

Department of Justice
Office of Public Affairs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, April 25, 2016

The Departments of Justice and Housing and Urban Development to Award \$1.75 Million to Help Justice-Involved Youth Find Jobs and Housing

Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program Will Reduce Barriers to Housing, Jobs and Education

In an effort to help young people involved in the justice system find jobs and housing, the U.S. Departments of Justice and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) today announced \$1.75 million for Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and nonprofit legal service organizations to address the challenges justice-involved individuals face when trying to find work and a place to call home. The grantees are listed below.

Under the Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program (JRAP), funded through the department's Second Chance Act funds, HUD and the Department of Justice are teaming up to help young Americans who've paid their debt to society rehabilitate and reintegrate back into their communities. JRAP funding was awarded to Public Housing Agencies who have a partnership with a nonprofit legal service organization with experience providing legal services to juveniles. [Read local summaries of the grants.](#)

U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch and HUD Secretary Julián Castro announced the funding during a news conference with local leaders in Philadelphia today.

"The future of our nation depends upon the future of our young people – including young people who have become involved with our justice system," said Attorney General Lynch. "By helping justice-involved youth find decent jobs and stable housing after they return home, these critical grants provide a foundation for a fresh start and offer a path towards productivity and purpose. In the months ahead, the Department of Justice will continue helping justice-involved youth enrich their lives and improve our country."

"Reconnecting young people who've paid their debt to society to decent jobs and housing allows them to turn the page and become active, productive members of their communities," said Secretary Castro. "These grants offer a helping hand to those who deserve a second chance so they have a real opportunity to reach their full potential."

Having a juvenile or a criminal record can severely limit a person's ability to seek higher education, find good employment or secure affordable housing. Today, there are nearly 55,000 individuals under age 21 in juvenile justice facilities, and approximately 185,000 young adults aged 18 to 24 in state and federal prisons. These collateral consequences create unnecessary barriers to economic opportunity and productivity. President Obama and members of his Cabinet, via the Federal Interagency Reentry Council, continue to take impactful steps to ensure those exiting the justice system become productive, law-abiding citizens. Today's announcement is consistent with HUD's [recently released guidance](#) on the application of

Fair Housing Act Standards to the use of criminal records by providers of housing and real estate-related transactions, and the **recent guidance** for public housing authorities and owners of federally-assisted housing on excluding the use of arrest records in housing decisions.

To help alleviate collateral consequences associated with a juvenile or criminal record, JRAP assists young people up to age 24 residing in public housing, or who would be residing in public housing but for their record, by:

- Expunging, sealing, and/or correcting juvenile or adult records; as permitted by state law;
- Assisting targeted youth in mitigating/preventing collateral consequences such as reinstating revoked or suspended drivers' licenses;
- Counseling regarding legal rights and obligations in searching for employment;
- Providing guidance for readmission to school; and
- Creating or modifying child support orders and other family law services, and more.

#

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all.

More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov and <http://espanol.hud.gov>.

*You can also connect with HUD on **social media** and follow Secretary Castro on **Twitter**[\[external link\]](#) and **Facebook**[\[external link\]](#) or sign up for news alerts on **HUD's Email List**.*

2016 Juvenile Re-entry Assistance Program Grants

State	Recipient	City	Amount	Partner	*Matched Amount
CA	Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$100,000	Public Counsel	\$1,390,650
CT	Housing Authority of the City of Hartford	Hartford	\$100,000	Center for Children's Advocacy,	

				Inc.	\$25,000
IL	Chicago Housing Authority	Chicago	\$100,000	Bluhm Legal Clinic, Northwestern University School of Law	\$55,216
IL	Housing Authority of Cook County	Chicago	\$100,000	LAF	\$25,000
IN	The City of East Chicago Housing Authority	East Chicago	\$100,000	Indiana Legal Services, Inc.	\$172,000
LA	Housing Authority of the City of Shreveport	Shreveport	\$100,000	Legal Services of North Louisiana, Inc.	\$109,811
LA	Housing Authority of New Orleans	New Orleans	\$100,000	Southeast Louisiana Legal Services	\$240,463
MA	Boston Housing Authority	Boston	\$100,000	Greater Boston Legal Services Inc.	

					\$32,549
MO	St. Louis Housing Authority	St. Louis	\$100,000	St. Louis School of Law Legal Clinic	\$99,202
NJ	Housing Authority of the City of Camden	Camden	\$53,464	Rutgers Law School Reentry Clinic	\$35,825
NY	Syracuse Housing Authority	Syracuse	\$100,000	Center for Community Alternatives	\$58,744
NY	New York City Housing Authority	New York	\$100,000	Youth Represent, Inc.	\$88,412
NY	Albany Housing Authority	Albany	\$100,000	Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York	\$81,000
OH	Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority	Cleveland	\$100,000	Legal Aid Society of Cleveland	\$123,200
OH	Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority	Akron	\$100,000	University of Akron School of Law	

					\$174,115
PA	Philadelphia Housing Authority	Philadelphia	\$100,000	Community Legal Services of Philadelphia	\$25,000
RI	The Housing Authority of the City of Providence	Providence	\$100,000	Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc.	\$27,161
WI	Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee	Milwaukee	\$100,000	Legal Action of Wisconsin	\$25,000
	TOTAL: \$1,753,464				