

July 10, 2009

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) announced today that the City of Utica would be receiving three grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development including \$2,911,687 through the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) program, \$127,832 through the Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG) program and \$937,973 through the HOME program.

"Funding these critical community initiatives represents a great opportunity for the City of Utica to continue developing good, safe housing for all residents and economic programs to help those in need," **Arcuri said**, "I want to offer my full support for these initiatives and look forward to working with the residents of Utica on these important projects."

Since 1974, HUD's *CDBG* Program has awarded approximately \$120 billion to state and local governments to target their own community development priorities. The rehabilitation of affordable housing and construction of public facilities and improvements have traditionally been the largest uses of the grants, although CDBG is also an important catalyst for job growth and business opportunities.

CDBG funds are distributed by formula around the country based on a community's population, poverty, the age of its housing stock, and extent of overcrowded housing. Many of Upstate New York's localities fit the qualifications for CDBG funding and have utilized the program with great success.

The ESG program provides homeless persons with basic shelter and essential supportive services. It can assist with the operational costs of the shelter facility, and can also provide short-term homeless prevention assistance to persons at imminent risk of losing their own housing due to eviction, foreclosure, or utility shutoffs.

HOME is the largest Federal block grant to State and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. Each year it allocates approximately

\$2 billion among the States and hundreds of localities nationwide.

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