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## News Release

For Immediate Release: June 16, 2017

**Share!** #Durham 1 of only 14 to win national @NCDAonline award for community development week activities

### **Durham Wins National Community Development Award**

*In Recognition of the City's Community Development Week Activities*

DURHAM, NC. – The City of Durham is one of only 14 communities nationwide to receive this year's John A. Sasso National Community Development Week Award from the [National Community Development Association](#).

The award recognizes a community's effort to promote and celebrate the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program during National Community Development Week, which took place from April 17–22.

The City's [Community Development Department](#) won this year's award by conducting a week-long series of events with community partners showcasing the positive impact of CDBG and HOME funds. Activities included a mayoral proclamation, members of the [Citizen Advisory Committee](#) and Community Development Department serving breakfast at Urban Ministries of Durham, conducting a tour for U.S. Congressman David Price of the Whitted School and Phase II of The Lofts at Southside, and volunteering with Habitat for Humanity of Durham.

According to Community Development Director Reginald J. Johnson, this award exemplifies the way Durham leverages public-private partnerships to help improve the quality-of-life for residents. "This is another example of the City being recognized for the hard work, creativity and dedication of our staff, non-profit partners, and our residents," Johnson said. "We appreciate the involvement of many of our partners in our Community Development Week planning to showcase how the City uses CDBG and HOME funds to make positive impacts in our community."

The award is named after John A. Sasso, who in 1970 became the first president of the Model Cities Community Development Directors Association. This association eventually became the National Community Development Association after passage of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, which created the CDBG program.

For more information about this year's award, contact Federal Programs Coordinator Wilmur Conyers at (919) 560-4570, ext. 22277 or by [email](#).

### **About the City of Durham Community Development Department**

The [Community Development Department](#) is responsible for coordinating the City's housing resources and various housing assistance programs as well as promoting affordable housing by working with investors and community housing development organizations. The department also administers the City's entitlement programs from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. Guided by the City's [Strategic Plan](#), the department helps to ensure that the City has thriving, livable neighborhoods by enhancing housing quality and affordability for Durham residents.

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