



MEMO OF MEMBERS

The Weekly Newsletter of the National Low Income Housing Coalition

NLIHC 2013 CONFERENCE

USICH Executive Director to Speak at Tuesday Lunch at United for Action

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) Executive Director Barbara Poppe will be the speaker at the noon luncheon plenary on Tuesday, March 19, at the NLIHC Conference United for Action.

USICH is the 19-member federal agency that coordinates the federal response to homelessness. It presented *Opening Doors*, the first federal plan to end homelessness, to the President and Congress in July 2010. The plan advocates that the National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF) as critical to the national effort to end homelessness.

Ms. Poppe will discuss the agency's efforts to create a national partnership at every level of government and with the private sector to reduce and end homelessness, and the role the NHTF plays in achieving that goal.

The United for Action conference and lobby day will take place Sunday, March 17 through Wednesday, March 20 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. Special rates are available for NLIHC members and low income attendees. The full schedule of workshops and events is available at <http://bit.ly/VC4k5E>.

To register, go to www.nlihc.org/conference. The site includes detailed information that can help you plan your participation. Or, to download a registration form, go to <http://bit.ly/WrHPhK> (PDF). NLIHC members receive additional discounts on conference registration.

Be sure to plan your travel arrangements so you can take advantage of everything United for Action has to offer, including programming Sunday afternoon and evening. Regular registration rates will end March 1, so act soon to secure the lowest possible rates.

NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND

Campaign Endorser Call Scheduled for February 27

Please join NLIHC President and CEO Sheila Crowley on Wednesday, February 27, from 2-3pm Eastern Time for a conference call with all campaign endorsers. On this call, Ms. Crowley will review latest developments in the campaign to secure permanent, dedicated revenue for the National Housing Trust by modifying the mortgage

interest deduction. She will also seek your help to advance the campaign in your own states and communities.

RSVP for the February 27 call at <http://bit.ly/X60Ki6>. You will receive detailed call-in information once you have registered.

Please make sure your organization has endorsed the campaign and encourage organizations in your network to sign on now to NLIHC's proposal. A model resolution for endorsement by state and local legislative bodies and other organizations can be found at <http://bit.ly/15HKVWO>.

To see a list of current endorsers, visit <http://bit.ly/Uic9Fv>.

Visit www.housingtaxreform.org for more details on the proposal.

FEDERAL BUDGET

Congress Unlikely to Avert Sequestration Before March 1 Deadline

Congress and the nation moved closer to the implementation of sequestration during the week of February 18 as the House and Senate stood in recess. Sequestration of discretionary funds, an across-the-board cut that would decrease HUD and USDA Rural Housing funds by approximately 5.1%, is scheduled to take effect on March 1. While Republican and Democratic lawmakers alike have stated that sequestration is bad policy, it is unlikely that Congress will act to avert these cuts in the remaining three legislative days.

In a briefing on February 19, President Barack Obama told NLIHC and other advocates that sequestration is a "meat cleaver" approach that would harm the middle class. The President has urged lawmakers to pass a bill to avert sequestration. President Obama said his door is open to talk with anyone, but that he will not proceed with a bill that harms the middle class.

Early in the week of February 25, a bill is expected to be introduced in the Senate to prevent sequestration by postponing the across-the-board cuts through other measures that would still ultimately meet the nation's deficit reduction goals (see *Memo*, 2/15). The Senate bill is expected to include increases in revenue, primarily through closing tax loopholes, and targeted spending cuts. Even if the Senate reaches consensus on this bill, the House is unlikely to consider it.

Senate Democrats and House Republicans are divided on their approach to sequestration, with Republicans saying that new revenue should not be part of a sequestration replacement package and Democrats saying that sequestration cuts are too deep and

must be lessened by revenues derived from taxes on the wealthiest Americans and closure of corporate tax loopholes. House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) increased the divide during the week of February 18 when he said that the House would only be interested in a sequestration replacement package that also included a 10-year balanced budget requirement. Still other Republicans are telling constituents that sequestration is good for the nation, despite the impacts many Americans would experience.

This lack of consensus on not just how to prevent sequestration, but whether sequestration should be averted at all, and the fleeting number of legislative days mean that it is unlikely Congress will avoid the deadline by which the Administration needs implement the cuts.

If there is to be agreement on achieving the deficit reductions at which sequestration is aimed, it may be in legislation that will at long last finalize FY13 appropriations. The continuing resolution (CR) currently providing FY13 funding for federal agencies is set to expire on March 27. Congress is expected to act before then to avert a shutdown and to provide agencies with final funding levels for the second half of the fiscal year (see article elsewhere in *Memo*).

