

# ***Collier County Government***

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Collier County Housing and Human Services is pleased to announce a Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Grant Application Cycle for federal funding available for the July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 program year.

In April 2007, the Board of County Commissioners authorized submission of the HUD One-Year Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Action Plan establishes priorities for over \$2,200,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME and Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) funds.

Applications for projects funded from federal CDBG funds must meet at least one of the national objectives:

- Benefit low- and moderate-income persons or households
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight
- Meet a recent community need having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to health or welfare

In addition, a project must be a HUD eligible activity, which includes but is not limited to: acquiring real property for public purposes, reconstructing or rehabilitating housing (new housing construction is generally ineligible), building public facilities and improvements (streets, water systems, community and senior citizen centers, and recreational facilities), assisting eligible economic development activities (micro enterprise loans to low-income entrepreneurs), and providing public services for youths, seniors or the disabled. Fifteen percent (15%) of the total allocation will be set aside for public service activities.

HUD HOME funds are provided to projects that strengthen public-private partnerships and expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing with a focus on housing for very low-income and low-income families. T

A grant application workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 23, 2007 at 2800 North Horseshoe Drive, Conference Room 609 from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM and on Thursday, October 24, 2007 at Horizon Village, Immokalee from 2:00 PM until 4 :00 PM to review the grant application process and allow for questions and answers.

Completed grant applications are due to Collier County Housing and Human Services, 3050 N. Horseshoe Drive, Suite 110 prior to 2:00 p.m., Monday, December 3, 2007.