



NAHASDA REAUTHORIZATION AWAITS PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE. On September 25 and 27, the Senate and House passed a compromise version of H.R. 2786, Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2008, reauthorizing the act through 2013 with some amendments. The bill also permits NAHASDA programs and services to be provided to the Cherokee Freedmen while their membership dispute with the Cherokee Nation is in litigation (see *HAC News*, 6/4/08). More details will be posted on HAC's site at <http://www.ruralhome.org>. The bill is available at <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

MCKINNEY-VENTO REAUTHORIZATION PASSES HOUSE. On October 2 the House passed the HEARTH Act, H.R. 7221, reauthorizing the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance program. A different measure, S. 1518, was approved by the Senate Banking Committee last year. Both bills are available at <http://thomas.loc.gov> and summaries are at http://www.endhomelessness.org/section/policy/legislature/mckinney_vento.

HUD LAUNCHES NEW NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION PROGRAM AND HOPE FOR HOMEOWNERS. Both programs were created and funded by the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008. NSP provides CDBG funds to states and entitlement communities to buy and renovate foreclosed properties. HOPE provides FHA insurance for refinances. For NSP details, see www.ruralhome.org/infoAnnouncements_2008HousingCrisis.php or *Federal Register*, 10/6/08, pp. 58329-49; contact Stanley Gimont, HUD, 202-708-3587. For HOPE, see *Federal Register*, 10/6/08, pp. 58417-26 or <http://www.hud.gov/hopeforhomeowners>; contact HUD, 800-225-5342.

YOUTHBUILD FUNDS AVAILABLE. The Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration is accepting applications through January 15. See *Federal Register*, 10/7/08, pp. 58653-67 or <http://www.doleta.gov/sga/sga.cfm>. Contact Donna Kelly, DOL, 202-693-3934.

CDFI FUND NATIVE AMERICAN FUNDS OFFERED. The deadline to apply for financial assistance and/or technical assistance funds is December 19. CDFI certification applications are due November 3. See *Federal Register*, 10/1/08, pp. 57196-205 or <http://www.cdfifund.gov>. Contact CDFI Fund, 202-622-6355, cdfihelp@cdfi.treas.gov.

CONTINUUM OF CARE DEADLINE EXTENDED TO OCTOBER 23. See *Federal Register*, 10/9/08 or <http://www.hudhre.info>. Contact the e-snaps Help Desk, esnaps@hudhre.info or 1-877-637-6277.

FY 2009 FAIR MARKET RENTS ANNOUNCED. See *Federal Register*, 9/29/08, pp. 56637-98 or <http://www.huduser.org/datasets/fmr.html>. Contact HUD program staff or Marie L. Lihn, HUD, 202-708-0590.

COMMENTS DUE NOVEMBER 25 ON FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK BOARDS OF DIRECTORS CHANGES. See *Federal Register*, 9/26/08, pp. 55710-22. Contact Thomas P. Jennings, FHFB, jenninstg@fhfb.gov, 202-408-2553.

RESEARCH AND FACT SHEETS ADDRESS CAUSES OF FORECLOSURE CRISIS. NeighborWorks® America research indicates low-income homebuyers are not responsible for the crisis: the foreclosure start rate for those who participated in homeownership education programs through NeighborWorks organizations is 20 times less severe than that for subprime borrowers, and three times better than the prime mortgage market. See <http://www.nw.org/network/newsRoom/pressReleases/2008/netNews092508.asp>. The National Community Reinvestment Coalition offers a fact sheet at <http://www.ncrc.org> explaining that the Community Reinvestment Act did not cause the crisis. The Center for Economic and Policy Research, www.cepr.net, and Media Matters, <http://www.mediamatters.org>, have also published pieces examining the role of affordable housing and CRA.

HUD'S GREEN BUILDING EFFORTS STUDIED. A GAO report notes that HUD is encouraging green building but could do more, including in public housing and manufactured housing. *Green Affordable Housing: HUD Has Made Progress in Promoting Green Building, but Expanding Efforts Could Help Reduce Energy Costs and Benefit Tenants* (GAO-09-46) is free at <http://www.gao.gov> or in print for a charge from GAO, 866-801-7077.

PROPORTION OF LOW-INCOME CHILDREN SIMILAR IN CENTRAL CITIES AND RURAL PLACES. A Carsey Institute brief reports that child poverty rates have declined faster in cities than in nonmetro America. *Urban and Rural Children Experience Similar Rates of Low-Income and Poverty* is free at <http://carseyinstitute.unh.edu/>.

REGISTER BY OCTOBER 31 FOR HAC NATIONAL RURAL HOUSING CONFERENCE 2008! Early bird registration (by October 31) is \$350 for nonprofit/government representatives and \$380 for for-profits, and early bird registrants are eligible for prizes. Scholarships are available. Register online at <http://www.ruralhome.org> or contact conference staff at 202-842-8600 ext. 108 or HACconference2008@ruralhome.org.