



# MEMO OF MEMBERS

*The Weekly Newsletter of the National Low Income Housing Coalition*

## Support NLIHC with a Year-End Gift!

Readers of Memo to Members know the value of the information this publication provides on Capitol Hill, HUD and the Administration; the latest research on housing and related issues; and major activities of state housing coalitions around the country. Memo is just one NLIHC project that advances our mission to achieve socially just housing policy that assures people with the lowest incomes in the United States have affordable and decent homes.

As a recipient of Memo and a supporter of our work, we hope you will make a donation to the National Low Income Housing Coalition this holiday season. NLIHC is funded entirely by dues and donations from private individuals, organizations, companies and foundations. Your gift of any size makes a difference in our ability to advance our goals.

Please give now at <http://nlihc.org/donate>. We wish you a joyful holiday season and, as always, we thank you for your continued support.

## NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND

### NLIHC to Hold December 3 Congressional Briefing on MID Poll

On Monday, December 3 at 10 am, the National Low Income Housing Coalition will host a briefing for congressional staff at which John Russonello of Belden Russonello Strategists, LLC will present the findings a national poll on public opinion on affordable housing for low income people and mortgage interest deduction reform. NLIHC commissioned the poll.

The briefing will be held in Room 11, Ground Floor, Dirksen Senate office building (SDG-11). Coffee will be served.

RSVP to Christina Sin at [christina@nlihc.org](mailto:christina@nlihc.org).

View the poll results at <http://bit.ly/VcY3uu> (PDF).

### National Housing Groups Call on Congress, Administration to Use MID Reform to Fund Low Income Housing

As the debate heats up on how to solve the nation's fiscal problems, the mortgage interest deduction is under scrutiny. A front page article in *The Washington Post* on November 28 said the "mortgage interest deduction could be on the table in 'fiscal cliff' debate."

In response, over 20 national organizations that work to preserve and expand the supply of housing affordable to low income people wrote to Administration and Congressional leadership urging that savings gained from changes to mortgage interest deduction be used to address the longstanding unmet housing needs of low income Americans.

In the December 3 letter, the organizations assert that "[h]ousing that is affordable for low income and vulnerable people has been neglected by the federal government for decades," and that recent polling shows the public supports modifications to the mortgage interest deduction that can help create jobs and end homelessness.

The signatories agree that the fiscal cliff negotiations present a unique window in which to finally address housing needs that have gone unmet for decades. "This moment in time offers the opportunity to achieve a greater measure of fairness in federal housing policy, without adding to the deficit."

To read the *Washington Post* article, go to <http://wapo.st/SrHV6>.

View the letter to the Administration at <http://bit.ly/SGvVRS>, the letter to Senate leadership at <http://bit.ly/SGvUxg> and the letter to House leadership at <http://bit.ly/SGvVko>.

## FEDERAL BUDGET

### President Obama Proposes Fiscal Cliff Plan

Negotiations on measures to avoid the fiscal cliff proceeded during the week of November 26, with President Barack Obama releasing the first proposal of the Congressional lame duck session. The President proposes to reach \$4 trillion in deficit reduction through a two-stage approach. Stage one would reduce the deficit by nearly \$1 trillion through changes to marginal tax rates and capital gains and dividends. This phase also includes a one year postponement of the sequester, and a multi-year \$50 billion stimulus package. The second stage would achieve over \$1.5 trillion in tax increases through tax reform and \$400 billion in Medicare and other entitlement reforms. The threat of sequestration at the end of 2014 would serve as impetus to pass comprehensive tax reform. The President's plan takes into account \$1 trillion in the discretionary spending reductions already enacted through the BCA.

