

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



SEPTEMBER, 2008

Neighborhood Preservation Coalition
of New York State, Inc.

Assemblyman Vito Lopez, DHCR Commissioner Deborah VanAmerongen To Be Featured Speakers

The Albany, NY Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center will be the host site for the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition's 21st Annual Affordable Housing Conference and Membership Meeting October 5-6-7.

NYS Assemblyman Vito J. Lopez, longtime chair of the Housing Committee, will be the featured speaker at the luncheon on Monday, Oct. 6. NYS DHCR Commissioner Deborah VanAmerongen will be the featured speaker at dinner that evening.

A brochure with specific details about the conference was mailed to Coalition members and friends. The brochure is also available on the Coalition's website, www.npcnys.org.

An all-inclusive package price of \$429.25 for single occupancy, 2 night stay has been secured by the Coalition. Other package prices have been arranged and are detailed in the conference brochure. The Coalition has made every effort to accommodate any and all possible requests.

The Crowne Plaza Registration Form is included with the Conference Brochure is also available on the Coalition's website. Simply download the form, fill it out, and mail it directly to the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Please furnish the hotel with your tax exempt paperwork, or you will be charged tax.

Conference registration fees and any additional hotel charges are de-

tailed in the brochure. ***The registration fee does not include the hotel charged and a separate registration form for the hotel is provided.***

A fun and entertaining tour of historic Albany sites will kick-off the conference on Sunday afternoon when we board the Albany Aqua Ducks land/water tour boat! Featured sites, by land, include the Leo O'Brien Federal Building, the Ten Broeck Mansion, First Church, Court of Appeals, Albany City Hall, NYS Education Building, the Alfred E. Smith Building, Washington Park (modeled after Center Park in NYC) just to name a few. By water, sites include the USS Slater, Hudson River Way, Patroon Island Bridge, SUNY Central (old D&H Building) and more.

Additionally, a RoundTable discussion on board of director development will be held on Sunday. This will be a perfect opportunity for your board members, new and not-so-new, to reacquaint themselves with their role and responsibility as board members.

A wide variety of workshop topics has been selected for this conference, based on membership surveys and suggestions throughout the past year on what topics you want to learn about most. In addition, there will be plenty of time

built into the schedule of activities to help facilitate those all-important networking opportunities.

The ***Luis Arce Success Award*** will be announced on Monday.

PDTI Session On CHDO Development; Creating HOME Programs

The 2008 Professional Development Training Institute (PDTI) workshops will introduce potential and existing Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs) to the HOME Investment Partnerships program, including instruction on issues from obtaining CHDO status and designing a CHDO application to setting up and operating a successful HOME program.

These workshops are ideal for nonprofit housing organizations interested in becoming CHDOs and accessing federal HOME dollars for affordable housing activities.

This PDTI certificate course is sponsored by the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development in collaboration with the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of NYS,

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Training Dates, Places Announced For N/RPP Certification Process

As was announced at the Regional Forums, held recently by the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition in conjunction with the NYS Rural Housing Coalition and the NYS DHCR, a series of training sessions was being designed to educate groups on the new certification process for the upcoming contract year.

Those training sessions will be held as follows:

Sept. 22-23, Syracuse

Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel,
801 University Avenue

Sept. 24-25, Albany

Hampton Plaza Ballroom, DHCR

October 16-17, Rochester

Marriott Rochester Airport, 1890
West Ridge Road

October 23-24, Buffalo

Holiday Inn Buffalo Airport, 4600
Genesee St., Cheektowaga

October 27-28, Manhattan

25 Beaver St., Room 510, DHCR

November 5-6, Manhattan

25 Beaver St., Room 510, DHCR

A Train-The-Trainer session, for staff from the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition, the NYS Rural Housing Coalition and DHCR, will be held November 12-13 in the Hampton Plaza Ballroom, DHCR, Albany.

Each 2-day session will begin at 9 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. While these sessions are not mandatory, it is strongly recommended that each NPC and RPC be represented at the session most convenient to you. Please RSVP your attendance to your DHCR Regional Office.

Contact your DHCR Regional Rep with any questions/concerns you may have.

PDTI Session On CHDO Development; Creating HOME Programs

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Inc. There is no additional charge for these workshops.

This workshop tract is divided into four distinct sections:]

Obtaining Your CHDO Status: Gain access to HOME set-aside funding and improve your ability to create homeownership opportunities and rental units for your neighborhood.

