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# CHAPA Housing eBriefs

November 15, 2018



### State Updates

## **DHCD to Hold Winter Affordable Housing Funding Round**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) will hold an affordable rental project funding round in February 2019. Pre-applications for potential affordable multi-family housing proposals will be due on November 29, 2018. Sponsors with projects approved through the pre-application process will be invited to submit full applications on February 21, 2019.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

November 27, 2018

CHAPA Young
Professionals Dialogue
Series: 2Life
Communities

November 27, 2018

Giving Tuesday: Give to CHAPA!

**December 4, 2018** 

CHAPA's 51st Annual
Dinner

December 14, 2018

Housing and Economic
Development as Levers

### **Governor Baker Announces Housing Choice Awards**

Last month, Governor <u>Baker announced nearly \$5 million</u> in <u>awards</u> under the Housing Choice Initiative, which provides incentives and technical assistance reform to cities and towns that have demonstrated certain levels of housing production or best practices that encourage smart growth. The administration awarded \$4 million to 19 communities through the Housing Choice Capital Grant Program, which is reserved for use by Housing Choice Communities, and nearly \$1 million to 12 communities through the Housing Choice Small Town Grant Program.



### Federal Updates

### CHAPA Responds to HUD to Defend Fair Housing Rule

CHAPA submitted a letter to HUD in defense of the Obama-era Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) rule, promulgated in 2015. The rule was the culmination of a five-year process that, for the first time, put in place requirements for local jurisdictions to participate in community engagement and data analysis and to work with HUD to create plans that promote fair housing.

# **Comments on Community Reinvestment Act Due November 19th**

During the summer, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) released A Notice of Proposed

Rulemaking (ANPR) for the Community Reinvestment Act
(CRA). While the OCC has initiated the regulatory review process, the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal
Deposit Insurance Corporation regulate the CRA and can



Our recent Train the
Trainer session for the
MA Homeownership
Collaborative in
Brockton helped
homeownership
counselors refresh and
update their skills.
Thanks to all who
attended!



Our Who is the 'M' in

NIMBY Breakfast

Forum last week
explored ways to forge
greater inclusivity
around local housing
decisions. Check out a
recap on our website.

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be considered the first step in what many expect to be at least a yearlong process.

#### Federal Grants for Veteran Housing Assistance Coming to MA

HUD and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
announced new grants to reduce veteran homelessness
through housing vouchers and to fund a pilot program that
helps disabled veterans make home modifications for
greater accessibility. Massachusetts will receive 61
vouchers for local housing authorities in Boston,
Cambridge, Barnstable, Chelmsford and Milton.

## **HUD Publishes Reports on the Federal HOME Program**

HUD published three reports on the HOME Program that identify units completed by state, by Congressional District, and through LIHTC projects. In Massachusetts, the HOME Program has helped produce over 18,000 rental units, 13,713 home ownership opportunities, and 3,789 homeowner rehabs.



### Recent Research

#### New Research and "Playbook" Reframe Affordable Housing Narrative

The FrameWorks Institute and Enterprise Community
Partners recently <u>released research</u> and a <u>complementary</u>
<u>advocate playbook</u> in order to assemble an effective
affordable housing framing strategy. With this playbook,
organizations can grow public understanding of affordable
housing and community development and generate
support for change.

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#### **Nearly One in Five Boston Housing Units Are Income-Restricted**

According to a <u>new City of Boston report</u>, Boston has the highest percentage of income-restricted housing of any major city in the country, with nearly 20% of its total housing stock designated as income-restricted.

### First Homes Being Built with 2016 National Housing Trust Fund Awards

The <u>National Low Income Housing Coalition tracked the</u> <u>progress of 2016 block grant funding</u> to provide affordable housing to extremely low-income households. In Massachusetts, seven projects received funding, resulting in the production or rehabilitation of 88 units.

### Who's Benefiting from Boston's Booming Economy?

A report from the Boston Indicators found Boston faces growing income inequality, low economic mobility, and a hollowing out of the city's middle class. To alleviate these issues, the report calls for a dramatic reduction in housing costs through the construction of multi-family housing near transit nodes further outside the city core.

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