The term fiscal cliff encapsulates the potential economic decline the nation could face if a solution is not found to the end-of-year expiration of the Bush-era tax cuts, the start of sequestration in 2013 and the simultaneous expiration of other tax provisions and benefits at the end of 2012. The Center on Budget and Policy

Priorities (CBPP) argues that the nation actually faces a fiscal slope, not a cliff, and that lawmakers should not make hasty decisions to solve a problem that could be avoided with gradual efforts (see *Memo*, 10/26). The Budget Control Act of 2011 (BCA) requires the sequestration of discretionary funds in FY13, which means making across-the-board cuts, to achieve a \$1.2 trillion reduction in the deficit over a 10-year period (see *Memo*, 11/16). The BCA caps discretionary spending for 10 years.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) have backed the President's plan; it was met with immediate objection from House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY). Republican leaders do not agree with the ratio of revenue to spending cuts, or sources of revenue, included in the President's plan.

This immediate rejection of the Administration's plan comes just two weeks after the President initiated negotiations with these House and Senate leaders, and all parties spoke optimistically about agreeing to a resolution to the fiscal challenges facing the nation at the end of the year.

The President's plan offers a framework that Congress can now debate, but to reach agreement and avert sequestration, compromise on how to raise revenue must be reached. Pessimism about the potential for compromise mounted as the week wore on.

If sequestration is allowed to take effect on January 2, 2013, affordable housing programs in HUD and the USDA Rural Housing Service would be cut by 8.2%. In a November 26 report, CBPP says that without new revenues, housing and community development programs could still be cut significantly under a replacement sequestration plan. The report includes state-by-state cuts to select HUD rental assistance and block grant programs, and includes tables comparing the impact of various budget proposals on the Housing Choice Voucher program.

View the President's plan at [to be posted].

View the CBPP report at <http://bit.ly/U8bpHt> (PDF).

## HUD

### Several Public Housing Agencies Selected for HUD's Small Area Fair Market Rent Demonstration Program

Five public housing agencies (PHAs) are confirmed as FY13 participants in HUD's Small Area Fair Market Rent (SAFMR) demonstration program. According to an announcement from the HUD Office of Policy Development and Research, the following PHAs have agreed to participate: Chattanooga (TN) Housing Authority, the Housing Authority of the City of Laredo (TX), the Housing Authority of the City of Long Beach (CA), the Housing

Authority of the County of Cook (IL) and the Town of Mamaroneck (NY) Public Housing Agency.

The Housing Choice Voucher program uses HUD-determined fair market rents (FMRs) to establish maximum allowable rents. Because FMRs are currently calculated for entire metropolitan areas, few units are available to voucher holders in high-cost areas. As a result, many of the units available to voucher holders end up clustered in higher-poverty areas.

The SAFMR demonstration project determines FMRs at the ZIP code level, so payment standards can more closely reflect neighborhood market conditions. For FY13, the SAFMRs are calculated using a rent ratio by dividing the median gross rent across a ZIP code by the median gross rent for the broader metropolitan area. In addition, for FY13, HUD is using new 2006-2010 ZIP Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA) median gross rent data.

The goal of establishing SAFMRs is to improve the choice of units available to voucher program participants in areas of opportunity. PHAs were selected at random from a set of eligible PHAs. Selected PHAs receive supplemental funds to cover necessary expenses tied to participation, and can decline to participate.

NLIHC supports the development of the SAFMR, and commented in support of the project in July 2010 (see *Memo*, 7/16/10).

The SAFMRs are listed in the Federal Register, and the announcement can be accessed on HUD website at <http://bit.ly/Tyyvf3> (PDF).

### Court Approves Settlement in Baltimore Fair Housing Case

The U.S. District Court of Maryland granted final approval of a settlement of the 17-year-old civil rights case known as *Thompson v. HUD* on November 20. The case was filed by African-American public housing residents against HUD, the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (HABC) and the City of Baltimore. The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDF) announced the filing of a proposed settlement in August (see *Memo*, 8/31).

The ACLU of Maryland originally sued in 1995. A 1996 partial settlement included a pilot project that eventually became the Baltimore Housing Mobility Program, a voluntary program that enables Baltimore public housing residents to choose to move to mixed-income neighborhoods throughout the Baltimore region.