NLIHC and other anti-poverty and social justice organizations are urging advocates to continue contacting Members of Congress with the message that sequestration must be stopped. Resources are available to advocates that will help make the case with elected officials. The Coalition on Human Needs created fact sheets on the national and state impacts of sequestration that include the number of people served by Homeless Assistance Grants and the number of people who are served by tenant-based rental assistance vouchers. In addition, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities has updated data on state-level impacts of sequestration on housing programs. These data, which include state-by-state losses for the Housing Choice Voucher, public housing, Native American housing grants, community development block grant, HOME, and Housing for Persons with AIDS programs, can aid advocates explaining sequestration's impact on their communities.

View the CHN fact sheets at <http://bit.ly/XQXLKP>.

View the latest CBPP charts at <http://bit.ly/XQXV4N>.

Congress Prepares to Address FY13 Spending, Moves Forward with FY14 Budget

While the nation awaits Congressional action on sequestration, appropriators are proactively addressing the expiration of the continuing resolution (CR) on March 27. The federal government is currently being funded by a CR that has been providing FY12 levels of funding since the beginning of FY13.

House Committee on Appropriations Chair Harold Rogers (R-KY) has said that he expects to introduce legislation soon that will provide

final funding for all federal departments. The House is expected to advance the two FY13 appropriations bills on which the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations have reached agreement, the Department of Defense bill and the Military Construction-Veterans Affairs bill. The other 10 appropriations bills, including the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies bill and the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies bill, would be funded through a CR attached to the other legislation. The CR is expected to fund the agencies at FY12 funding levels through the remainder of FY13.

There are very few anomalies expected in the CR. An "anomaly," in the context of a CR, is any special provision that is included to address the particular needs of a program. Because CRs typically continue the previous fiscal year's funding into the current fiscal year, programs in CRs are level-funded, which can pose a challenge for many programs. The committee is expected to consider increasing funding for the public housing operating fund, which was underfunded in FY12, with one-time reserve contributions from public housing agencies (PHAs) filling the gap. These reserves are now exhausted for this purpose and PHAs would be severely underfunded in FY13 if the FY12 funding levels continue.

The President's FY14 budget is still under development, but the House and Senate have already started their work on the FY14 budget (see *Memo*, 2/15) with several hearings scheduled. After recess the Senate will hold its third budget hearing, "The Impacts of Federal Investments," on February 26 at 10:30am in room 608 of the Dirksen Senate office building.

The House Committee on Financial Services will hold its annual "Budget Views and Estimates" hearing on February 26 at 10am in room 2128 of the Rayburn House office building.

The Senate Committee on Finance is scheduled to hold a hearing on February 26, "The Ten Year Budget and Economic Outlook." Douglas Elmendorf, director of the Congressional Budget Office, Robert Greenstein, President of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, President of The American Action Forum, will testify. The hearing will be held in room 215 of the Senate Dirksen office building.

MORE CONGRESS

Senate Banking Committee to Hold Hearing on FHA

A hearing on the Federal Housing Administration's "Financial Condition and Program Challenges" will be held by the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs on February 28.

The hearing, the second part of a two-part hearing, will feature testimony from the National Association of Realtors, a professor in

international economic policy from the University of Maryland, the Urban Institute, and the Mortgage Bankers Association. Part one of the hearing was held by the committee on December 6, when HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan testified.

The House Committee on Financial Services has held two hearings thus far in the 113th Congress on the fiscal health of the FHA, with discussion almost exclusively on the FHA's single-family business.

The hearing will be at 10am in room 538 of the Dirksen Senate office building.

HUD

HUD Reports Record Increase in Worst Case Housing Needs

HUD will release the full 2011 *Worst Case Housing Needs Report* on Monday, February 25. In a summary released on February 22, HUD reports a dramatic rise in the number of families with very low incomes (at or below 50% of the median income in their area) who paid more than half their monthly income on rent, lived in severely substandard housing, or both.

According to the summary, the number of unassisted renter households with these "worst case housing needs" increased from 7.1 million in 2009 to 8.5 million in 2011, a 19% increase over two years. Since 2007, this number has risen by more than 2.5 million, or 43.5%. As a comparison, from 2001 to 2003, the number of families with worst case housing needs increased by just 162,000, or 3.2%.

