



CITY OF LAWRENCE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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DANIEL RIVERA
MAYOR & CEO

For immediate release

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**Lawrence Celebrates National Community Development Week, April 2-6, 2018
“Celebrating the Impact of the CDBG and HOME Programs”**

March 27, 2018, Lawrence, Mass.-- Mayor Daniel Rivera issued a proclamation supporting the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program by recognizing National Community Development Week, April 2-6, 2018. Spearheaded by the National Community Development Association, this week-long celebration provides the opportunity to showcase the impact of CDBG and HOME on our community and serves as a venue for educating the public about the programs. This week's celebration will conclude with the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Bourgoin Square Park Renovation on West Street, on Wednesday, April 11th at 12 Noon, in a collaborative effort with Groundwork Lawrence.

This year marks the 44th anniversary of the CDBG program. The CDBG program provides grants to over 1,200 local governments creating a neighborhood approach that improves the physical, economic and social conditions in communities. For every one dollar of CDBG funding another \$1.54 in private and public funding was leveraged locally.

Among the public services programs funded with Community Development Block Grant funding in the current Fiscal Year are: Youth Development Organization, Lawrence YMCA, Boys and Girls Club of Lawrence, Sí, Se Puede, ACT Lawrence, Inc., Centro de Apoyo Familiar, Greater Lawrence Community Boating Program, Inc., Lawrence Community Works, Groundwork Lawrence, Inc., for youth jobs, training and leadership development programs; Lawrence Council on Aging, Lawrence Family Development and Education Fund, Greater Lawrence Community Action Council, Inc., for citizenship, English classes for speakers of other languages programs; and the New England Veterans Liberty House for housing support to veterans.

The HOME program, now in its 28th year, provides grants to over 600 local participating jurisdictions to create safe, sanitary, and affordable housing in communities nationwide. For every one dollar of HOME funding another \$10 in private and public funding was leveraged locally. Among the housing development projects funded with HOME funds were the Loft

Five50 Apartments at 550 Broadway, and the development of four affordable homeownership units at 314 East Haverhill Street and 23 Josephine Avenue in Lawrence

Both programs are administered nationally by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The CDBG and HOME programs have seen funding reductions in the past several years. In FY 2010, CDBG was funded nationally at \$3.990 billion and HOME was funded at \$1.825 billion. CDBG is now funded at \$3.0 billion nationally and HOME at \$900 million.

“These federal programs are needed more than ever to help our most vulnerable citizens and improve the overall condition of our neighborhoods, as they are essential in supporting our efforts to make Lawrence a better, more vibrant community,” said Mayor Rivera.

The City Of Lawrence supports both CDBG and HOME programs and will highlight the impact that they have in our community during National Community Development Week, April 2-6, 2018.

To learn about programs that create safe, decent, and affordable housing, support program services, promote economic development, and fund public infrastructure projects visit www.cityoflawrence.com, or contact the Office of Planning & Development at (978) 620-3510.

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