



## **MINNESOTA HOUSING PARTNERSHIP AWARDED \$2 MILLION BY HUD FOR ASSISTANCE TO COMMUNITIES**

**--Will Help Build Community Development Capacity--**

**ST. PAUL, MN (May 15, 2012)**

Today the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded the Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) \$2,000,000 as the lead agency of a team that will assist communities under HUD's integrated approach to community revitalization.

HUD will rely on the MHP team to provide technical assistance to recipients of HUD grants to ensure that organizations take full advantage of HUD programs and comply with federal regulations. HUD calls this approach "OneCPD", for HUD's Office of Community Planning and Development.

In addition to supporting affordable housing, the MHP team will help U.S. communities with planning for economic development and infrastructure, construction management, sustainable design and natural resource protection, and organizational development.

"This award recognizes Minnesota Housing Partnership's leadership in helping communities nationwide utilize federal resources to ensure that lower income families have access to housing they can afford, and that blighted areas are revitalized," said Chip Halbach, MHP's Executive Director.

"Through this work in helping states and local governments across the country", Halbach added, "we are able to bring back to Minnesota the experience we are gaining in addressing a variety of community development challenges."

MHP, a current provider of program-based technical assistance for HUD, brought together a team of local and national experts to broaden its geographic scope and to provide the skills needed to carry out OneCPD technical assistance. The MHP team also includes: Wisconsin Partnership for Housing Development (Madison, WI), Affordable Housing Connections (Saint Paul, MN), Rural Community Assistance Council (West Sacramento, CA), Rural Community Assistance Partnership (Washington, D.C.), Building Communities Inc. (Baker City, OR), Sound Thinking (Seattle, WA), and Xanthus Partners LLC (Minneapolis, MN).

MHP expects to begin receiving assignments from HUD under this award later this year.

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The Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP - 2446 University Ave W. - Ste 140 | St. Paul, MN 55114) advances the preservation and creation of housing affordable to low- and moderate-income people as a means of strengthening communities and families. MHP is an equal opportunity provider and employer.