The case was brought to trial in 2003, and in early 2005, a federal district court judge held that HUD violated the Fair Housing Act of 1968 by unfairly concentrating African-American public housing residents in the most impoverished, segregated areas of Baltimore City. The judge ruled that HUD must take a regional approach to promoting fair housing opportunities for African-American public housing residents.

The key feature of the approved settlement is HUD's agreement

to continue the Baltimore Housing Mobility Program. Over the last decade, this program has offered more than 1,800 public housing families the option of moving from high-poverty areas to neighborhoods throughout the Baltimore region with low poverty rates and better educational and economic opportunities. Each family that chooses to move receives a Housing Choice Voucher, housing and credit counseling, and other supports to smooth the transition. Under the settlement, similar opportunities will be provided to 400 additional families each year through 2018.

“HUD is pleased that the parties have resolved this longstanding civil rights case in such a positive and productive manner,” said HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan. “We know that when a family chooses a place to live, they are not just choosing a home, but also a school for their children, quality public services, and a foundation on which to build their lives. Today’s settlement goes a long way toward furthering HUD’s mission of creating more inclusive and sustainable communities that provide affordable housing opportunities for those who need them.”

“Safe communities with good schools should be available to every American family, regardless of their race,” said Joshua Civin, an attorney at LDF, which represents the plaintiff families.

The Settlement Agreement and background information is available from LDF at <http://bit.ly/Q0JmO8>. An LDF media release is available at <http://bit.ly/U86czo>. A HUD media release is available at <http://1.usa.gov/U86dDn>.

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## DISASTER HOUSING

### Super Storm Sandy Hearings Scheduled; HUD Issues Waiver Notices

Conversations continue in Congress about the level of supplemental appropriations needed for the Super Storm Sandy recovery. Appropriators indicate they are waiting for an official cost estimate from the Administration before moving forward on a supplemental measure, which could move independently or as a part of a broader package, such as a final FY13 appropriations measure.

Several hearings are scheduled on the response to Super Storm Sandy.

The Housing Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure scheduled a hearing, “Response to Hurricane Sandy,” for December 4. The hearing will be held at 10 am in room 2167 of the Rayburn House office building. Witnesses will be Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Craig Fugate; Robert Latham, Jr. of the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency; Kevin Davis of the State of Louisiana Governor’s Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness; David Popoff, Emergency Management Coordinator for Galveston Country, TX; Fred Tombar, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Disaster Recovery, HUD and

Major General Michael Walsh of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Senate Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee scheduled a hearing, “Superstorm Sandy and Recovery Efforts,” for December 5. The hearing will be held at 10 am in room 192 of the Senate Dirksen office building. Witness will be Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator Craig Fugate and HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan.

HUD issued two notices on November 30 providing regulatory and administrative waivers to assist with recovery and relief in Super Storm Sandy Disaster areas. The two notices, “Regulatory and Administrative Waivers Granted for Public and Indian Housing (PIH) Programs To Assist with Recovery and Relief in Superstorm Sandy Disaster Areas,” and “Regulatory and Administrative Waivers Granted for Multifamily Housing Programs To Assist with Recovery and Relief Disaster Areas,” describe HUD requirements that have been waived for a set period of time in Super Storm Sandy federal disaster areas. According to the PIH notice, program administrations “not located within a federal disaster area but assisting with Super Storm Sandy recovery and relief may request to defer compliance.” The Multifamily notice specifically relates waivers of requirements related to the project-based Section 8 in Super Storm Sandy disaster areas.

The Multifamily notice is available at <http://1.usa.gov/U88XR2> (PDF).

The Public and Indian Housing notice is available at <http://1.usa.gov/U890wf> (PDF).

