



February, 2008

## Happy New Year: What's New?

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### New Annual Recertification Process

Harris County Community and Economic Development Department (HCCEDD) looks forward to increasing the number of certified CHDOs to provide safe, decent and affordable housing to low and moderate income families in Harris County, therefore our office currently accepts new CHDO applications through out the year. HCCEDD has adopted an annual recertification process for all certified CHDOs that begins in November of each year. Upon review of completed recertification application and applicable document, your CHDO will be certified from December 1st thru December 1st of the following year. If your recertification application and applicable documents are not received by November 30th, your CHDO will need to complete a new certification application. Failure to submit for recertification may cause CHDO certification to expire and the organization will be ineligible to apply for CHDO set-aside funds.

For information about becoming a certified CHDO, please visit us at [http://www.cedd.hctx.net/PS\\_CHDOs.aspx](http://www.cedd.hctx.net/PS_CHDOs.aspx) or contact Ebony L. Baylor at 713-578-2136

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### Pre-Development Funds

In efforts to increase a CHDO's opportunity to develop affordable housing projects and maximize the use of CHDO set-aside funds, HCCEDD has established a one year deferred balloon Pre-Development Loan. Loans for pre-development costs are available to certified CHDOs to ensure access to funds for upfront, eligible project expenditures. Often times a "line of credit" is difficult for non profits to receive from private lenders. The HOME Program provides this opportunity as part of its commitment to affordable housing development.

The Pre-Development Loan is only available to CHDOs with current certification from HCCEDD. Organizations must demonstrate sufficient experience, capacity and financial accountability to be certified as a CHDO. The maximum loan is \$35,000 for pre-development activities at a zero percent interest rate.

Eligible CHDOs requesting a Pre-Development Loan, must submit an eligible project under our annual Request for Proposals (RFP) Process.

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### Coming Soon: HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program & CHDO Workshops

Mark your calendars. We are looking forward to hosting HOME and CHDO Workshops the week of March 3rd, 2008. A formal workshop schedule will be coming soon!

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### Have you moved?

Has your CHDO moved? Please be sure to keep your address and telephone number updated with HCCEDD. Should you have a change in address/or telephone number, please email the new CHDO contact information to Ebony L. Baylor at [Ebony\\_Baylor@hctx.net](mailto:Ebony_Baylor@hctx.net).

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For additional information or assistance with specific questions, please contact Ebony L. Baylor by email at [Ebony\\_Baylor@hctx.net](mailto:Ebony_Baylor@hctx.net) or phone at (713) 578-2136.