HUD found that worst case housing needs increased across all racial groups, household types, and regions of the country. Some of the largest increases were seen among Hispanic and non-Hispanic white households with almost half (48%) of all new cases of worst case housing needs were found among white households and 28% were found among Hispanic households. According to the summary, 38% of all households with worst case housing needs were families with children and 17% were elderly households. Furthermore, the number of households with worst case housing needs with at least one nonelderly person with a disability increased from 990,000 in 2009 to 1.3 million in 2011.

HUD concludes that the significant increase in the number of very low income renters with worst case housing needs is primarily due to the substantial number of homeowners who became renters as a result of poor economic and housing market conditions such as high unemployment rates and the foreclosure crisis. There was also a fairly significant uptick in new household formation. These two factors accounted for 53% of the total increase in worst case housing needs. Other contributing factors to the overall increase included falling incomes among renters (15%), a continuing shortage of rental housing assistance (9%), and an increasing deficit of affordable housing (23%).

"These sobering numbers remind us that as we work to craft a balanced approach to our budget and priorities, we can't lose sight of those who may be teetering on the brink of homelessness," said HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan in a press release about the report.

Worst Case Housing Needs 2011: A Summary Report to Congress is available at <http://bit.ly/13deMXb> (PDF). NLIHC will provide a more comprehensive analysis of the full report in next week's *Memo to Members*.

HUD Letter to PHAs Modifies FY13 VASH Performance Goals, Previews FY13 Funding Award Policies

Changes that will affect administration of HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) vouchers for FY13 were announced in a letter sent by Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing (PIH) Sandra Henriquez to all public housing agency (PHA) directors on February 19. The purpose of the changes is to better target HUD-VASH vouchers to veterans with the greatest needs, particularly those who are chronically homeless. The letter suggests that veterans who have experienced homelessness for shorter periods of time should be assisted with non-VASH resources.

The HUD-VASH program for homeless veterans combines Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). VA provides these services for veterans at VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outreach clinics.

The letter recognizes that identifying, engaging, and housing chronically homeless veterans may be more time-consuming than assisting others. Devoting extra time may conflict with the need for PHAs to meet voucher utilization targets. Therefore, the letter announces two changes intended to provide a more balanced approach to HUD's monitoring of HUD-VASH performance for FY13:

1. A lower target utilization rate of 88% will be applied to all HUD-VASH vouchers awarded since FY08. This 88% utilization rate will be applied at both the local and national level. A Government Accountability Office report found that PHAs had a HUD-VASH voucher utilization rate of 83% as of March 28, 2012. For vouchers in general, a utilization rate below 95% is rated as substandard.
2. A national target of chronically homeless veterans comprising 65% of the veterans who enter HUD-VASH case management.

The letter notes that in the past, when new, incremental HUD-VASH vouchers were awarded, PHAs and VAMCs often had HUD-VASH vouchers from earlier years that were not leased up yet, risking the use of HUD-VASH vouchers as non-VASH vouchers. Therefore, assuming there will be new, incremental FY13 HUD-VASH vouchers, HUD will only obligate and disburse new funding when a PHA

anticipates they will be leased. PHAs will be required to establish funding schedules to submit to HUD.

The letter also indicates that applicants for FY13 HUD-VASH vouchers will have to complete new implementation plans that focus on a “housing first” approach which prioritizes providing housing and then assisting homeless veterans with access to support services.

The PIH letter is available at http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/PIH_HUD-VASH_Ltr_2-19-13.pdf.

USICH

USICH Releases Details on Framework to End Youth Homelessness

Agencies and systems at all levels should work together achieve the goal of ending youth homelessness, according to *Framework to End Youth Homelessness: A Resource Text for Dialogue and Action*. The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) released the report on February 21 in conjunction with the National Alliance to End Homelessness National Conference on Ending and Family Youth Homelessness.

The framework expands upon the 2012 amendment to *Opening Doors: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness* (see *Memo*, 9/14/12).

According to USICH, “the youth framework sets a path for states, communities, and public and private stakeholders to work together on a strategic approach to getting to better youth outcomes in stable housing, permanent connections, education/employment, and well being.”

The framework is based on two strategies intended to be used concurrently and expands on how communities can implement the strategies in a number of phases. The strategies are:

- A data strategy intended to get “better data on the number and characteristics of youth experiencing homelessness.”
- A capacity strategy intended “to strengthen and coordinate the capacity of Federal, State, and local systems to act effectively and efficiently toward ending youth homelessness.”