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## FROM THE FIELD

### North Carolina Advocates Use Stories of Success to Influence Policymakers

The North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness (NCCEH), an NLIHC state coalition partner, launched a story-gathering project to show how rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing programs help people who are homeless and the communities in which they live. NCCEH hopes this new project will help advance its advocacy efforts to secure increased state investment in programs proven to effectively help individuals and families move from homelessness to stable, permanent housing.

“Our organization operates at the connection of policy creation and implementation, so we want to make sure that we use real stories of how things are working on the ground when communicating with policy makers,” said Denise Neunaber, NCCEH executive director. “We have always included people who have experienced homelessness and local providers in our advocacy work. We wanted to find a way to get more of their stories heard and perspectives from across North Carolina included.”

Three North Carolina communities—Ashville, Guilford and Wilmington—have reported drastic reductions in chronic homelessness since they began implementing their 10-year plans to end homelessness. These reductions, 75%, 60% and 80%, respectively, resulted from a strategic use of resources to provide permanent supportive housing. NCCEH is working with leaders at the local and state levels to apply lessons from these successful communities statewide.

Communities also have kept the numbers of new homeless individuals relatively stable, thanks to the use of Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funds. Advocates report that rapid re-housing programs have proven to be a cost-effective tool for getting North Carolina families back into housing quickly. NCCEH and its partners hope to continue these programs through repurposing existing funds and a new state investment.

NCCEH anticipates that it will collect stories on a rolling basis and integrate them into its ongoing advocacy work. It will feature them in meetings and as part of an email campaign and targeted advocacy communications.

In addition, NCCEH is collecting information on how structural changes in organizational or community strategy have led to success in ending homelessness. The coalition is interested in learning about partnerships that have been instrumental in advancing a strategy, the funding needed to implement it, the populations affected and level of impact as well as challenges encountered. This information will be used to educate lawmakers and other decision makers about collaborations and policies that are effective in removing barriers and creating systems change to end homelessness.

“One of the best parts of working with NCCEH is hearing the wonderful stories of success from individuals, families, programs and communities,” Ms. Neunaber said. “We want to send a positive message that includes what might be unexpected success stories during particularly tough times. We know we can end homelessness because, as these stories show, we are.”

For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/U8c7o7> or contact Denise Neunaber at [denise@ncceh.org](mailto:denise@ncceh.org).

## EVENTS

### Working Group to Hold Briefing on Impact of Sequestration on Veterans

The Homeless Veteran National Advocacy Working Group, of which NLIHC is a member, scheduled a briefing, “Discretionary Budget Cuts’ Impact on Veterans,” for December 6.

The briefing is sponsored by Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) and will feature the following speakers:

- Shauna Curley, formerly homeless veteran in a HUD-funded program at Community Connections.
- Michael DeHart of Community Connections.
- Antonia Fasanelli of the American Bar Association Commission on Homelessness and Poverty.
- Jonathan Harwitz, Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Programs, HUD.
- Ian Lisman of the National Alliance to End Homelessness.
- Doug Rice of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Speakers will discuss the unintended consequences of sequestration as related to programs that serve veterans experiencing homelessness, and will advocate for a balanced approach to deficit reduction that will not undermine progress made towards the Obama administration’s goal of ending homelessness among veterans by 2015.

The briefing will be held at 2 pm in room 418 of the Russell Senate office building.

Readers can RSVP to Ian Lisman at [ilisman@naeh.org](mailto:ilisman@naeh.org).

### NHLP to Repeat Webinar on Subsidized Housing Basics

The National Housing Law Project (NHLP) will repeat its webinar, “Subsidized Housing Basics for Advocates, Part I,” on December 6.

NHLP will discuss the major features of public housing, Section 8 vouchers and Project-Based Section 8. The basics of each program will be explained, including program eligibility, the admissions process, rents and rules regarding evictions. There will be opportunities to ask questions.

The webinar is designed for attorneys, advocates, housing providers and caseworkers who are new to public housing and Section 8, and who seek a basic understanding of these programs.

The webinar will take place at 2 pm ET. Register at <http://bit.ly/Tyzo7a>.

