



HOPE VI Complete With RIP Study

At long last, HUD's HOPE VI Program strategy to replace concentrated public housing with mixed-income neighborhoods is complete, almost a quarter-century since it was first unveiled to the public.

Results are mixed, according to the study, *HOPE VI Data Compilation & Analysis*, assembled by HUD's Office of Policy Development & Research. The study shows that the effort to deconcentrate poverty and revitalize neighborhoods succeeded in some areas.

But the thrust to end residential segregation and concentrated poverty while at the same time increasing the availability of affordable housing units in socially and economically diverse neighborhoods failed in its mission.

The Obama administration dumped HOPE VI in 2011 and replaced it with HUD's Choice Neighborhoods Initiative. CNI was designed to help implement what would become HUD's signature initiative, the broadening of fair housing violation enforcement to include desegregation and low-income housing availability in mostly white suburban neighborhoods under a reinterpretation of the 1968 Fair Housing Act dubbed "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing."

HOPE VI ended with the completion of 260 revitalization grants issued between 1993 and 2011. The program demolished 98,592 of the country's 1.2 million public housing units and replaced them with 55,318 units. The remaining 43,274 units were built as low-income and market-rate housing.

HOPE VI grants also provided for supportive services for occupants of the new housing. A total of 73,065 residents received supportive services including job training, childcare, transportation assistance, employment preparation, placement and retention, and behavioral health counseling.

The employment preparation program failed miserably. While HUD had hopes more than 15,000 residents would last six or more months in a job, only 1,397 employments succeeded.

Info: See the study at www.cdpublications.com/docs/9122
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