

John R. Kasich
GovernorChristiane Schmenk
DirectorFor Immediate Release
April 11, 2012**Nominations Sought for 2012 Director's Awards
for Excellence in Housing and Community Development***Winners to be recognized at the Ohio Conference of Community Development in July*

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Department of Development's Office of Community Development is seeking nominations for the 2012 Director's Awards for Excellence in Housing and Community Development. Grant administrators and Chief Executive Officers who manage funds from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Program, and Ohio Housing Trust Fund are encouraged to nominate successful projects.

"Ohio's local government officials and private nonprofit organizations work hard to improve their communities," said Christiane Schmenk, Director of the Ohio Department of Development. "This is our opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of our communities and celebrate their success."

Nominations can be submitted on the Office of Community Development's Success Story website – <http://development.ohio.gov/OCDSuccessStoriesSite/Default.aspx>. The deadline for submitting success stories for consideration is **May 18, 2012**.

Eligible nominations must describe how the project has impacted the overall community and benefited its citizens, in particular, low- and moderate-income individuals. In addition, projects or services that have helped to reduce or prevent homelessness in the state of Ohio are eligible for nomination.

Selected nominees will be honored during a luncheon ceremony hosted by the Ohio Conference of Community Development (OCCD) on July 25, 2012. The ceremony is being held in conjunction with OCCD's annual meeting in Columbus.

For more information on eligible projects and submitting a nomination, please contact:

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*The **Office of Community Development**, located within the Ohio Department of Development's Community Services Division, provides financial and technical assistance to units of local government and nonprofit organizations in Ohio for project activities that benefit low- and moderate-income citizens.*

*Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to accelerate and support the teamwork that is absolutely necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio's future.*

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