

The Funding Update

July 2013

RECENT GRANTS AWARDED

Thirteen of Boston's community health centers received federal grants to improve access to affordable health care. The grants range from \$75,214 to \$253,028. Winners include Codman Square, Dimock, Dorchester House, East Boston, Fenway, Harbor, Mattapan, North End, South Boston, South Cove and Whittier Street community health centers, and also Boston Health Care for the Homeless and MA League of Community Health Centers.

CITY OF BOSTON GRANTS

Fairmount Corridor Acquisition Loan Fund, 2/1/14

\$1.424M is available in zero or low-interest loans to developers seeking to acquire privately owned parcels within ½ mile of the Fairmount Indigo Rail Corridor for the development of affordable and/or mixed income residential, and/or commercial projects. Register online at bidinfo.gov to download to RFP. Contact Christine O'Keefe, Senior Development Officer: cokeefe.dnd@cityofboston.gov.

Youth Participatory Budgeting, 8/9/13

Boston Centers for Youth & Families requests proposals for design, implementation, and evaluation of a participatory budgeting process to engage Boston youth in deciding how to spend \$1M in City of Boston capital funds. Contact Abi Vladeck, at 617-635-4920 x2129 for a copy of the RFP.

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING ALERT

During the course of Fiscal Year 2014, approximately 6,000 families receiving the HomeBASE Rental Assistance benefit will transition off the two-year program. In addition, approximately 85 families will be transitioning off a small, four-year program that provided rental assistance, called Moving to Economic Opportunity (MEOP). The state Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is building a team of five Rehousing Specialists to provide support to families and providers in transition. **Access the HomeBASE Hotline at 617-573-1123.**

Boston Public Schools, the Boston Fair Housing Commission and the Boston Rental Housing Resource Center provide a number of resources that can assist families with housing concerns.

The Boston Housing Education Resource Network provides services that help children who are homeless to enroll and succeed in school. Call 617-635-8037 for:

- Help with enrollment, attendance and assignment issues
- Transportation for children to and from schools
- Educational programs for parents and providers
- Coordination of services for Special Education support
- Referrals to support services for students and families
- Mentoring and summer programs
- Materials for play/learning spaces at homeless shelters
- Training for school teachers and staff
- School supplies

The Boston Fair Housing Commission manages the Metropolitan Housing Opportunity Clearing Center, and publishes the affordable housing Metrolist. Call 617-635-3321 for more information.

The Boston Rental Housing Center provides services to landlords and tenants. Call 617-635-4200 for:

Mediation on housing-related disputes; information for landlords and tenants about their rights and responsibilities under the law, and answers to questions on any rental housing matter.

FEDERAL GRANTS

ARTS

America's Historical & Cultural Organizations, 8/14/13

Support for museums, libraries, historic places, and other organizations that produce public programs in the humanities.

Eligible: Governments, non-profits and for-profits.

Range: \$75K max for Planning; \$1M max for Implementation

<http://tinyurl.com/6u3v8c7>

Bridging Cultures at Community Colleges, 8/27/13

Humanities courses that are planned and implemented in collaboration with a college or university, museum, research library, or professional association.

Eligible: Governments and non-profits.

Range: Up to \$120K; 18-36 month project

<http://tinyurl.com/c8m48h8>

Enduring Questions, 9/12/13

Supports faculty members in developing and teaching a new course that will foster intellectual community.

Eligible: Nonprofit colleges & universities.

Range: \$22K to \$38K; 18-36 month project

<http://tinyurl.com/769wury>

Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants, 9/12/13

NEH is requesting proposals for projects that take some risks in the pursuit of innovation and excellence. These grants should result in plans, prototypes, or proofs of concept for long-term digital humanities projects prior to implementation.

Eligible: Governments and non-profits.

Range: \$5K to \$60K; 18-36 month project

<http://tinyurl.com/6pw8hug>

SOCIAL SERVICES

Competitive Abstinence Education Program, 8/29/13

Promoting behavioral health through positive youth development

Eligible: Governments, non-profits and for-profits

Range: Average grant \$500K; 2-year project

<http://tinyurl.com/pt7ae9z>

Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Research, 9/16/13. Letter of Intent due 8/9/13

Applied public health prevention research approaches that include behavioral interventions, environmental, or systems-wide solutions and strategies.

Eligible: Schools of public health, osteopathy, or medicine.

Range: Up to \$900,000K

Technical Assistance via Webcasts on 7/31/13 & 8/1/13

<http://tinyurl.com/jwpm2mm>

HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

HUD has released a Technical Correction to the Choice Neighborhoods Implementation

Grant Due 9/10/13. Open <http://tinyurl.com/lzvrokj>

and click on Full Announcement for specifics.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, 9/16/13

Education, research and early career development.

