

PHFA 'AROUND THE STATE'

Brian Hudson attends groundbreaking for new elderly housing in Lewistown; celebrates achievement with local and state officials, including Senator Jake Corman

PHFA was one of several groups on hand for the official groundbreaking Nov. 2 for Mann Edge Terrace, a 31-unit apartment building for the elderly in Lewistown. The location of the development is the former home of the Mann Edge Tool Company, and, in fact, the company's office building, which remains, has been incorporated into the apartment's design. By building on a reclaimed brownfield site, the developer is able to take advantage of existing infrastructure already running to the property, such as sewer and water lines. PHFA is providing agency funding and low-income housing tax credits to help finance this development.



In the first photo (above-left), state Senator Jake Corman and PHFA Executive Director Brian Hudson (center of picture) join 15 other local and state dignitaries for the ceremonial groundbreaking, demonstrating the tremendous support that exists for this project. In the second photo, Hudson addresses the crowd, citing the new senior housing development as a positive example of what can happen when various organizations pull together to achieve a common goal.

PHFA hosts 2011 Housing Credit Roundtable attended by eight southeastern states

On Nov. 3 and 4, more than 50 representatives from housing tax credit agencies met at the Omni William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, to discuss issues facing affordable rental housing. Representatives attended from Ohio, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia and Pennsylvania. In addition to educational sessions, participants discussed urban revitalization efforts with representatives from the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh and visited a number of vibrant communities in the city. Keynote speakers were Rob Stephany, executive director of the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh, and Jane Miller, director of the Pittsburgh Office of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. (See photos from the roundtable on page two.)

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The 2011 Housing Credit Roundtable, hosted by PHFA, included educational sessions at the hotel, shown here, as well as visits to revitalized communities in Pittsburgh, stimulating a valuable exchange of information and ideas.

Philadelphia event recognizes various groups from southeastern Pennsylvania for their tireless efforts to help homeowners with EHLP funding

On Nov. 22, various foreclosure prevention organizations and government and judicial offices in southeastern Pennsylvania gathered to celebrate their success during the past summer to commit \$108 million dollars provided through the federal Emergency Homeowners' Loan Program, or EHLP. The funding was provided to help families in danger of losing their homes to foreclosure. The program proved challenging because Pennsylvania had only six months to commit its funding or lose it – a short window of opportunity to obligate that much financial assistance. As the news media has reported, many states had difficulty committing all their EHLP funds. Pennsylvania, in contrast, not only committed all of its initial allocation, but it asked for an additional \$3 million of funding to help additional eligible applicants. This accomplishment was achieved through the hard work of various groups that helped troubled homeowners submit EHLP applications.



Attending the EHLP recognition event in Philadelphia were (L-R): PHFA Executive Director Brian Hudson, homeowner Rita Calicat, Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter, homeowner James Tyson, and Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Annette Rizzo, whose office organized the event. (Photo by Tiger Productions courtesy of the Office of Housing and Community Development, City of Philadelphia.)

In recognition of this outstanding effort by so many concerned groups, Judge Annette Rizzo's office organized a small recognition event to celebrate the accomplishment. Housing counselors and advocates, representatives from the City of Philadelphia and the Court of Common Pleas, and staff from PHFA were cited for their persistence that produced success helping so many families stay in their homes. PHFA Executive Director Brian Hudson noted it was important to recognize this accomplishment by various organizations working productively together. It's significant to note that 32 states were allocated EHLP funding, but 26 percent of the financial assistance committed through the program went to Pennsylvania homeowners – more than a quarter of all the federal funding.

ACCOUNTING AND LOAN SERVICING DIVISION

New newsletter provided for PHFA's home loan customers

The first issue of a new newsletter for customers with PHFA home mortgages was launched in November. Called "Around the House," the newsletter is intended to help with questions customers might have about their home loans with the agency. It's expected that new issues of the newsletter will be published several times each year. The first issue focused on escrow-analysis statements that were recently mailed to customers. Around the House is archived online, along with PHFA's other newsletters, at: www.phfa.org/ATH.

PHFA IN THE NEWS

Keep up on PHFA announcements: Subscribe to the agency's Web RSS feed

PHFA has added an RSS feed to alert people interested in breaking news and notices from the agency. RSS stands for "Really Simple Syndication" and is a technology used to deliver regularly changing Web content. PHFA's RSS feed will alert subscribers anytime a new item is posted under "Agency News" on the home page, and it's free to users. To subscribe, simply look in the upper-right corner of your screen at www.phfa.org and click on the small orange and blue boxes where it says: "RSS subscribe."

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thanksgiving dinner partnership makes holiday brighter for 50 mid-state families

Hollywood Casino and the Harrisburg African American Chamber of Commerce teamed with PHFA in November to supply 50 deserving families with gift bags including all the ingredients for a delicious Thanksgiving meal. The bags, which were graciously provided by the casino, included fresh fruit, canned vegetables, bread, pumpkin pies, and, in each, a huge 16-pound turkey. The Chamber and PHFA assisted on the project by identifying families in the capital region and then coordinating distribution right before the holiday.

Tom Corbett, Governor • Brian A. Hudson Sr., Executive Director & CEO

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Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency, 211 N. Front St.
PO Box 8029, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8029
717.780.3800 • 717.780.1869 (TTY)

