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*For Immediate Release*

### **NHA Gets \$27.4 Million in Federal Stimulus Money**

**Newark NJ—Feb. 26, 2009**—The Newark Housing Authority will receive \$27.4 million in federal stimulus dollars to assist in rehabilitating and retrofitting NHA's public housing units.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on Feb. 25 allocated funds nationwide to state and local sectors for housing programs, as authorized by the economic stimulus bill signed into law by President Obama on Feb. 17.

The state of New Jersey received \$104 million in public housing capital funds and \$311.9 million for other types of housing programs.

"This is spectacular news for the Newark Housing Authority," said Executive Director Keith Kinard. "The money comes at the right time as we face development gaps and a backlog of over \$500 million of capital work."

Kinard said the NHA is prepared to spend the stimulus funds rapidly, pumping at least \$27.4 million into the local economy. NHA will also be addressing critical items like facades and roof replacements at our senior developments, ADA accessibility improvements, secure entryway enhancements and overall site improvements. Long-term vacant units will be rehabilitated and put back in service. The NHA also will apply for the competitive funds proposing energy efficient improvements and other items that we hope will win extra funding from HUD.

NHA must obligate 100 percent of the \$27.4 million in one year of the date received and must expend the funds within three years from the date received.

"The stimulus cash is a big help and the money will assist us in addressing some pressing issues, but with a \$500 million backlog, the funds are still not enough," Kinard said.

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