### NLCHP to Hold Webinar on Human Right to Housing

The National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty (NLCHP) scheduled a webinar, “The Human Right to Housing: A Report Card on U.S. Policy,” for December 10. The webinar will be held at 2 pm ET.

The webinar will cover the findings of a forthcoming update to the report card in NLCHP’s report, *Simply Unacceptable: Homelessness and the Human Right to Housing in the U.S.* (see *Memo*, 6/17/11).



The report card scores the United States on its response to homelessness and its compliance with the human right to housing, which consists of seven elements: security of tenure; availability of services, materials, and infrastructure; affordability; accessibility; habitability; and location and cultural adequacy.

The webinar will feature the report card's primary author, Eric Tars of NLCHP, as well as other NLCHP attorneys.

Readers can register for the webinar at <http://bit.ly/U8911T>.

## RESOURCES

### NLIHC Launches National Database of Federally Assisted Rental Properties

The National Housing Preservation Database (NHPD) was released on November 29 with the launch of a new website from NLIHC and the Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation (PAHRC). The NHPD is an address-level inventory of all federally assisted rental properties in the United States, covering more than 70,000 properties and 3.5 million units.

This is the first database to integrate data from all of HUD's major rental housing programs with information on rental properties funded with Low Income Housing Tax Credits and through USDA Rural Development. The database contains information on property location, contract expiration or mortgage maturity date, property ownership and management, total units, physical inspection scores and other property and subsidy characteristics.

There are 3 main tools on the new website, each allowing users to interact with the data in a different way. The Preservation Tool allows users to filter either by property name or by subsidy type and location. The data can then be filtered further, allowing users to see only those properties with contracts set to expire within the next month to two years. Clicking the "submit" button creates a list that can be exported into Excel. Clicking on an individual property brings up information about all of the subsidies attached to that property.

The database also includes a Research Tool that allows users to download the entire dataset into Excel. Once downloaded, users can filter to the geography or subsidy types of their choice. Users may also add state and local data to this export. Finally, there is a mapping tool that allows users to see all of the federally assisted properties in a given community.

All users must register to view the data available on this website. The simple registration form requires users to provide a valid email address, the name of their organization, the organization type and to indicate agreement with the terms and conditions.

The NHPD will be updated three times a year in March, August and December. The data are cleaned and duplicate information

is removed using an automated process in addition to manual evaluation. Every effort is made to ensure the information presented is as accurate as possible. However, there may be inaccuracies, so users are encouraged to use the contact information listed on the website to provide feedback.

Along with the three primary tools, the website also includes a data dictionary, a detailed user's guide, program descriptions for all programs included in the database and other useful resources.

To view this exciting new tool, visit [www.preservationdatabase.org](http://www.preservationdatabase.org).

### Report on State of U.S. Poverty Shows Stagnant Incomes, Growing Inequality

A report from Half in Ten examines the state of poverty in the United States. Released this month, the report, *The Right Choices to Cut Poverty and Restore Shared Prosperity*, is the second annual report in a ten-year campaign aimed at halving the poverty rate in the United States. The 2012 report found that, while the poverty rate remained stable between 2010 and 2011, incomes stagnated for middle and low income Americans, and income inequality grew. In addition to examining poverty, the authors look beyond the traditional measure of poverty and address the impact that federal assistance programs such as Unemployment Insurance, Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), the Earned Income Tax Credit, Housing Choice Vouchers and other programs have had on poverty so far.

The report shows that in 2011, 46.2 million Americans lived below the poverty line, statistically unchanged from the previous year's figure. Of the 46.2 million in poverty, 20 million were in deep poverty, meaning that they lived on less than \$11,500 a year for a family of four. While poverty levels stabilized from 2010 to 2011, income inequality grew due to stagnant incomes for low and middle income individuals. The top 20% of Americans made 51% of all income, while the bottom 20% made just 2.3% of all income. The middle 60% accounted for 45.7% of all income. The authors state that widening income inequality will hurt the U.S. economy as the nation continues to recover from the Great Recession.

