



NHC's Policy Agenda

March 30, 2016

The National Housing Conference aims to ensure safe, decent and affordable housing for all in America by pursuing these policy priorities through administrative, budgetary, regulatory and legislative processes:

I. Advance Federal Housing Policies to Assist Low- and Moderate-Income Families

1. Support and strengthen federal low-income housing programs and funding to assist renters and homeowners, with a particular focus on the needs of vulnerable and underserved populations, including veterans, people experiencing homelessness and seniors
2. Improve life outcomes for families and individuals by linking housing to health, education, workforce programs and other services for those in need
3. Advance innovative housing strategies, such as preservation of affordable rental housing, shared equity homeownership and efficient financing for small rental properties

II. Strengthen the Nation's Housing Finance System

1. Reform America's mortgage finance system to use a limited and explicit government role to ensure reliable access to long-term fixed-rate mortgages, financing for multifamily housing nationwide and support for affordable housing
2. Ensure affordable and sustainable mortgage credit to broadly serve homeownership-ready borrowers through government programs, the GSEs or their successors under housing reform and through regulatory efforts, such as modernization of the AHP program of the Federal Home Loan Banks
3. Sustain and strengthen FHA's capacity and flexibility to meet the nation's housing financing needs
4. Ensure well-functioning markets for Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, mortgage revenue bonds and multifamily housing bonds

III. Connect People to Opportunity through Housing

1. Help states and localities create more inclusive communities that improve economic, educational and health outcomes for community members while addressing long-standing patterns of residential segregation
2. Expand and sustain proven programs to prevent foreclosures, minimize household disruption, create pathways back to homeownership, avoid blight and reduce mortgage default risk
3. Assist communities working to restore neighborhoods by attracting new investment and repairing the damage from the foreclosure crisis

IV. Advocate for Federal Resources for Housing during Tax and Budgetary Reforms

1. Ensure that decisions about broad federal tax policy take into account the full impact on housing and community development, including the people and communities it serves
2. Protect and expand the essential role of the federal government in affordable housing and community development

V. Build Stronger Communities that Coordinate Housing, Transportation, Health, Education, Energy and Technology Policy

1. Create incentives for states and localities and strengthen their capacity to preserve and expand the availability of affordable owned and rental housing near public transit and job and retail centers
2. Create incentives for individuals and multifamily property owners to make new and existing buildings healthier and more energy-efficient
3. Expand broadband connectivity to all residents in affordable housing