

Budget would eliminate DOL farm labor housing. The Administration's budget for 2007, like others in recent years, proposes to eliminate the Department of Labor's migrant and seasonal farmworker job training activities, which include a housing program. Congress appropriated \$4.95 million for the housing program in 2006. Budget documents are available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/fy2007>. Contact Bob Rapoza, National Rural Housing Coalition, bob@rapoza.org, 202-393-5225.

New Disaster Voucher Program succeeds KDHAP. Unlike the Katrina Disaster Housing Assistance Program, HUD's new DVP applies to survivors of Hurricanes Rita and Katrina. HUD reports that people already in KDHAP have been switched to the DVP, except for those in homeownership voucher units and some HUD-financed multifamily projects, who will remain under KDHAP. Other pre-disaster public housing residents, Section 8 voucher holders, and homeless people do not need FEMA registration numbers to apply for the DVP. Applicants should contact a public housing agency where they want to live or call 1-866-373-9509 (toll free). Visit <http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/publications/notices/index.cfm> for HUD's notice PIH 2006-12 and <http://www.hud.gov/news/release.cfm?content=pr06-017.cfm> for its press release.

RHS proposes Section 502 payment assistance reform. Comments are due April 18 on a proposed rule that would base the Section 502 direct mortgage program's payment calculations on borrower income, replacing the current calculation of income as a proportion of area median income. See *Federal Register*, 2/17/06, pp. 8523-43 or <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/regs>. Contact Michael S. Feinberg, RHS, 202-720-1474.

Consolidated Plan regulations changed. A new final rule is intended, among other things, to make Consolidated Plans more results-oriented. See *Federal Register*, 2/9/06, pp. 6949-71 or <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/about/conplan>. Contact Salvatore Sclafani, HUD, 202-708-1817.

CDBG allocations and waivers listed. Allocations of CDBG disaster recovery funds to Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, as well as waivers, are provided in the *Federal Register*, 2/13/06, pp. 7665-72 or <http://www.hudclips.org>. Contact Jan C. Opper, HUD, 202-08-3587.

HUD rescinds some 50th percentile FMRs. As proposed in the 8/25/05 *Federal Register* (see *HAC News*, 9/8/05), HUD has determined 34 areas are no longer eligible for 50th percentile Fair Market Rents. Places affected by natural disasters can request exceptions. See *Federal Register*, 2/14/06, pp. 7831-41 or <http://www.huduser.org/datasets/fmr.html>. Contact HUD User, 1-800-245-2691.

Section 8 Annual Adjustment Factors corrected. Midwest and South regional numbers were reversed in the 12/1/05 *Federal Register* (see *HAC News*, 12/28/05), but HUD calculations used correct numbers. See *Federal Register*, 2/15/06, p. 7992 or <http://www.hudclips.org>. Contact David Vargas, HUD, 202-708-0477.

Resources online for HUD voucher rules and funding. Presentations and other reference materials from a February 2 online chat about the 2006 voucher program, sponsored by KnowledgePlex® and the National Housing Law Project, are archived at <http://www.knowledgeplex.org/xchat-transcript.html?chid=38>.

Census reports on Native Americans. *We the People: American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States* provides demographic and economic data, including homeownership rates. This brief and others are free at <http://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2000/briefs.html#sr>. For a print copy, call the Census Bureau, 301-763-4636.

National Agricultural Workers Survey continues. The Department of Labor's NAWS, the only research of its kind (the decennial Census does not clearly identify farmworkers), was reportedly suspended a year ago (see *HAC News*, 2/9/05) but has since resumed. The most recently published report uses data from 2001-02, and a report with 2003-04 data is in preparation. Visit <http://www.dol.gov/asp/programs/agworker/naws.htm> or contact Daniel Carroll, carroll.daniel.j@dol.gov, 202-693-2795.

National Community Reinvestment Coalition conference coming up. "Economic Injustice: The Ongoing Hurricane" in Washington, D.C., March 22-25, will include workshops on housing, economic development, leveraging bank financing, predatory lending, and more. Visit <http://www.ncrc.org> or call 202-628-8866.

Register for HAC's green building training! Registration and scholarship forms and hotel reservation information for *Building Green in Rural America: Affordable and Sustainable Housing*, April 25-26 in Atlanta, are at <http://www.ruralhome.org>. Contact Shonterria Charleston, 404-892-4824, southeast@ruralhome.org.