



U.S. Congressman
Nick Rahall

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RAHALL ANNOUNCES MORE HUD FUNDING

WASHINGTON, D.C.-- Congressman Nick J. Rahall, II (D-WV) announced today that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is awarding \$85.8 million in funding to support Operation Bootstrap, an innovative community-based initiative that offers new hope and opportunity to low-income families. \$1.57 million of that money has been earmarked for the Huntington, West Virginia Housing Authority. West Virginia has received \$4.27 million from HUD in the last three weeks.

"I am extremely pleased with the effort that HUD has made over the last few weeks, and it is my hope that they will continue in these efforts that have been neglected now for so long," said Rahall.

Operation Bootstrap is a new program offered by HUD that targets housing resources to support community-based, public-private partnerships which motivate low-income individuals to move from dependence to social and economic self-sufficiency. In order to qualify, communities must demonstrate the commitment in developing strategies that encourage low-income persons to find employment through programs such as job skills assessment, job training, job placement, child care, transportation, counseling, and education.

"I believe in programs like this because they work to solve problems instead of just putting them off for a while. Operation Bootstrap gives needy individuals more than just an immediate solution to their problems. It teaches them how to support themselves and become productive citizens," said Rahall. "Give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, you feed him for life."

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