The report uses 21 indicators to determine how well the United States fared in its efforts to reduce poverty last year. These indicators cover a wide range of topics, from education to health insurance, asset poverty and more. One indicator is a household's ability to afford housing. Housing is a critical part of family economic security. During the recession, many homeowners faced foreclosure and then entered the rental market. As a result, rents continue to rise across the country, intensifying the need for more affordable housing units. Between 2009 and 2010, the number of extremely low income renters increased by 200,000.

The authors also found that federal housing support programs go a long way in helping individuals achieve economic security, but their

reach is limited and they are not able to assist every household in need. As with other programs such as SNAP, Congress is considering cuts to housing assistance programs.

The report stresses the importance of maintaining programs such as Unemployment Insurance, SNAP, vouchers and others. Without such programs, more households are likely to fall into poverty and the middle class will continue to shrink. Investing in poverty-reduction programs now will help reduce the national deficit in the long term by allowing more households to enter the middle class.

The full report and state-by-state data are available on Half in Ten's website at <http://bit.ly/U8746U>.

## NHLP Issues Overview of Reasonable Accommodation in Federally Assisted Housing

The National Housing Law Project (NHLP) issued a brief on the role of federal and state reasonable accommodation laws in advocacy on behalf of people with disabilities and applicants for federally assisted housing.

The 1988 amendments to the Federal Fair Housing Act prohibit discrimination that prevents people with disabilities from living in the communities of their choice. In addition to adding disability as a protected class, the FHAA makes it unlawful to:

- Refuse to permit reasonable physical modifications of certain premises.
- Refuse to make reasonable accommodations in housing rules and policies.
- Fail to include certain accessibility features in the design and construction of new multifamily dwellings.

The outline provides a basic description of other federal laws including Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It explains what qualifies as a disability for the purposes of reasonable accommodation. The outline includes a chapter explaining how to request a reasonable accommodation and a chapter describing common issues or problems arising in federally assisted housing.

Regarding enforcement, NHLP explains that an individual who has been a victim of discrimination on the basis of disability can file a complaint with HUD within one year after the date of the discrimination. HUD must then decide within 100 days whether to pursue the complaint. HUD has a duty to conciliate, and if that fails, it may proceed through an administrative law judge (ALJ) or through the Justice Department in federal court. Remedies before an ALJ include compensatory damages, injunctive or equitable relief and civil penalties in the public interest between \$16,000 and \$65,000.

The final chapter summarizes the obligation of public housing agencies (PHAs) to submit PHA Plans. NHLP suggests that this annual process provides an opportunity for advocates to comment on their PHA's policies regarding reasonable accommodation, and to work toward implementing ones more advantageous to people with disabilities. In addition, PHAs must have Section 8 Administrative Plans for their Housing Choice Voucher programs as well as administrative plans for their public housing program. Both should include the PHA's policies on reasonable accommodation.

Finally, private owners of HUD-assisted housing that is subject to HUD Handbook 4350.3 must have a written tenant selection plan (TSP). Typically, HUD does not approve this plan. But owners must modify the TSP if HUD becomes aware that the TSP does not comply with requirements such as policies for complying with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Fair Housing Act, and for unit transfers for medical reasons or the need for an accessible unit

The resource, *Reasonable Accommodation in Federally Assisted Housing*, is available at <http://bit.ly/Vd07CM>.

## NLIHC NEWS

### NLIHC Continues to Seek Applicants for Research and Outreach Positions, Spring 2013 Internships

NLIHC seeks two well-qualified and talented candidates to fill open positions on our Outreach and Research teams.

As one of a three-person team, the **outreach associate** will mobilize our members on federal policy advocacy in a manner that advances our mission; assist in the design and implementation of campaign field strategies; and conduct outreach activities in specific states.