Eligible: Libraries and schools of library science.

Range: \$50K to \$500K. Match is required.

<http://tinyurl.com/nt32fq6>

FOUNDATION GRANTS

PetSmart Charities, 9/3/13

High impact Trap-Neuter-Return projects that stabilize and reduce the free-roaming cat population within a specific geographic area..

Eligible: governments, non-profits, educational institutions.

Range: Maximum \$200,000 for 2 years.

<http://tinyurl.com/43vngnn>

Ben and Jerry's Foundation, 9/13/13

Grassroots Organizing for Social Change grants.

Letter of Interest required before application is invited.

Eligible: Non-profit community organizing groups with budgets under \$500K

Range: Up to \$20K; 12 month projects

Lowes Foundation, 10/15/13

K-12 school improvement projects.

Eligible: K-12 schools and non-profit parent groups

Range: Up to \$5K

<http://tinyurl.com/pgz444y>

Rite-Aid Foundation, 10/15/13

Children's health and well-being.

Eligible: Non-profits in existence for at least one year and in good financial standing.

Range: Up to \$50K

<http://tinyurl.com/pgz444y>

STATE BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Mayor Menino fought hard for funding priorities in the last supplemental budget for FY 2013:

Summer Jobs: \$10 Million

With \$10M statewide, Boston would get approximately \$2.8 M based on last year's percentage. This funding helps to achieve the Mayor's goal of 10,000 jobs this summer.

Charter School Reimbursement: \$8 Million

With \$8M statewide, Boston will receive \$2.9M. As the number of charter school seats across the Commonwealth increases, more funding is needed to keep districts whole. In FY14 and beyond, this will be a significant priority for Boston to ensure that resources for traditional public schools are not pitted against resources for charter schools. The recognition of the need for these funds in the FY13 supplemental budget is a big win for Boston, as we receive the greatest percentage of this line item (because we have the most charter school seats).

Boston EMS: \$1 Million

To help offset federal and state cuts to EMS, we secured a \$1M earmark for the Boston Public Health Commission for emergency preparedness and ambulance services at public events.

Transportation Finance Bill Becomes Law

Despite a veto from Governor Deval Patrick, lawmakers approved a \$500M transportation finance bill that has now become law. While the Governor was hoping for a larger tax package, the new transportation revenue package will increase the gas tax, cigarette tax and computer software tax to fund investments in the statewide transportation system. The new funds will help balance the budget at the MBTA and regional transit authorities, provide additional funds for the Chapter 90 program for cities and towns, and fund transportation maintenance and expansion projects. The new law also includes a provision that Mayor Menino helped to secure that will allow municipalities to collect property taxes for businesses that are located on MBTA land.

FEDERAL BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS

The Senate began debate July 23 on the FY14 Transportation-HUD (THUD) spending bill. The measure provides \$3.150 billion for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) formula grants and \$1.0 billion for HOME Investment Partnerships program. As of July 25, several amendments are likely to be proposed that would cut both programs.

There are also other amendments that are harmful to CDBG and HOME. Senator Tom Coburn (OK) plans to offer an amendment that would cut CDBG from the \$3.150 billion approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee to \$2.79 billion. Senator Jeff Flake (AZ) will offer an amendment to cut HOME from \$1 billion as approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee, to \$950 million.

In addition to the cuts, Senator Coburn also plans to offer an amendment that would require HUD to submit a report to Congress on legislative options to modernize and improve targeting of the CDBG allocation formulas. Senator Flake will offer an amendment that would require a study on the effectiveness of the HOME program.

House Appropriations

The House Appropriations Committee also has approved FY14 funding for HUD programs that will be considered by the full House in the near future.

In the House, CDBG is cut by 47 percent from \$3.08 billion in FY13 to \$1.6 billion in FY14.

CDBG was funded at \$3.9 billion in FY10.

HOME is cut from \$950 million (FY13) to \$700 million (FY14). HOME was funded at \$1.82 billion in FY10.

CURRENT FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

<http://grants.gov/>

CURRENT STATE BID AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

<http://www.comm-pass.com/>

CURRENT CITY OF BOSTON BID OPPORTUNITIES

<http://www.cityofboston.gov/purchasing/bid.asp>

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The Funding Update is distributed by the Mayor's Office of Intergovernmental Relations to over 4800 subscribers per month. To subscribe, send an email to join-funding_update@listserv.cityofboston.gov.

You can also view The Funding Update on the City of Boston's webpage at <http://www.cityofboston.gov/intergovernmental/>.

If you decide to apply for a grant from a source in this update, technical assistance is available through our office. Call 617-635-3817, or email inez.foster@cityofboston.gov.

