



Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding
Working to ensure maximum federal resources for housing and community development

February 10, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President
Washington, D.C.

The Honorable Marcia Fudge
Secretary
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development
Washington, D.C.

To President Biden and Secretary Fudge:

We, the undersigned members of the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF), write to urge the Biden administration to use the FY23 budget request to call for robust funding for housing and community development programs that help low-income households and communities thrive and to outline your vision for ensuring stable, fair, accessible, and affordable housing for all those in need. Even before the pandemic, the United States was in the grip of an affordable housing crisis. Today, after two years of surviving this pandemic, low-income households are even more precariously housed and in need of bold housing investments.

CHCDF is an education, strategy and action hub. The coalition of more than 70 national organizations works to ensure the highest allocation of resources possible to support affordable housing and community development. CHCDF's members represent a full continuum of national housing and community development organizations, including faith-based, private sector, financial/intermediary, public sector and advocacy groups.

We believe, as does the Biden-Harris Administration, that housing is a basic human right that everyone should be able to enjoy as part of a dignified standard of living. Even before the pandemic, however, the country was in the midst of a pervasive affordable housing crisis. One in four renters spent more than half of their income on rent, and homelessness rates were rising in communities across the country. A growing number of people have been unable to afford a place to call home, and the number of accessible homes for people with disabilities remains at low levels despite increasing need. Our nation's housing crisis disproportionately impacts people with disabilities, people of color, and women – and particularly people at the intersections of these identities – because of generations of discrimination and disinvestment. Housing costs are rising faster than wages, the Black homeownership rate is lower than before the Fair Housing Act was passed, our nation's affordable housing crisis worsening, and the supply of affordable and accessible housing and rental assistance has not kept pace. Rising housing costs, especially in rental housing, are contributing significantly to inflation.

We appreciate the administration's leadership, and respectfully urge the administration to formulate a strong FY23 budget request for affordable housing programs. Investing in housing and community development programs would be a step towards the

administration's commitment to racial equity by addressing the root causes of housing instability and homelessness. For these reasons, we are calling on the administration to propose the highest level of funding possible for affordable housing and community development resources in FY23.

Sincerely,

American Association of Service Coordinators (AASC)
B'nai B'rith International
Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
Council of State Community Development Agencies
Enterprise Community Partners
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Fahe
Fundors Together to End Homelessness
Habitat for Humanity International
Housing Assistance Council
LeadingAge
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Low Income Investment Fund (LIIF)
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations (NACEDA)
National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Association for County Community and Economic Development
National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
National Association of Affordable Housing Lenders
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies
National Center for Housing and Child Welfare
National CAPACD- National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development
National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
National Community Development Association
National Council of State Housing Agencies
National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)
National Fair Housing Alliance
National Homelessness Law Center
National Housing Law Project
National Housing & Rehabilitation Association
National Housing Trust
National Leased Housing Association
National Low Income Housing Coalition
National NeighborWorks Association
National Women's Law Center
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
Poverty, Race, & Research Action Council

Public Housing Authorities Directors Association
RESULTS Educational Fund
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future
The Arc of the U.S.