



Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding

Working to ensure maximum federal resources for housing and community development.

November 5, 2018

The Honorable Benjamin Carson
Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th St SW
Washington, D.C. 20410

Dear Secretary Carson,

[The Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding](#) (CHCDF) writes to encourage you to request robust funding levels for housing and community development programs in your fiscal year (FY) 2020 HUD budget. CHCDF is an education, strategy, and action hub for national organizations dedicated to preserving and expanding federal housing and community development funding for lower income families and communities. [CHCDF's members](#) include a full continuum of national housing and community development organizations, including faith-based, nonprofit, private sector, financial/intermediary, public sector and advocacy groups.

As HUD's new [Humans of HUD](#) initiative showcases, housing assistance has tremendous positive impacts on people with low incomes, including families with children, seniors, people with disabilities, veterans and other vulnerable populations. However, even under current funding levels, only a quarter of people eligible for housing assistance actually receives it. The rest either live on the cusp of homelessness—most (71%) paying more than half of their limited incomes on rent—or they are among the half a million people who live on the street, in shelters, or in their cars on any given night. Cuts to the HUD budget would be devastating to local communities and low income households.

As you work with the Office of Management and Budget on HUD's FY 2020 budget, we urge you to propose funding levels, which are at least sufficient to renew all existing housing assistance contracts under current policy. In the final FY 2018 budget, Congress provided significant—and much needed—funding increases to HUD's affordable housing and community development programs, including homelessness assistance, the voucher program, public housing, project-based rental assistance, and block grant programs.

The Administration has proposed significant funding cuts and policy changes in previous HUD budgets that, if enacted, would exacerbate our nation's affordable housing crisis. We therefore strongly encourage you to request increased resources for FY 2020 so that HUD can help more people find an affordable and accessible place to call home—where their families can grow and thrive, where children can play and do their homework, and where seniors can age in place and live with dignity.

CHCDF looks forward to working with you throughout the FY 2020 appropriations process.

Sincerely,

B'nai B'rith International
Collaborative Solutions, Inc.

Corporation for Supportive Housing
Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
Council of State Community Development Agencies
Enterprise Community Partners
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Advocacy Office
Fundors Together to End Homelessness
Grounded Solutions Network
Habitat for Humanity International
Housing Assistance Council
LeadingAge
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Low Income Investment Fund
National Affordable Housing Management Association (NAHMA)
National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations
National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Association for County Community and Economic Development
National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies
National Association of Regional Councils
National Center for Housing & Child Welfare
National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
National Coalition for the Homeless
National Community Development Association
National Council of State Housing Agencies
National Fair Housing Alliance
National Housing Conference
National Housing Law Project
National Housing Resource Center
National Housing Trust
National Leased Housing Association
National Low Income Housing Coalition
National NeighborWorks Association
National Network to End Domestic Violence
NETWORK Lobby Catholic Social Justice
Public Housing Authorities Directors Association
PolicyLink
Poverty & Race Research Action Council
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future
The Arc of the United States
The National AIDS Housing Coalition
Union for Reform Judaism