



HUD PUBLISHES SUPERN OFA GENERAL SECTION. This section provides preliminary information about applying for FY 2008. Electronic applications will be required, so applicants must register or renew their registration at <http://www.grants.gov>. See *Federal Register*, 3/19/08, pp. 14881-912 or http://www.ruralhome.org/infoAnnouncements_2008SuperNOFA.php. Contact HUD's grants office, 202-708-0667. The program sections of the SuperNOFA will be issued later; watch for an announcement at <http://www.ruralhome.org>.

USDA VOUCHERS AVAILABLE. Low-income tenants in Section 515 properties whose loans are prepaid or foreclosed after September 30, 2005 are eligible for Section 542 vouchers, which can be used at the prepaid property or elsewhere so long as the landlord is willing to accept the voucher and the unit passes an RD health inspection. See *Federal Register*, 3/24/08, pp. 15473-75 or http://www.ruralhome.org/infoAnnouncements_2008RDNOFAs.php. Contact Stephanie B.M. White, RD, 202-720-1615.

CORRECTION: SECTION 514 LOANS. The March 12 *HAC News* stated incorrectly that farmers are eligible for Section 514 farmworker housing loans for off-farm housing. Farmers are eligible for Section 514 for on-farm housing only, and may apply at any time. Contact a [USDA RD state office](#) for details. HAC apologizes for any confusion.

2007 RHED AWARDEES ANNOUNCED. Recipients of HUD's Rural Housing and Economic Development funds for FY 2007 are listed in the *Federal Register*, 3/19/08, pp. 14831-32 and at <http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/economicdevelopment/programs/rhed/>. Contact Jackie L. Williams, HUD, 202-708-2290.

HOPE VI FUNDS OFFERED. Non-troubled PHAs with severely distressed public housing can apply by June 20 for HOPE VI Revitalization Grants. See *Federal Register*, 3/25/08, pp. 16139-77 or <http://www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm>. Contact Leigh van Rij, HUD, 202-402-5788, leigh_e_van_rij@hud.gov.

HUD PROPOSES MORTGAGE SETTLEMENT CHANGES. Comments are due May 13 on disclosure requirements for settlement costs under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA). See *Federal Register*, 3/14/08, pp. 14029-124 or http://www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sfh/res/respa_hm.cfm. Contact Ivy Jackson, HUD, 202-708-0502.

COMMENTS SOUGHT ON FAIR HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM LAWS AND AGENCIES. HUD is accepting comments through April 23 on state and local fair housing laws that are considered substantially equivalent to the federal Fair Housing Act, and on agencies certified to implement those laws. See *Federal Register*, 3/24/08, pp. 15535-36 or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact Kenneth J. Carroll, HUD, 202-402-7044.

RD OFFERS GUIDANCE ON RENT INCENTIVES FOR SECTION 515 AND 514/516 PROPERTIES. Where a property with a high vacancy rate can attract tenants by lowering rents, RD and the owner may agree to a temporary "rent incentive servicing work out plan," described in an Unnumbered Letter dated February 28, 2008, available at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/regs/ul/ulfebruary08.pdf> or from [RD offices](#).

ECONOMIC STIMULUS PAYMENT ADVICE IS ONLINE. Several websites offer information about how people, including those not required to file 2007 tax returns, can obtain economic stimulus payments recently approved by Congress. See, for example, <http://www.aarp.org/stimulus>, <http://www.nwlc.org/details.cfm?id=3247§ion=tax>, or <http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=177937,00.html>.

SECTION 8 VOUCHER REFORM BILLS COMPARED. A Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of S. 2684, the Section 8 Voucher Reform Act recently introduced in the Senate, and H.R. 1851, which passed the House last year, is available at <http://www.cbpp.org/3-10-08hous.htm>. Both bills are available at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

CDFI FUND LAUNCHES EMAIL UPDATE SERVICE. Users may choose to subscribe to program announcements, press releases, or other categories of information. Visit <http://www.cdfifund.gov/>.

HAC ANALYZES RURAL MORTGAGE DATA. Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data show mortgage denial rates were higher for rural minorities than for minorities nationwide. Minorities and those with low incomes received a disproportionate share of high cost mortgages. "Mortgage Lending in Rural Communities" is free at <http://www.ruralhome.org/manager/uploads/hmda.pdf> or \$1.00 from Luz Rosas, HAC, 202-842-8600, luz@ruralhome.org.

HAC SEEKS DIRECTOR, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING. The director of HAC's TAT division develops, organizes, coordinates, and implements programs and initiatives to improve the housing conditions of the rural poor through education, technical assistance, and training for nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and others throughout rural America with a focus on serving high need areas and populations. The position is located in Washington, D.C. For a full job description and application details, visit <http://www.ruralhome.org/aboutJobs.php> or request a copy from Michael Spotts, HAC, michaels@ruralhome.org, fax 202-347-3441. No calls please.