

News Release



Leading Tennessee Home

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Opportunities Broadened Governor's Housing Summit Builds Connections

NASHVILLE, September 23, 2010 – Housing comes in all shapes and forms to match the needs of its occupants. Tennessee's Governor's Housing Summit won't cover all its aspects, but variety abounds in the agenda.

Registration for the October 19-20 meeting is open to all, and focused on the housing industry: builders, lenders, REALTORS[®], developers, community planners and elected officials. The location is the Nashville Airport Marriott.

What is really affordable housing? Jacky Grimshaw, vice president of policy for the Center for Neighborhood Technology, will talk about sustainable communities and how to ensure affordability to households of low and moderate income. CNT's Housing + Transportation Affordability Index reveals the impact transportation costs has on total housing costs. See more here <http://htaindex.cnt.org/>.

Housing advocates work hard on their communities with their households, but sometimes their work would gain momentum from marketing. Ralph M. Perrey, senior business developer with Fannie Mae, will share how to promote successful work to help expand its impact.

The Housing Choice Voucher helps households live affordably in rental housing in the community. How does it really work? Program administrators and a private landlord will describe the pros and cons of the HCV.

We all strive for excellence. The Mountain States Health Alliance has been recognized twice by the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence (www.tncpe.org) for its role model processes and superior results. Tamera Fields, vice president of quality and performance improvement for MSHA will share her insights on ways for organizations to effectively and efficiently meet their missions and achieve their visions.

The federal government recognized the foreclosure crisis was affecting not only individual households, but communities' budgets as well. The Neighborhood Stabilization Program sent \$72 million to Tennessee housing administrators to purchase, repair and sell or rent properties to help families and rebuild property tax collections. Presenters will describe their progress.

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The meeting price is kept low through generous sponsors. Morgan Keegan, LP Building Products and the Bank of America are all Platinum Level sponsors. The Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity is a Gold sponsor.

Registration is open on line at the Tennessee Housing Development Agency website: <http://www.thda.org/govsummit/cover.html>. The registration fee is \$50 through October 8. Starting October 9 the registration fee is \$75. A special room rate is available through the Nashville Airport Marriott's hotel registration line - 800-770-0555.

THDA is a political subdivision of the State of Tennessee, established in 1973. THDA is the State's housing finance agency, responsible for selling tax exempt mortgage revenue bonds to offer affordable mortgage funds to homebuyers of low and moderate incomes through local lenders, and to administer various housing programs targeted to households of very low-, low- and moderate-incomes.

THDA made its first mortgage in 1974. It has provided affordable fixed rate mortgages to over 101,000 households without using state tax dollars. The total contribution of the THDA-related activities to Tennessee's economy in 2009 is estimated at \$836 million.

THDA issues between \$250 and \$300 million in mortgage revenue bonds annually for its first-time homebuyer program.

THDA created the Tennessee Housing Trust Fund in 2006, using state, THDA and locally-generated match to support programs for households of very-low income, elderly and special needs populations.

More information about THDA is available on-line at www.thda.org.