SUMMARY: This notice provides an update of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHHS) poverty guidelines to account for last calendar year’s increase in prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

DATES: Effective Date: Date of publication, unless an office administering a program using the guidelines specifies a different effective date for that particular program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information about how the guidelines are used or how income is defined in a particular program, contact the Federal, State, or local office that is responsible for that program. For information about poverty figures for immigration forms, the Hill-Burton Uncompensated Services Program, and the number of people in poverty, use the specific telephone numbers and addresses given below.

As required by law, this update is accomplished by increasing the latest published Census Bureau poverty thresholds by the relevant percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). The poverty guidelines are used as an eligibility criterion by the Community Services Block Grant program and a number of other Federal programs. The poverty guidelines issued here are a simplified version of the poverty thresholds that the Census Bureau uses to prepare its estimates of the number of individuals and families in poverty.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Office of the Secretary
Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services.

ACTION: Notice.
2011 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE
48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Persons in family | Poverty guideline
1 ................................. | $10,890
2 ................................. | 14,710
3 ................................. | 18,530
4 ................................. | 22,350
5 ................................. | 26,170
6 ................................. | 29,990
7 ................................. | 33,810
8 ................................. | 37,630

For families with more than 8 persons, add $3,820 for each additional person.

2011 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR
ALASKA

Persons in family | Poverty guideline
1 ................................. | $13,600
2 ................................. | 18,380
3 ................................. | 23,160
4 ................................. | 27,940
5 ................................. | 32,720
6 ................................. | 37,500
7 ................................. | 42,280
8 ................................. | 47,060

For families with more than 8 persons, add $4,780 for each additional person.

2011 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR
HAWAII

Persons in family | Poverty guideline
1 ................................. | $12,540
2 ................................. | 16,930
3 ................................. | 21,320
4 ................................. | 25,710
5 ................................. | 30,100
6 ................................. | 34,490
7 ................................. | 38,880
8 ................................. | 43,270

For families with more than 8 persons, add $4,390 for each additional person.

Separate poverty guideline figures for Alaska and Hawaii reflect Office of Economic Opportunity administrative practice beginning in the 1966–1970 period. (Note that the Census Bureau poverty thresholds—the version of the poverty measure used for statistical purposes—have never had separate figures for Alaska and Hawaii.) The poverty guidelines are not defined for Puerto Rico or other outlying jurisdictions. In cases in which a Federal program using the poverty guidelines serves any of those jurisdictions, the Federal office that administers the program is generally responsible for deciding whether to use the contiguous-States-and-DC guidelines for those jurisdictions or to follow some other procedure.

Due to confusing legislative language dating back to 1972, the poverty guidelines sometimes have been mistakenly referred to as the “OMB” (Office of Management and Budget) poverty guidelines or poverty line. In fact, OMB has never issued the guidelines; the guidelines are issued each year by the Department of Health and Human Services. The poverty guidelines may be formally referenced as “the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2).”

Some Federal programs use a percentage multiple of the guidelines (for example, 125 percent or 185 percent of the guidelines), as noted in relevant authorizing legislation or program regulations. Non-Federal organizations that use the poverty guidelines under their own authority in non-Federally-funded activities may also choose to use a percentage multiple of the guidelines.

The poverty guidelines do not make a distinction between farm and non-farm families, or between aged and non-aged units. (Only the Census Bureau poverty thresholds have separate figures for aged and non-aged one-person and two-person units.)

Note that this notice does not provide definitions of such terms as “income” or “family,” because there is considerable variation in defining these terms among the different programs that use the guidelines. These variations are traceable to the different laws and regulations that govern the various programs. Therefore, questions about how a particular program applies the poverty guidelines (for example, is income counted before or after taxes? Should a particular type of income be counted? Should a particular person be counted in the family or household unit?) should be directed to the entity that administers or funds the program; that entity has the responsibility for defining such terms as “income” or “family,” to the extent that these terms are not already defined for the program in legislation or regulations.

Dated: January 14, 2011.

Kathleen Sebelius,
Secretary of Health and Human Services.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

Nominations Requested for the 2011
Healthy Living Innovation Awards

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) seeks nominations of public and private sector organizations to receive the 2011 Healthy Living Innovation Awards. The Awards are a part of Secretary Sebelius’ Healthy Weight Initiative and HHS’ continuing focus on highlighting preventive health and recognizing organizations that implement innovative approaches to address chronic diseases and promote healthier lifestyles. The statutory authority for this health promotion activity is Section 1703[42 U.S.C. 300u-2] from Title XVII of the Public Health Service Act. The Healthy Living Innovation Awards will identify and acknowledge innovative health promotion projects that demonstrated a significant impact on the health status of a community. Eligible organizations must have an innovative project in at least one of three health promotion areas:

(1) Healthy weight;
(2) Physical activity; and
(3) Nutrition

The Department intends that these awards will provide an opportunity to increase public awareness of creative approaches to develop and expand innovative health programs and encourage duplication of successful strategies. Awards will be given in the following categories:

• Faith-Based and/or Community Initiatives
• Health Care Delivery
• Healthy Workplace
  ○ Large Employer> 500 employees
  ○ Small Employer< 500 employees
• Non-Profit
• Public Sector
• Schools (K–12)
• Let’s Move! Cities and Towns

The following criteria will be taken into consideration upon review:

• Creativity and Innovation
• Leadership
• Sustainability
• Replicability
• Results/Outcomes

DATES: Nominations must be received by 11:59 p.m. EDT on March 1, 2011.

Nominations: NORC at the University of Chicago, a 501(c) (3) organization focused on health research, is coordinating the nomination process for