

May 3, 2019 Vol. 10, Issue 1

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The May newsletter is also available in a convenient video format for viewing on your smartphone by visiting [PHFA's YouTube page](#).*

TOP STORIES

PHFA launches three informational podcast programs

PHFA has launched three new informational podcasts to help consumers. One, called "Close to Home," will offer practical, easy-to-understand advice for homebuyers. The second, "Master Your Money," will provide insights people can use to better manage their personal finances. The third, called "PHFA Update," will discuss a variety of housing topics and programs. These podcasts can be found on the PHFA website and on iTunes and Spotify by entering "PHFA" in the search engine.



Mortgage America takes top honors at PHFA's Lender Awards.

PHFA honors its top lending partners for 2018

PHFA honored its top lending partners during an awards ceremony in early April at its headquarters in Harrisburg. Out of approximately 81 lending partners, the Top-10 were presented awards during the event and were recognized for home loans funded by PHFA in 2018. Taking the top honors for two years running was Mortgage America. Pennsylvania Executive Deputy Secretary of Banking and Securities Brian LaForme was a special guest and helped honor the top lending partners.

HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVE

FHLBank Pittsburgh and PHFA announce Home4Good funding awards

FHLBank and PHFA announced in mid-December the 2018 Home4Good funding awarded to programs across the state working to reduce homelessness. FHLBank Pittsburgh provided \$3 million and PHFA provided \$1.5 million for a total contribution of \$4.5 million.

The funding will be distributed as grants to organizations that help individuals retain or find housing, provide supportive services to those facing homelessness or address other unmet needs within the existing homeless provider network. Home4Good was created by FHLBank Pittsburgh and is being administered by PHFA. Distribution of the funding in most counties will be overseen by local Continuum of Care organizations. For a list of recipients or more information, please visit FHLBank Pittsburgh's website or PHFA's website.

NEW RESOURCE

United Way of PA requesting help promoting its 2-1-1 program

The United Way's 2-1-1 program is a referral hotline for Pennsylvania residents seeking help with a range of issues. Veterans, victims of drug and alcohol addiction, seniors, and job seekers, among many others, can benefit from this resource.

Through 2-1-1, the United Way is compiling a database of all the good human services resources available which will make it easier for Pennsylvanians to call just one place instead of multiple state

agencies to get the help they may need. Please spread the word that this service is available...just dial 2-1-1.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2019 PHFA Housing Forum slated for May

PHFA invites everyone to “Come Together” for the next Housing Forum scheduled for May 8 – 9, at the Harrisburg Hilton. This year’s event includes four keynote speakers, including economist Dr. Mark Zandi. Twenty-six educational sessions and a networking event are also planned. Please visit PHFA.org for more information. Registration is now closed, but walk-ins are welcome.



IT STARTS WITH YOU



Lancaster Marriott
June 28-29, 2019

Multifamily Affordable Housing Conference coming to Lancaster in June

PHFA is proud to again present the Multifamily Affordable Housing Conference. Education and skill-building opportunities abound for both property managers as well as service coordinators. Multifamily housing professionals will gather June 26-28, at the Lancaster Marriott at Penn

Square in Lancaster and learn through a combination of expert presenters and the collective expertise of the people gathered. This budget-friendly conference has been designed to offer content related to service delivery strategies and management techniques. The conference includes four excellent keynote speakers and 55 break-out sessions. For more information, visit PHFA's website.

PHFA AROUND THE STATE

Here’s a sampling of some multifamily developments that were recently in the news. All receive funding from PHFA.



Presby’s Inspired Life broke ground on its latest development, Witherspoon Senior Apartments, in mid-December in South Philadelphia. The development is an adaptive reuse project that will convert an old nursing home into 60 units for seniors. Some of the housing will be reserved for homeless seniors and those with sensory or mobility impairments. The development was funded, in part, by Low-Income Housing Tax Credits administered by PHFA.



The Philadelphia Housing Authority held a groundbreaking ceremony in Philadelphia in early December for the Blumberg 83 apartments. The development is partially funded by Low-Income Housing Tax Credits administered by PHFA and will consist of 83 new rental units spread across a mix of townhomes and multi-unit walk-up buildings. There will be 10 accessible units and three units will be for the hearing/visually impaired.



Norris Apartments Phase II will bring 89 new rental units for seniors to north-central Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Housing Authority celebrated the new development during a groundbreaking ceremony in November. The development will be seeking certification from LEED, EnergyStar Homes and Enterprise Green Communities for its sustainability goals. The development received funding from Low-Income Housing Tax Credits administered by PHFA.

RECOGNITION FOR STAFF

PHFA’s director of counseling and education receives award



Neighborworks America celebrated Terri Redmond, PHFA’s director of counseling and education, as a Visionary Leader in Community Development during a reception in early December in Pittsburgh. More than 200 people attended the reception and awards presentation. The event also recognized Neighborworks America’s 40th anniversary.

At PHFA, Redmond coordinates the efforts of the agency’s Comprehensive Homeownership Counseling Initiative and Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Initiative. Most notably, she launched the agency’s first online pre-purchase counseling program; expanded the number of counseling agencies in the network by 100 percent; and, under her leadership, PHFA has been awarded more than \$49 million in grants to expand counseling efforts in the state.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

PHFA employees donate to the local food bank

Many people find themselves without the means to provide food for their families, and the recent holidays were no exception. PHFA employees participated in a food drive for the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank from October 23 through November 19. There was 668 pounds of donations collected this year, which helped put nearly 600 meals on tables for local families.



PHFA employees give to local Pennsylvania children

The Salvation Army Giving Tree is a passion for many PHFA employees. The Giving Tree provides gifts for local children on Christmas day who might otherwise receive nothing. Employees choose a child’s name and purchase gifts for that child. The Salvation Army then distributes those gifts to the children. This year PHFA employees sponsored 112 children, the most children PHFA has sponsored to date, spreading Christmas joy. Shown is Kim Ayala who coordinated the effort.



PHFA employees give year-round to American Cancer Society

Every year, PHFA's Denim Day Committee hosts several events including: the Souper Bowl, fitness challenge, raffle, several bake sales and a chili cook-off. Funds raised from these events are donated to three American Cancer Society offices in Hummelstown, Norristown and Pittsburgh and flagged for breast cancer awareness. The total collected this year was \$3,652.



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

To receive an email notice when a new issue of PHFA Developments is posted, or for comments and questions, please write Renae Garofolo at rgarofolo@phfa.org.

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