The Holiday season is upon us; where did the year go? Thanksgiving was just a few short weeks ago and I will tell you that I am so humbled to lead an organization with so many giving and caring people that truly want to provide the best service to the people they serve.

Many on your KSNAHRO leadership team will travel to Grapevine next month to begin planning with our colleagues in SWNAHRO for the challenges of the coming year and the Annual conference in San Antonio, Texas in June. Your Team will also spend some time planning for our Spring Conference in April. We will be looking in both cases at the evaluations of each of the conferences and incorporate to the greatest extent possible your training requests along with timely topics, as the new congress and HUD begin the next four years under a new administration.

In April, the leadership team hopes to take steps to reconnect with you about why NAHRO is important and how it benefits you and all the housing and CD agencies throughout the United States, with reports and updates on legislative initiatives that are important to the future of Housing programs. Thank you to all who sent letters and emails during the push to get issues before congress during NAHRO’s letter blitz.

I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Wishing you the very best until we meet again and God Bless you all,

- Tony
Hello fellow housing enthusiasts,

This year has been a year to remember. As we close out 2016 we look back on all the changes it has brought and look forward to 2017 and all the changes it promises to bring with it. Keeping up with all the new Regulations and proposed changes is always difficult. As a NAHRO member we hope to make your life easier and simplify what pertains to you and what doesn’t. Many changes are expected in 2017 starting with the inauguration of President-elect Trump and his cabinet. NAHRO has had a transition team in place for months now working with new cabinet and legislators since before anything was official. (Is it official yet?) Anyway, it is comforting to know that Mr. Bohm and his staff are working diligently behind the scenes on our behalf.

KS NAHRO is trying to create many opportunities in the next year that will benefit you. We are working on putting together more regional trainings for subjects such as commissioner training or new Executive Director training.

We would like to organize a Small Agency Task Force. The intent is to give feedback to National NAHRO on the needs of small agencies. District meetings may be an ideal place to consider as a platform for this. Many agencies are meeting quarterly and discussing these same issues.

Legislative Advocacy is really important and KS NAHRO will continue to send you reminders and templates on ways to get your voice out there so that our legislators know that there are problems. There is truth in the old idiom that “the squeaky wheel gets the grease”. Legislators don’t know there is an issue unless we keep telling them. NAHRO has made it so easy to send emails. Every voice really does count.

We have several great opportunities to attend NAHRO conferences coming up. The NAHRO Washington Conference will be held March 26-28 in Arlington, VA. It is the premier opportunity to learn the latest from Capitol Hill, HUD and the White House and get updated on current industry topics. We also have the KS Spring Conference scheduled for April 10-13 in Manhattan. Make sure you get it on your calendars now and put the “Office Closed” sign out. This is a great opportunity to meet with and share life with your neighbors. We are already working on a great lineup of sessions and speakers that will give us much needed guidance and education on all the changing topics. And don’t forget about our regional conference. SW NAHRO is having its 77th Annual Conference in San Antonio from June 5-8.

I hope to see you all soon.

Tina Lewis SR-VP
Community Development Update: December 20, 2016

On December 6, HUD issued a technical correction to the “Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013: Implementation in HUD Housing Programs” final rule. This correction updates the compliance date for completing an emergency transfer plan and providing emergency transfers, and associated recordkeeping and reporting requirements to June 14, 2017. After the rule’s publication last month, HUD discovered the compliance date was incorrectly listed in the preamble as May 15, 2017, while the regulatory text provided the correct date of June 14, 2017. The final rule’s effective date (separate from the emergency transfer compliance date) is still December 16, 2016. Additionally, the relevant HUD forms necessary under the new rule can now be accessed here (form numbers: 5380, 5381, 5382, and 5383). Learn more about the final rule in the October 30, 2016 edition of the NAHRO Monitor (members only).

HUD Issues Final Rule Requiring Broadband Infrastructure in New Construction and Substantial Rehabilitation

Today, HUD published a final rule that will require the installation of broadband infrastructure at the time of new construction or substantial rehabilitation for multifamily rental housing that is funded or supported by HUD. Since the installation of broadband infrastructure may not be feasible for all new construction or substantial rehabilitation, the rule allows limited exceptions to the installation requirements. The final rule does not change any of the substantive requirements that were in the proposed rule (members only), but adds clarifications on the threshold for substantial rehabilitation and on the point in the planning process for new construction or substantial rehabilitation at which a project must be, as of the effective date of this rule, to not be subject to the rule’s requirements. This final rule becomes effective January 19, 2017.