Also included in the framework is a preliminary intervention model for youth homelessness. The model is intended to acknowledge the diverse needs of homeless youth, while still providing a “structure for better profiling the promising practices already taking place in states and communities” in order to end homelessness among unaccompanied youth.

The framework is available at <http://1.usa.gov/XR5qJ0>.

DISASTER HOUSING

New York City Representatives Send Letter on Super Storm Sandy Aid and Section 3

Democratic Members of the New York City congressional delegation urged that a portion of the New York City Housing Authority’s (NYCHA) Super Storm Sandy emergency appropriations allocation be used to train and hire public housing residents under its Section 3 obligations in a letter sent a letter to NYCHA Chair John Rhea February 20.

According to the letter, “[m]any tenants could not work because their places of business were damaged or public transportation services had been disrupted. Some even lost their jobs. Utilizing Section 3 in conjunction with NYCHA’s relief efforts would increase the job opportunities available for these struggling families.”

The signatories also said that there are not enough qualified local contractors to address the estimated \$800 million in property damage in New York City, and by training residents under the Section 3 program, the recovery could be completed in a more expeditious manner.

The Section 3 program requires recipients of HUD housing and community development funding to provide “to the greatest extent feasible” job training, employment, and contracting opportunities for low and very low income residents and eligible businesses.

The signatories are Representatives Nydia Velázquez, Gregory Meeks, Charles Rangel, Yvette Clarke, Hakeem Jeffries, Jose Serrano, Grace Meng, Eliot Engel, Joseph Crowley, and Carolyn Maloney.

A copy of the letter is available at http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/NYCHA_Ltr_20-20-13.pdf.

FROM THE FIELD

Massachusetts Governor Commits New Affordable Housing Funds

Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick (D) announced a \$67 million investment to build and preserve affordable housing units across the state on February 7. The Citizens’ Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA), an NLIHC state coalition partner, is pleased with the development, which reflects the governor’s commitment to address homelessness, increase affordable housing options, and create jobs.

In November 2012, Governor Patrick announced a goal to create 10,000 multifamily units of housing annually, the first production

goal of its type set by any state. The Patrick administration's comprehensive plan to improve housing includes increasing the amount of market-rate housing and significantly investing in the public housing stock. The state has made progress toward preserving and improving 46,000 housing units through increased capital funding and operating subsidies, and made changes in their management. Since 2009, Governor Patrick and Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray have worked with the state legislature and Congress to direct more than \$700 million in federal and state tax credits and state housing program subsidies to projects that have generated more than 14,000 jobs and 10,000 housing units, nine thousand of them affordable.

The \$67 million investment includes more than \$47.7 million in state and federal housing program subsidies, \$9 million in federal low income housing tax credits (LIHTC) and \$7.7 million in state LIHTC. Funding 23 developments in 21 communities, it will create 1,326 units of housing, almost all of them affordable to low and moderate income people, and approximately 1,710 construction jobs.

In the meantime, CHAPA has advanced its campaign to recapitalize the State Department of Housing and Community Development's bond-funded programs for the production and preservation of housing for low and moderate income residents. Last signed into law in 2008, a housing bond bill authorized the state to sell \$1.275 billion in bonds over five years to finance affordable housing programs. The new bill would invest \$1.4 billion in such housing programs as the state's Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Public Housing Modernization program, and its Community-Based Housing and Housing Stabilization funds. CHAPA and its allies have worked to secure 80 legislative cosponsors for the bill, 40% of the state legislature.

CHAPA has teamed with the Children's Investment Fund and the United Way of Massachusetts Bay and the Merrimack Valley to promote the bill, which establishes a program for early childhood education and out-of-school-time facilities for high-needs children. Advocates are requesting \$45 million over five years for capital improvements to address health and quality standards in the facilities. The bill also expands the Commercial Area Transit Node Housing Program to include funding for commercial spaces within mixed use buildings, and extends the state's LIHTC at \$20 million.

Governor Patrick is expected to file his own housing bond bill within weeks.

"These resources are critical to help us address housing and homelessness issues in Massachusetts," said Brenda Clement, CHAPA's executive director and NLIHC board member. "Coupled with funds from the operating budget, the housing bond will help us move closer to our goal of safe and affordable homes for all Massachusetts residents."

For more information, contact Rachel Heller, CHAPA policy director, rheller@chapa.org.

EVENTS

Policy Forum to Focus on Community Development Policy in Low Income Neighborhoods

A George Washington University policy forum, "Serving Low-Income Neighborhoods," will feature diverse opinions on current community development policy and discuss future potential policy developments in light of low income communities' continued struggle to recover from the foreclosure crisis.