Designing Your Application: Now that you meet the CHDO requirements you will need to begin the development of your application.

Setting Up Your New Program: Learn how to get to contract, complete environmental requirements and establish the financial transfer mechanisms you will need to successfully operate your program.

Operating Your New Program: Learn what you will need regarding proper records and accounts, drawing funds and filing required reports.

While there is no charge for this PDTI workshop tract, attendees must submit a registration form indicating their participation. The registration form is available in the conference brochure.

The conference brochure and related registration information is on the Coalition's website, www.npcnys.org. If need be, contact the Coalition at (518) 432-6757 to request a brochure be sent to you.

NYS Draft 2009 Annual Action Plan Public Comment Period Announcement

Each year, in order to maintain its eligibility to administer certain federal funds for affordable housing and community development, New York State must prepare an Annual Action Plan and submit to the U.S. Dept. of HUD.

The Annual Action Plan describes, for one specific Program Year, the State's proposed use of available federal and other resources to address the priority needs and specific objectives in the Consolidated Plan; the State's method for distributing funds to local governments and not-for-profit organizations; and the geographic areas of the State to which it will direct assistance.

New York State encourages public participation in the development of its Annual Action Plan. To provide an opportunity for that participation, NYS invites interested persons to review and comment on the draft Annual Action Plan for 2009 in general and the Substantial Amendment in particular, during an upcoming public comment period.

This 30-day public comment period will begin on Monday, September 8, and extend through close of business on Wednesday, October 8.

Beginning on Sept. 8, the State's draft Annual Action plan for 2009 may be viewed on and downloaded from the DHCR website at www.nysdhcr.gov. In addition, copies can be requested by email (DHCRConPln@nysdhcr.gov) or by calling 1-866-ASK-DHCR (275-3427). Comments should be mailed to NYS DHCR, Attention: Brian McCarthy, 38-40 State St., Albany, NY, 12207. Comments must be received by close of business Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2008.

**Our Condolences Are
Extended To The Family
And Friends Of**

SHIRLEY EDWARDS

**Executive Director of
NEBCA/Rochester &
Friend of our Coalition.**

The Luis Arce Success Award

Call for Nominations

The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of New York State, Inc., calls for nominations for the *Luis Arce Success Award*. This award is given in memory of Luis Arce who passed away on June 23, 1994. Luis exemplified the best in all of us. He unselfishly gave to his family, his community, and all human kind. Luis was a strong community advocate and dedicated his work life to neighborhood revitalization efforts and providing safe, decent and accessible housing for persons with special needs such as developmental disabilities and persons with AIDS.

Luis touched many lives through his work. He was Director of the Manhattan Valley Management Company from 1984 to 1992 and also served as a member of the Board of Manhattan Valley Development Corporation. Through his many years of volunteer work at Sinergia, a non-profit human service and housing organization, Luis championed the integration of persons with disabilities and their families into mainstream housing in the community. Luis also worked at Community Service Society and Solidaridad Humana (Human Solidarity) - an alternative educational institute on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Luis was a founding board member and remained active in the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of New York State.

While Luis's life was cut short, his courage and commitment made a difference in his community, in New York State and in the lives of all who knew him.

Success

“To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded.”

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

The *Luis Arce Success Award* is presented to an individual who is committed to improving their neighborhood and the lives of others. In addition, candidates for the *Luis Arce Success Award* must:

- Be affiliated with a member organization of the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition;
- Not be a member of the Board of Directors of the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition;
- Have worked on a community level in the community development field.

Candidates may be nominated by an organization or an individual (other than themselves) by filling out and completing the application form on Page 5.

Luis Arce Success Award Application

Name of Candidate: _____
Organization: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____

Nominated By: _____
Organization: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone Number: _____

In the space below, describe how the candidate is committed to improving their neighborhood and the lives of others:

Candidates' years of service to his/her community: _____

Candidates' areas of expertise: _____

Completed applications should be mailed to:

Luis Arce Success Award
Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of NYS
40 Colvin Avenue
Albany, NY 12206

For more information call the Coalition at (518) 432-6757

The Board of Directors of the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition will review nominations and select the awardee. An award presentation will be made at the Coalition's annual conference at The Crowne Plaza Hotel & Conference Center, Albany, NY, October 5-6-7.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2008

DHCR To Host Market Analysis Seminar

NYS DHCR recently announced that it will be co-sponsoring and hosting the National Council of Affordable Housing Market Analysts (NCAHMA) latest seminar, *“Real Estate Market Analysis: Maximizing The Value of Market Studies for Affordable Housing”* on September 10 in Albany

The curriculum is designed to introduce affordable housing professionals to the core concepts behind the creation and utilization of affordable housing market studies. This course will explore essential topics including defining market areas, site analysis, housing market trends and conditions, capture rate methodology, achievable rents, and much more!

