



NEWS

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Ben Carson, Secretary
Office of Public Affairs, Washington, DC 20410

HUD No. 20-035

[Marta Juaniza](#) (312) 913-8090

[Gina Rodriguez](#) (571) 249-8586

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FOR RELEASE

Friday

March 6, 2020

HUD AWARDS NEARLY \$2 MILLION ACROSS ILLINOIS TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS

*Over \$239,000 Awarded to Lake County Housing Authority
And Nearly \$37 Million Awarded Nationally*

LAKE COUNTY, IL – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded nearly \$2 million across the state of Illinois, including over \$239,000 to the Lake County Housing Authority as a part nearly \$37 million awarded nationally to public housing agencies, non-profit organizations, resident associations, and tribal grantees to hire or retain service coordinators who help connect all public housing residents with employment training, financial literacy services, educational opportunities, and health and wellness programs. View Secretary Carson’s announcement video [here](#).



“Connecting families with the resources they need to invest in themselves gives them the opportunity to become self-sufficient,” said HUD Secretary Ben Carson. “HUD is proud to give our local partners the resources they need to help their residents reach the next level.”

“HUD hopes to empower more families with the tools needed to improve their lives and have a better future,” said HUD Midwest Regional Administrator Joseph P. Galvan.

“Affordable housing is crucial to helping some of the most vulnerable residents and families across Illinois become financially stable,” U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) said. “Along with Senator Durbin, I’m proud to advocate for federal funding that helps those in need move toward economic stability and gives Illinoisans improved access to the affordable housing they need to get ahead.”

“I feel extremely excited and privilege to have the opportunity to go forward with the Lake County Housing Authority’s initiative to provide additional services, resources, and now the ability to fund the positions of the ROSS-Service Coordinators, said Lake County Housing Authority Executive Director Loraine Hocker. “This grant will enable us to meet the needs of our residents where they are and enhance their quality of life. We want to give our families “*a Window of Opportunity*” through partnership and collaboration with other social service entities, healthcare providers, and financial institutions throughout Lake County to create a path to economic sufficiency. In life, at one point or another, we all could use a helping hand, and it feels great to be able to be a part of their story.

These grants are awarded through HUD’s **Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency - Service Coordinators program (ROSS-SC)**, which supports local, innovative strategies that link housing assistance with public and private resources to enable participating families to increase their earned income; reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance; and make progress toward achieving economic independence and housing self-sufficiency. Through needs assessments, case management, and referrals to community and web-based services, Service Coordinators help each participant advance towards these goals in ways that best fit their needs, personal priorities, and interests.

More than \$10 million of the funding announced today is being awarded to grantees located in Opportunity Zones. Created under the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Opportunity Zones aim to stimulate long-term investments in low-income communities. See the full list of grant funding [by state here](#).

Recipient	City	Amount
Housing Authority of Henry County	Kewanee	186,725
Springfield Housing Authority	Springfield	190,349
Winnebago County Housing Authority	Rockford	239,250
Holsten Human Capital Development NFP	Chicago	239,250
Peoria Housing Authority	Peoria	233,801
Lake County Housing Authority	Grayslake	239,250
Jackson County Housing Authority	Murphysboro	174,196
Housing Authority of the City of East St Louis	East St Louis	473,569
	Illinois Total	\$ 1,976,390
	National Total	\$ 36,843,021

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HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov and <https://espanol.hud.gov>.

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