



## Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding

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

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November 5, 2018

The Honorable Benjamin Carson  
Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> 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