

The BRAVO Newsletter

Happy
Fathers
Day



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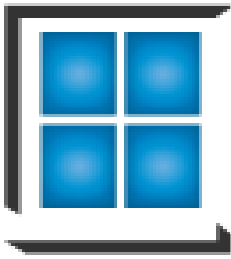
JUNE, 2011

PB Joins Effort to Revitalize Neighborhoods

Project BRAVO has joined the El Paso Collaborative and a consortium of groups including Project Vida, AYUDA, Inc. and Habitat for Humanity El Paso in a new program to rehabilitate and resell foreclosed and abandoned homes in El Paso County. Under the program, low-to-middle income families will qualify to purchase renovated homes in several targeted neighborhoods in El Paso, Horizon City, San Elizario, Clint and Tornillo. The program is funded through a \$10 million grant under a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The program is known as the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). El Paso Collaborative coordinator **Santiago Gonzalez** said the program will identify foreclosed and abandoned homes in established neighborhoods throughout the county that will be fixed up and sold at an affordable price



to qualified families. Under the program, homebuyers would qualify to receive as much as \$30,000 in assistance that can be used to pay for half the down payment and all closing costs. The selected homes will be made available to qualified buyers in move-in ready condition and feature all-new Energy Star appliances to help reduce energy costs. HUD officials point out that under the program, more families will be eligible to participate due to higher income guidelines. The Project BRAVO Housing Department will assist the El Paso Collaborative by generating qualified applicants from its large client base. Already, Project BRAVO is assisting the City of El Paso by qualifying larger numbers of applicants under its First Time Homebuyers Program. (FTHB).



El Paso Collaborative

Many in Washington D.C. Stand with Community Action

By David Bradley

We are now in the season of serious spending decisions for Congress. The exuberance over passing the Continuing Resolution is gone. The sense of gratification that Community Action held on has been celebrated. Our next series of uphill runs are coming up and I am worried that they are getting steeper and perhaps more slippery. We have a debt ceiling conversation ahead of us. I know part of that conversation will include serious budget cuts. I doubt if new revenue, meaning taxes, will be part of it. I expect domestic discretionary spending to face more cuts. White House and Congress will be negotiating a long term deficit fix in which domestic spending is going to be shaved. Negotiations will include talk about priorities and non-priorities. We need this White House Administration to have confidence in our program and I don't

think we have made progress with them yet. We have the appropriations season coming up. The next three or four months will be focused on spending. This all means that this is crunch time for us in a very significant way. As we face difficult hurdles, I am pleasantly encouraged to see many standing with us. I look at many on Capitol Hill who still believe that government partnerships with communities can overcome poverty. I am pleased to be reminded that everything was not washed away in the elections of 2010.



David Bradley is the Executive Director of the National Community Action Foundation based in Washington, D.C.



"A truly rich man is one whose children run into his arms when his hands are empty." - Author unknown



"Sometimes the poorest man leaves his children the richest inheritance." - Ruth E. Renkel



"My father taught me to work; He did not teach me to love it." -Abraham Lincoln

Project BRAVO



PAP Coordinator **Angie Villan** speaks with attendees at the annual Aging Expo on May 25.



ABE/Employment staffers **Angel Vargas, Felipe Huerta** and **Liliana Carrillo** appear on Noticias 26 to discuss Project BRAVO programs.



Staff Activities

Work-study intern **Gustavo Balderas**, left, is honored by staff during a going-away reception on May 26. Gustavo is leaving PB to return to the seminary. Good luck, Tavo!

New Employees, Welcome!

Glenn Longmire – WAP Tech

Marco Montoya- WAP Tech

Sylvia Arriaga- Temp Center Secretary, Ysleta Center

¿Que ondas?

Collective Wisdom

Who's really important in the organization?

Everyone!

A sea Captain and his chief engineer got into a argument about which one was more important to the ship. Finally they decided to trade places for a day.

The chief went up to the bridge and the Captain went down to the engine room. After a few hours, the Captain suddenly appeared on deck, covered with oil and soot.

"Chief!" he yelled, wildly waving aloft a monkey wrench. "You'll have to come down here! I can't make her go!"

"Of course not!" replied the chief. "We're aground!"

