

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Pittsburgh Office

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

The Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) is a Federal agency responsible for national policy and programs that address America's housing needs, improve and develop communities, and enforce fair housing laws. HUD's business is helping to create a decent home and suitable living environment for all Americans.

HUD awards funds to municipalities, housing authorities, contractors, profit and non-profit organizations, and educational institutions.

The Pittsburgh Office jurisdiction includes twenty-nine counties in Western Pennsylvania. For Community Planning and Development programs, the office also services the entire state of West Virginia.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE:

Local Housing Authorities receive operating and capital improvement funds annually from HUD. Such funds are often used to contract out for routine maintenance, such as: painting, drywall, landscaping, snow removal, and other maintenance duties. Housing Authorities also make capital improvements to their properties and community facilities by contracting out major construction projects. In addition, most authorities have offices responsible for purchasing office supplies and equipment for maintenance and administrative staff.

In most communities, HUD has an inventory of residential property it is responsible for maintaining and marketing. HUD contracts this responsibility out.

LARGE BUSINESS ASSISTANCE:

HUD funds support the development and construction of senior, disabled, and multi-family housing complexes. Often these sponsors hire general contractors who solicit for various construction and human services.

ASSISTANCE TO SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY:

Communities receive HUD funds for economic development activities. These funds are used for construction, rehabilitation, demolition, and other specialty projects..

Community Outreach Partnership Centers (COPC) program is designed to help colleges and universities apply their human, intellectual, and institutional resources to the challenge of revitalizing distressed communities. COPC provides funding to accredited institutions of higher learning.