The outreach associate position requires knowledge of federal housing policy, strong written and oral communication skills and excellent technology skills, including high proficiency in database management. Priority consideration will be given to candidates with proven organizing experience that mobilized a community or constituent base and led to a significant legislative victory at the national or state level. A Bachelor's degree is required.

The **research analyst** will collect, analyze and present quantitative and qualitative data in a manner that advances the Coalition's research agenda. The successful candidate will be able to translate and disseminate research to varied audiences in an accessible and understandable format.

The research analyst position requires demonstrated professional experience with GIS, databases, SPSS or similar statistical packages, and large datasets; an advanced degree in Sociology, Geography, Public Policy, Urban Planning or similar field; and strong oral and written communication skills. Experience or coursework in survey

research is preferred.

A commitment to social justice is a core qualification for both positions, which are based in Washington, D.C. NLIHC is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.

NLIHC is also accepting resumes for spring 2013 **intern positions**. Interns are highly valued and fully integrated into our staff work. We seek students passionate about social justice issues, with excellent writing and interpersonal skills.

The available positions are:

- **Communications Intern.** Assists in planning NLIHC's annual media awards, prepares and distributes press materials and works on website and social media projects. Maintains the media database and tracks press hits.
- **Policy Intern.** Tracks new legislation, attends and summarizes Congressional hearings for weekly newsletter, participates in visits to Congressional offices and develops materials for use in lobbying the House and Senate to accomplish NLIHC's mission. Updates the Congressional database.
- **Outreach Intern.** Assists with grassroots organizing efforts for the National Housing Trust Fund Campaign and other legislative campaigns. Assists with membership recruitment and retention efforts and internal database upkeep.
- **Research Intern.** Assists in ongoing quantitative and qualitative research projects, writes weekly articles on current research for Memo, attends briefings and helps staff respond to research inquiries.

A cover letter, resume and writing sample are required for consideration. They should be included as attachments if you choose to submit them electronically. In the cover letter, applicants should specify the position(s) for which they are applying and that they are interested in a spring 2013 internship.

Interested candidates for all positions should forward a cover letter, salary requirements (research analyst and outreach associate only), resume and a writing sample to Bill Shields, Vice President of Operations, 727 15th Street N.W., 6th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20005, or to [bill@nlihc.org](mailto:bill@nlihc.org). Applicants should indicate the title of the position sought in the subject line of the application email. No phone calls, please.

## FACT OF THE WEEK

### Women, Children, People with Disabilities More Likely to Live in Poverty

	Total Population*	# Below Poverty*	% Below Poverty
Male	150,990	20,501	13.6%
Female	157,466	25,746	16.4
Children	73,737	16,134	21.9
Age 18-64	193,213	26,492	13.7
Elderly	41,507	3,620	8.7
People w/Disabilities (18-64)	14,968	4,313	29
People w/ no Disabilities (18-64)	177,309	22,105	12

\*in millions

Source: Half in Ten (2012). Table 1b. *The Right Choices to Cut Poverty and Restore Shared Prosperity*. Author: Washington, D.C. Retrieved from: <http://www.halfinten.org>

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**Mary Kolar**, Outreach Associate x233  
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**Max Steininger**, Policy Intern, x252  
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## ABOUT NLIHC

The National Low Income Housing Coalition is dedicated solely to achieving equitable federal policy that assures affordable, accessible, and healthy homes for the people with the lowest incomes in the United States.

Established in 1974 by Cushing N. Dolbeare, NLIHC educates, organizes, and advocates to ensure decent, affordable housing within healthy neighborhoods for everyone.

## SPREAD THE WORD!

NLIHC membership is the best way to stay informed about affordable housing issues, keep in touch with advocates around the country, and support NLIHC's work.

NLIHC membership information is available at [www.nlihc.org/join](http://www.nlihc.org/join). You can also e-mail us at [outreach@nlihc.org](mailto:outreach@nlihc.org) or call 202-662-1530 to request membership materials to distribute at meetings and conferences.



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