



May 27, 2021

Our offices are closed on the weekend. If you think you'll need to access OCEAN during that time, make sure you are able to log in by 12 p.m. Friday.

For password resets, email [ocd@development.ohio.gov](mailto:ocd@development.ohio.gov). DO NOT submit a ticket to the OCEAN Help Desk.

### Upcoming Events and Grant Deadlines

(click underlined text for more information)

#### Upcoming OCD Grant and Application Deadlines

No new items

#### OCD Meetings and Training Events

No new items

#### Other Training and Professional Development Events

May 19 - June 10, 2021	<a href="#">Lead Safe Housing Rule Webinar Series: Subparts J and K Series</a>
	<a href="#">URA the HUD Way</a>

### New and Updated Items

#### COVID-19 Items

- No new items

#### Administrative Items

- [Service Area Map - Affordable Housing](#) (updated)
- [Service Area Map - Home Relief Grant Program](#) (updated)

Active OCEAN users receive the OCD Weekly Digest. OCD does not maintain a separate mailing list. If you are an active OCEAN user and not receiving the Digest, please check with your administrator and make [ocd@development.ohio.gov](mailto:ocd@development.ohio.gov) a safe sender. Also, check your OCEAN profile and ensure your email address is correct. Click [here](#) for the Quick Reference Guide to update your information. Remember to use Internet Explorer when using OCEAN. If you need assistance navigating OCEAN, do not submit a ticket to the OCEAN Help Desk. Email your program representative with the grant number and screen shots of the issue.

As part of an ongoing effort to move to paperless operations, we encourage grantees to send all correspondence via email to your program representative or [ocd@development.ohio.gov](mailto:ocd@development.ohio.gov) and copy your program representative. Since the physical office is closed to employees, items

mailed to our physical address will not be received in a timely manner. If you have any questions, please contact your [program representative](#).

**For HOME-funded Grants:** When submitting a status report, if you receive an error message about unexpended HOME funds, click *Cancel* to clear the message and submit the report.

### **Environmental Review Process**

Until further notice, grantees must submit environmental review Request for Release of Funds and/or Certification documentation via email to [ocd@development.ohio.gov](mailto:ocd@development.ohio.gov). Grantees may view and download Project-Specific Release of Environmental Conditions documents in OCEAN. OCD will not mail hard copies of these documents. Please email Cecilia Castillo at [Cecilia.Castillo@development.ohio.gov](mailto:Cecilia.Castillo@development.ohio.gov) or Tim Allen at [TimothyM.Allen@development.ohio.gov](mailto:TimothyM.Allen@development.ohio.gov) if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

## **COVID-19 Administrative Updates**

### **Updated CDBG-CV Home Relief Grant Program and Reporting Guidelines Online**

The Office of Community Development updated the CDBG-CV Home Relief Grant Program guidelines and provided guidance for grantees that want to use their third-party systems to report CDBG-CV outcomes. Click [here](#) for the updated guidelines, reporting requirements and reporting template.

### **PY 2020 Round 2 Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) Program Funding Availability**

The Office of Community Development has funds available through Round 2 of the Emergency Solutions Grant CARES Act (ESG-CV) for renovation and street outreach. Supplemental funding for Round 1 Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) CARES grantees for emergency shelter, alternate shelter, homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing is also available. For more information, including how to apply, click [here](#) to download the forms.

### **Coronavirus Relief Fund Local Government Assistance Program**

The State of Ohio, through the Coronavirus Relief Fund Local Government Assistance Program, provides financial assistance to local governments for expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on these resources, visit their [webpage](#). For assistance in reviewing proposals or eligible uses, contact the Office of Budget and Management at [grants@obm.ohio.gov](mailto:grants@obm.ohio.gov).

## **Administrative Updates**

### **Farewell, Marvin Rudd. Hello, Matt Spiess**

After more than 10 years at Development, Marvin Rudd will retire on Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. Marvin has worked in the Office of Community Development's Residential Revitalization section for his entire state career. Prior to joining Development, he worked for the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. We wish him well in his retirement.

Matthew Spiess joined Development as a Housing Grant Analyst in the Office of Community Development on May 5, 2021. Prior to joining Development, he was the Director of Special Projects at the Maumee Valley Regional Planning Commission where he was involved in five Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) partnership grants. Matt has nearly 15 years of experience as a private contractor, experience with the weatherization program, and more than 11 years of experience working with HOME and CDBG programs. Matt holds a

bachelor's degree from the University of Toledo and is a licensed Lead Based Paint Risk Assessor and Lead Abatement Contractor.