The seminar was designed specifically with the market study user in mind and provides an excellent foundation for professionals in the public, non-profit and for-profit sectors involved in reviewing tax credit applications, underwriting affordable housing and developing multifamily real estate.

DHCR strongly encourages all affordable housing professionals doing business in New York to attend this seminar. DHCR plans to bring their development team to the meeting.

Visit www.housingonline.com for

the meeting agenda and online registration. Space is limited to register ASAP. Any questions or concerns should be addressed to Thom Amdur at (202)-939-1753 or tamdur@dworbell.com.

NCAHMA is an Affiliate of the National Housing & Rehabilitation Association of Washington, DC.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY

Tuesday,

Feb. 17, 2009

**The “Well”
Legislative Office
Building
Albany, NY**

***Save the date! Come to
Albany to support the
Coalition’s Legislative
Agenda!!***

NP Coalition Seeks Board Nominations

The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition is actively soliciting members to join the Board of Directors.

The board consists of representatives of NPCs and CHDOs throughout the state. Nomination will be presented and an election will be held during the membership meeting portion of the Coalition’s annual conference October 5-6-7, 2008 at The Crowne Plaza Hotel & Conference Center in Albany, NY. A brief biographical sketch of board candidates will be presented at the conference.

The board meets bi-monthly in Albany. The board is responsible for the oversight of the corporation and determines Coalition policy. Most importantly, the board reviews state housing policies and programs and actively works with DHCR staff to provide feedback and input to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the state’s housing programs.

There are position openings in all ten of the Coalition’s regions. Anyone interested in receiving more information about the board openings should contact Executive Director Joe Agostine at (518) 432-6757.

It’s Not Too Late!

October 5-6-7, 2008

**ANNUAL AFFORDABLE
HOUSING CONFERENCE & MEMBERSHIP MTG.**

@

**The Crowne Plaza Hotel
Albany, New York**

Send Your Registration In Today!!

A Gentle Reminder . . .

**Please Pay Your
Annual Dues!!**

**The Coalition’s 2006
Membership Drive
Is Continuing.**

**Your financial support
helps to keep our Legisla-
tive Advocacy on target,
strong and united!**

Thank You!

OUR MISSION

The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition will unify, educate, empower, and strengthen community organizations in their provision of affordable housing and community revitalization activities.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

• Karen Mallam, *President*

- Joseph G. Barden
- Delaine Cook-Greene
- Jeanne DiLascio
- Linda S. Goodman
- Dennis Hanratty
- Eduardo LaGuerre
- Judi Orlando
- Joseph Sluszka
- Francisco Rivera
- John Denelsbeck
- * Helen Hogan
- Miriam M.E. Garcia
- Gary Beasley
- Beth Farr
- Cathy Mickens

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

*Neighborhood News
Legislative Action*

State-wide Annual Conference

Regional Workshops and Roundtables

Training and Technical Assistance

Strategic Planning

Board and Staff Development

Housing Design and Development

Needs Assessments & Strategic Planning

Fundraising and Organizational Development

Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of New York State, Inc.

40 Colvin Avenue., Albany, NY, 12206

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www.npcnys.org

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Use Google To Search For Grants.gov

As of September 1st you can now search Grants.gov using the Google search engine.

In announcing the change, Local/State Funding Report (July 28 issues) pointed out how this will ease access to the Grants.gov help files, FAQs, and all information text.

They also announced Grants.gov's new RSS feed, which allow you to get automatic updates of important announcements. Finally, they noted that by year end, all 26 federal grant making agencies will streamline the proposal process by accepting applications in portable document format (PDF), including the new 9.0 version of Adobe Acrobat.

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Coalition Joins SEFA Campaign

The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition is now a part of the State Employees Federal Appeal (SEFA), allowing people to donate funds to the Coalition through work-place giving. The Coalition requests that members and friends with connections to state employees encourage those workers to designate the Coalition for their planned work-place giving.