Commonwealth of Massachusetts
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Mitt Romney, Governor ◆ Kerry Healey, Lt. Governor ◆ Jane Wallis Gumble, Director

Public Housing Notice 2004-09

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Local Housing Authorities

FROM: Carole E. Collins, Director, Bureau of Housing Management

RE: Workshop – Building Healthy Affordable Housing

DATE: September 16, 2004

DHCD, along with the Asthma Regional Council of New England, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Boston Public Health Commission and the Boston Urban Asthma Coalition are co-sponsoring a training workshop on the principles of building and maintaining healthy homes. The training, ***Healthy and Affordable Housing; Practical Recommendations for Building, Renovating, and Maintaining Housing***, will be held at the **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Tip O'Neill Building, 10 Causeway Street, Boston, MA on Wednesday, October 13th, 2004 from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.** The attached brochure provides detailed information including how to register and how to obtain directions to the training site.

Every day we are all becoming more and more aware of the rise of asthma cases and the effects on residents. Asthma and respiratory problems are increasing at a rapid rate. Excess moisture, poor air quality, mold/fungus, dust mites, insect allergens, pet dander, combustion gases, and pest infestation in housing have been linked to asthma and other respiratory conditions. Indoor environmental problems that affect human health can also impact the integrity of the building leading to costly repairs and lost rent.

This training is offered free of charge and targets architects, contractors, developers, the maintenance and construction staff of public housing authorities, and others interested in building and maintaining safe and healthy homes.

I urge you and your staff to attend this training and learn more about how housing and health professionals can work together to combat this growing health issue.