HUD Issues New Certification Requirements for Housing Counselors

On December 14, HUD issued a final rule that codifies statutory requirements that housing counseling required under or provided in connection with all HUD programs will be provided by HUD-Certified Housing Counselors. In order to become certified, housing counselors must pass a standardized written examination and work for a HUD-approved housing counseling agency (HCA). The final compliance date for the certification requirement is three years after the date the certification examination becomes available, which will be publish in a separate, forthcoming Federal Register notice. However, some of the rule’s provisions will become effective on January 13, 2017. It is important to note that this new rule not only covers participants in HUD’s Housing Counseling Program but also participants in other HUD programs including HOME, CDBG, Public and Indian Housing, and FHA Single Family. A resource sheet for other HUD programs covered under this final rule is available here.

HUD CPD Updates

HUD Issues Final Rule to Modernize the Consolidated Planning Process: On December 16, HUD published a final rule that will “modernize” the consolidated planning process for HUD CPD annual formula grantee by adding two new concepts to the plan’s existing housing market analysis requirements. States and local governments must now analyze the broadband needs of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income (LMI) households, including housing in rural areas and assess the vulnerability of housing units occupied by LMI households to increased natural hazard risks, particularly risks associated with climate change. The final rule becomes effective on January 17, 2017, but compliance with the rule will apply to Consolidated Plans submitted on or after January 1, 2018.

Guidance on Submitting Consolidated Plans and Annual Action Plans for FY 2017: On December 15, HUD published a new notice (CPD-16-18) that instructs all CDBG, HOME, HTF, ESG, and HOPWA grantees on the timing of submission of FY 2017 consolidated plans and action plans, due to Congress’ delay in enacting FY 2017 appropriations. This Notice provides instructions to grantees/PJJs under each of these programs regarding costs incurred prior to the execution of a grant agreement, and further discusses the waivers being made available to certain grantees/PJJs to assist in the implementation of the pre-award cost instructions.

CDBG Updates

Current Availability of Section 108 Financing for CDBG Entitlement and State Grantees:A new document is available from HUD that offers information on existing borrowing capacity for CDBG Entitlement Communities and States looking to pursue a Section 108 guaranteed loan. More>>
Our last meeting was October 21st. At that time our Senior VP of Kansas NAHRO, Tina Lewis was present and gave us an overview of the information she learned at the National NAHRO conference. Other topics were Live-in-Aides, Portability, Moving to Work and HQS. We had a couple new people to join us and saw some faces we hadn’t seen in a while.

Please mark your calendars for our next meeting:

Date:                     February 17, 2016
Time:                     12:30 – 3:30
Location:             The Echo Ridge Community Center
                        2010 SE California
                        Topeka, KS  66607

We welcome everyone. Any questions or to request topics for the agenda feel free to contact me at (913) 715-6607 or e-mail Annette.Wells@jocogov.org.

Thanks,
Annette Wells, Johnson County Housing

As part of its 2018 Housing America campaign, NAHRO will hold a poster contest for children associated with affordable housing and community development programs owned or administered by national NAHRO member agencies. Posters will reflect the national theme of “What Home Means to Me.” The contest is a collaborative effort of NAHRO’s chapter/state, regional, and national organizations. National honorees will be selected from chapter/state-level winning entries. To be eligible for national honors, all entries must come through the local chapter.

Contest Dates:  Entries must be received by 4/10/17.

Contest Location:  Entries should be brought to the KS NAHRO Annual Conference April 10-13, 2017. Judging will take place at the Annual Conference at Manhattan, Kansas
It is time to take some pride in your work. Take a look around, who stands out at as hard worker, one that goes above and beyond! Newsletters, pamphlets, calendars. Etc. Pick out some of your best and send them in! Applications must be received by March 15, 2017.

