

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the War on Poverty, as introduced by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964. Major initiatives immediately followed this declaration including the Social Security Act of 1965 and the Food Stamp Act of 1964 as well as the creation of Head Start, Job Corps, and the Community Action Program. During that time, great progress was made to help our country's most impoverished households.

Over the last few years, however, there has become more and more rhetoric on the national level arguing the value of these programs (housing being one of them). Programs have been cut. Impoverished households have been left with no safety net. And a most recent study shows that income inequality is at an all time high, surpassing even that experienced during the Great Depression. Simply stated, the voice of those in greatest need is simply not being heard. Instead, they are being vilified as a population of lazy non-contributors.

There are two campaigns that are vigilantly working to change the

national rhetoric and have those voices be heard!

The first is ReThink. This campaign can be found at [rethinkhousing.org](http://rethinkhousing.org). The face of the campaign is Jewel, who was once homeless, herself. ReThink tells the stories of public housing.



The second is Housing America. This initiative can be found at [housingamericacampaign.org](http://housingamericacampaign.org). Housing America is a campaign created by NAHRO (National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials), of which HACP is a member. It focuses on education, advocacy, and empowerment.



Both campaigns understand that while statistics of success may not change national opinion, the stories just might. I would invite you to look at both. Even more than that though, I would encourage you to use your voice to tell of housing successes as we strive to shrink income inequality and continue the War on Poverty.

-Sunny

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Contracting Opportunities for the City of Pocatello

As part of its RENEWAL Program, the City of Pocatello's Neighborhood & Community Services Division offers bidding opportunities to area contractors. Rehab projects include plumbing, electrical, and HVAC work, as well as roof replacement or repair and sidewalk installation. Interested contractors can request to be placed on bid mailing lists by calling 234-6255, or can view current bids at the Housing Authority office, at City Hall or on the City's website at [www.pocatello.us](http://www.pocatello.us). Preference is given to Section 3 residents and business concerns. For more information, please call 234-6185

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**Remember! Maintenance can always be reached at 220-9621!!**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**\*\*The office will be closed June 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> for software training (this date could be subject to change)**

**\*Tenant BBQ at McKinley Manor will be on Wednesday, June 18 @5:30pm**

**\*\*Tenant BBQ at Maple West will be on Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm**



Speaking of Housing America!! It is time for the annual What Home Means to Me Poster contest. More information can be found at the Housing America website for the national contest. Locally we will be collecting art from children in our properties or on the voucher program that follows this theme. Each entry will receive an ice cream cone gift certificate from McDonalds. The winner from each property/program will receive a \$10 gift card to McDonalds. Entries must be received by June 20<sup>th</sup>.