



Commemorating 40 Years
Of Disability Advocacy
1973-2013

For immediate release:

News Release
February 13, 2013

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The CCD Housing Task Force Applauds HUD Rental Assistance Awards for People with Disabilities

Washington, DC – On Tuesday February 12, 2013, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced grants totaling \$98 million for 3,530 units of supportive housing for people with disabilities including people living in institutions and people who are homeless. HUD selected 13 states to administer the new Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Project Rental Assistance (PRA) Demonstration; 35 states made applications to HUD, an indicator of the enormous demand within the states for integrated supportive housing units. This new Section 811 PRA Demonstration is designed to assist state housing agencies to expand integrated supportive housing opportunities for people with the most significant and long term disabilities, and was the centerpiece of the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2010.

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Housing Task Force and TAC, funded with public policy grants from the Melville Charitable Trust, led the advocacy effort to reform the Section 811 Program. Andrew Sperling, of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and Co-Chair of the CCD Housing Task Force said that “We in the CCD Housing Task Force applaud this effort to move forward on community integration and we are overwhelmed that this new model will produce more than 3,500 units of permanent supportive housing verses barely 900 units over the past two years.”

"This is an incredibly important day for the disability community -- particularly for 3,530 people with the most significant and long term disabilities across the country who are institutionalized or homeless but will soon be living in integrated, affordable housing because of the revitalized Section 811 program. TAC and the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities Housing Task Force are enormously grateful to the Melville Charitable Trust for their vision, and their unwavering commitment to the permanent supportive housing approach, which made today's HUD Section 811 Demonstration funding awards possible," stated Ann O'Hara, Associate Director, Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC).

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The CCD Housing Task Force also applauds the bipartisan leadership that made the Melville Act possible and extends its thanks to the Members of Congress who – along with their staff – helped make this important legislation a reality including:

- Senator Christopher Murphy (D-CT) and former Representative Judy Biggert (R-IL) who were the lead co-sponsors in the House in 2010;
- Former Representative Barney Frank (D-MA) and Representative Spencer Bachus (R-AL), Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Financial Services Committee in 2010;
- Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Senator Mike Johanns (R-NE) who were the lead co-sponsors in the Senate in 2010;
- Former Senator Christopher Dodd (D-CT) and Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL), Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Banking Committee in 2010;
- Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Appropriations THUD Subcommittee; and
- Representative Tom Latham (R-IA) and former Representative John Olver (D-MA), Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Appropriations THUD Subcommittee in 2012.

For more information, [view the HUD Press Release](#).

The Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) is a working coalition of national consumer, advocacy, provider, and professional organizations working together with and on behalf of the 57 million children and adults with disabilities and their families living in the United States. The CCD Housing Task Force advocates on behalf of the housing needs of people with all disabilities, including developmental disabilities, mental illness, sensory disabilities, physical disabilities, and intellectual disabilities.

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