All graduating seniors or Head of Household with a minimum of 24 college credit hours and previous scholarship winners. of a KS NAHRO member agency are encouraged to apply for the 2017 Dru Thomas Scholarship.

Please be sure to download and print out the flyer so you can post at your office or distribute to your residents and clients if you prefer. If you have any questions please contact Sherry at 913-367-3323.
HUD Posts Recording of October UPCS-V Conference Call

DECEMBER 6, 2016 ~ TUSHAR GURJAL ~ LEAVE A COMMENT

HUD has posted a recording of the UPCS-V conference call with UPCS-V Demonstration participants that took place on October 31, 2016 on HUD’s Oversight and Evaluation Division (OED) web page.
The recording of the conference call can be found here.

HUD OIG Publishes Semiannual Report to Congress

DECEMBER 29, 2016 ~ TUSHAR GURJAL ~ LEAVE A COMMENT

HUD’s Office of Inspector General (OIG) has published it’s Semiannual Report to Congress for the second half of fiscal year 2016. These reports are “intended to keep the Secretary and the Congress fully informed of significant findings, progress the Agency has made and recommendations for improvement.”
The report can be found here.

Technical Correction to HUD’s VAWA 2013 Implementation Final Rule

DECEMBER 5, 2016 ~ JENNY HSU ~ LEAVE A COMMENT

On December 6, HUD will issue a technical correction to the “Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013: Implementation in HUD Housing Programs” final rule. This correction updates the compliance date for completing an emergency transfer plan and providing emergency transfers, and associated recordkeeping and reporting requirements to June 14, 2017. After the rule’s publication last month, HUD discovered the compliance date was incorrectly listed in the preamble as May 15, 2017, while the regulatory text provided the correct date of June 14, 2017. The final rule’s effective date (separate from the emergency transfer compliance date) is still December 16, 2016.
Do your commissioners need training but can’t travel?

No worries we will come to you!!

Kansas NAHRO is offering NAHRO’s Commissioner’s Fundamentals and Commissioner’s Ethics onsite training for your commissioner and neighboring agencies who are interested. *(Please see class descriptions below)*

**Ethics Description:** Ethics plays a significant role in the life of a commissioner. Increases the commissioner’s understanding of professional conduct guidelines, and the ability to recognize and appropriately address ethics-related issues and problems that may occur. Learn about industry laws and regulations impacting ethical conduct and build your capacity as a board member. This course, intended for the new commissioner and a refresher for the veteran, uses practical applications and skills assessment exercises to reinforce ethical concepts. Training Duration: 1 day CEU’s: 0.70

**Who Should Attend?** Both new and veteran Commissioners

**Fundamentals Description:** This course explores the roles and responsibilities of commissioners, enhancing understanding of the commissioner’s multi-faceted position as advocate, leader, team-builder, strategist-and more. Increase your effectiveness as a board member and leader, while exploring the intricacies of board-staff relationships and boundaries. Provides an excellent training foundation for the new commissioners. Training Duration: 1.5 days CEU’s: 1.0

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND AGENDA]

**Who Should Attend?** New & veteran commissioners, new board officers and Executive Directors

DON’T MISS OUT ON THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY!

Got Questions? Call us at 940. 521.9982 or email ksnahro@brazosnet.com
SAVE THE DATE

Kansas NAHRO

2017 SPRING CONFERENCE
APRIL 10-13, 2017

MAINTENANCE TRAINING
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If you are a member of Kansas NAHRO in good standing and have a position open, e-mail your ad to ksnahro@brazosnet.com for posting on this site. All submissions subject to review and approval.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2017 SW NAHRO Winter Conference
January 26-27, 2017 - Grapevine, Texas

2017 SW NAHRO Maintenance Workshop
February 14-16, 2017 – Hot Springs, Arkansas

2017 NAHRO Washington Conference
March 26-28, 2017 - Arlington, VA

2017 KS NAHRO Spring Conference
April 10-13, 2017 - Manhattan, Kansas

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We hope you have enjoyed reading this issue of Kansas NAHRO NOW! The newsletter will be published at the end of every quarter. We want to hear what is going on in your agency! If you would like to submit an article that you want published in the news please send it to us at ksnahro@brazosnet.com.