food Bank Association
P.O. Box 8293
Springfield, IL 62791
Telephone: (217) 52-4202
E-mail: cifbank@aol.com

Illinois Community Action Association
435 Liberty Drive
Springfield, IL 62704
Telephone: (217) 789-0125
Fax: (217) 789-0139
http://www.icaaanet.org

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
620 E. Adams, Suite 5P3
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: (217) 782-1526
Fax: (217) 638-4646
E-mail: medh@medh.org
http://www.endhomelessness.org/

National Alliance to End Homelessness
1518 K Street, NW, Suite 206
Washington, D.C. 20009
Telephone: (202) 638-1526
Fax: (202) 638-4664
E-mail: naeh@naeh.org
http://www.endhomelessness.org/

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
333 ½ Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20003-1148
Telephone: (202) 546-1969
Fax: (202) 546-2063
E-mail: nchvl@nchvl.org
http://www.nchvl.org/home.html

National Coalition to End Homelessness
Matthew Hanafee, Executive Director
P.O. Box 3956
Oak Park, IL 60303-3956
Telephone: (708) 263-3590
Email: ILHomeless@aol.com

National Low-Income Housing Coalition
& National Low Income Housing Information Service
727 15th St NW, 6th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 662-1530
Fax: (202) 393-1973
E-mail: info@nlihc.org
http://www.nlihc.org

National Law-Income Housing Coalition
601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 850
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: (202) 835-1329
Fax: (202) 835-3054
http://www.nlihcweb.org

Rural Development
2118 W. Park Ct, Suite A
Champaign IL 61821
Telephone: (217)403-6222
Fax: (217)403-6231

Southern Illinois Coalition for the Homeless
P.O. Box 955
801 N. Market
Marion, IL 62959
Telephone (618) 993-0094
Fax (618) 993-4013

Supportive Housing Providers Association
3417 North Monticello
Chicago, IL 60618
Telephone: (773) 388-0827
Fax: (773) 267-1294
supportivehpa@aol.com

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development
77 W. Jackson 24th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507
Telephone: (312) 353-1696
Fax: (312) 353-5417