### **Section 3 Labor Hours Reporting Requirement**

Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, requires grantees to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by using HUD financial assistance are directed to low- and very low-income persons and to business concerns that provide economic opportunities to low- and very low-income persons to the greatest extent feasible. HUD recently issued new Section 3 implementing regulations that introduce "labor hours" as a new metric for measuring the effectiveness of Section 3 efforts. Section 3 requirements apply to HUD-assisted housing rehabilitation, housing construction, and other public construction projects when the total amount exceeds \$200,000 and is committed on or after July 1, 2021. Beginning in PY 2021, grantees will have to collect and report labor hours for "Section 3 Workers" and "Targeted Section 3 Workers" for each activity subject to Section 3 requirements. This requirement only applies to grants issued on or after July 1, 2021.

To meet this new reporting requirement, OCD is developing a solution for grantees to report labor hours in Salesforce. Once completed, OCD will provide grantees with instruction on how to enter the data. As HUD releases more clarification on these reporting requirements, OCD will share this information with grantees. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Allen at [timothy.allen@development.ohio.gov](mailto:timothy.allen@development.ohio.gov).

### **Changes to Income Eligibility Calculator for PY 2021**

On June 1, 2021, HUD will update the CPD Income Eligibility Calculator to reflect the PY 2021 Income Limits. **The update will affect current and prior calculations for CDBG, HOME, CDBG-DR, HOPWA, and Housing Trust Fund.** Current calculations in progress, and previously completed calculations based on FY 2020 Income Limits, will update based on the new income limits for 2021.

HUD strongly suggests making copies of your prior calculations for your records **before** they are updated by the PY 2021 on June 1, 2021. Once the Income Calculator is updated with the PY 2021 Income Limits, all calculations currently in a user's dashboard in the CPD Income Eligibility Calculator, as well as calculations completed going forward, will use the FY 2021 Income Limits for the purposes of determining eligibility. To access the Income Eligibility Calculator, click [here](#).

### **PY 2021 Income Limits Effective Starting Tuesday**

Each year, HUD sets income limits that determine eligibility for assisted housing programs based on Median Family Income estimates and Fair Market Rent area definitions for each metropolitan area, parts of some metropolitan areas, and each non-metropolitan county. **For all programs, except those funded with federal Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) dollars, the effective date is June 1, 2021. ESG limits are effective April 1, 2021.** To access the PY 2021 Income Limits, click [here](#).

### **Environmental Review Requirements for Housing Program Income**

OCD recently released overview guidance on environmental review procedures for housing Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) funds committed by non-grantee partners to a CHIP Program partnership. To view the full text and download the PDF file, click [here](#).

### **SFY 2021 Fiscal Shutdown Begins June 15th**

Each year in June, The State Accounting Office shuts down all payment processing for several weeks to begin the fiscal year closeout process.

Grantees should carefully consider their funding needs for the period from June 15, 2021 to July 1, 2021, to avoid payment delays and/or cash shortages during the shutdown period. In order to receive funds before this year-end shutdown begins, you must submit requests to draw funds **before 5 p.m. on Friday, June 15, 2021**. Any draw requests received after this time will not be processed for payment until July 1, 2021.

### **PY 2021 CHIP Application Attachment J Updated**

OCD recently updated Attachment J: Activity Elements Spreadsheet. Applicants should use the corrected version for the PY 2021 CHIP Program application. The submission deadline is **Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. EST**. Application instructions, attachments and Q&As are available on the TA site. Application instructions and attachments can be found [here](#). Questions and answers are available on the TA site [here](#).

### **CHIP Program Virtual Technical Assistance Available**

The Residential Revitalization staff is providing virtual technical assistance to CHIP grantees. We highly encourage CHIP Program Rehabilitation Specialists to schedule a virtual technical assistance visit for project scope of work and specifications. Contact [your program representative](#) for more information or to schedule a session.

## **OCD Partner Information**

### **The Ohio. Find It Here. Co-Op Advertising Program**

The Ohio. Find It Here. Co-Op Advertising Program provides tourism industry members the opportunity to purchase advertising such as paid social, digital, paid search, broadcast radio, etc., that have been vetted by our media experts and which deliver upon the target segments and markets most relevant to your business or entity. For more information, click [here](#).

### **Ohio Vax-a-Million**

The Ohio Department of Health is giving Ohioans a shot at \$1 million when they get their COVID-19 vaccination. Ohioans aged 12-17 get a shot at a full, four-year scholarship including room and board, tuition, and books, to any Ohio state college or university with Ohio Vax-a-Million. The Ohio Vax-a-Million entry period runs May 18 through June 20. Get your shot and enter at [ohiovaxamillion.com](http://ohiovaxamillion.com) or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH.



**Mike DeWine**, Governor  
**Jon Husted**, Lt. Governor

**Development  
Services Agency**

**Lydia L. Mihalik**, Director