Forum panelists will include Maurice Jones, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Mark Calabria, Director of Financial Regulation Studies, Cato Institute; Lisa Hall, President and CEO, Calvert Foundation; and Joseph McNeely, Executive Director, Central Baltimore Partnership. The forum will be moderated by Joseph Firschein, Deputy Associate Director and Community Affairs Officer at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and professor, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration at George Washington University.

The forum is scheduled for March 7, from 5:30pm to 7pm ET. It will be at the Jack Morton Auditorium, Media and Public Affairs Building, 805 21st St. NW, Washington, DC 20052.

A light reception and opportunity to network with experts in the field will follow the forum.

The forum is free and open to the public. Advance registration is requested at <http://bit.ly/XR4fcL>.

RESOURCES

Report Identifies Solutions to Solving the Cyclical Problem of Mass Incarceration, Homelessness and HIV/AIDS

Stable housing is consistently found to be the greatest unmet need of persons with HIV/AIDS reentering their community from prison, according to a joint report from the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC) and Housing Works regarding the link between housing instability and HIV/AIDS treatment for incarcerated Americans. About 155,000 Americans living with HIV/AIDS (one in seven) are released from correctional facilities annually. Unstable housing can inhibit improvements in physical and mental health, result in the further spread of HIV, and increase incidences of emergency health care. The report calls for targeted housing and other measures to prevent the cyclical nature of incarceration and unsteady access to treatment for those living with HIV/AIDS.

In correctional facilities, HIV/AIDS occurs in rates three to five times higher than that of the general population. Because access to HIV care is legally protected in correctional facilities, prisons and jails provide consistent HIV care that former inmates often lose with reentry into the community. A recent multisite study of HIV-positive men entering jail showed that 43% were newly diagnosed with HIV and 44% previously diagnosed men were homeless before they entered prison. Upon being discharged, a Connecticut study found that 26% of inmates with HIV/AIDS were homeless and an additional 54% were “near homeless” when released.

Persons with HIV who lack stable housing are two to three times more likely to engage in sex exchange or unprotected sex with an unknown status partner, and use or inject drugs. Thus, rates of new HIV diagnoses have been as much as 16 times higher for homeless individuals than for those in the general population. Additionally, persons with HIV who lack stable housing are more likely to delay care, have limited access to care and are less likely to receive antiretroviral therapy.

The NMAC report focuses on the disproportional rates of incarceration and HIV/AIDS occurrence by race and sex. Black Americans accounted for 46% of new HIV infections, 44% of people living with HIV and about half of new AIDS diagnoses in 2010. Additionally, the HIV infection rate among black women is 15 times that of white women. Imprisoned women have a higher HIV prevalence due to the risk of drug-related and sex work crimes that result in overall worse health problems than their male counterparts.

The report provides a set of recommendations for improving housing and health outcomes, targeting formerly incarcerated individuals with HIV/AIDS. Large-scale studies find that housing assistance and health care yield positive health outcomes as well as cost saving for communities. The recommendations from NMAC and Housing Works include providing greater access to housing through targeting resources, removing barriers to income and insurance measures, improving pre-release discharge plans, and evaluating effectiveness of programs for formerly incarcerated people with HIV/AIDS. The report establishes the opportunity to stable and affordable housing as a primary factor in improving access to consistent treatment and limiting re-entry to prisons and jails.

Mass Incarceration, Housing Instability and HIV/AIDS: Research Findings and Policy Recommendations can be found at <http://bit.ly/XR2oEC> (PDF).

NLIHC NEWS

NLIHC Announces 2013 Organizing Award Winners

Each year, NLIHC recognizes excellence in advancing the cause of housing justice with awards for organizing and public education. The

honorees will receive their awards for work completed in 2012 at the NLIHC conference on Tuesday, March 19 at the lunch plenary event.

The fourth annual **State and Local Organizing Award** will go to the Maryland Affordable Housing Coalition (MAHC) for its work on a state-level campaign to secure an increase of \$17.5 million in state funding for rental housing, through the new Rental Housing Works Initiative.

Recognizing Governor Martin O’Malley’s priority of including a major jobs package in his FY13 budget, MAHC crafted a proposal for the new program, meeting with the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, the governor’s office, and key legislative budget leaders, and emphasized the jobs that would be generated through greater state investment in affordable rental housing development. MAHC also coordinated outreach to the governor and the state’s Budget Secretary among its 155 member organizations.

As a result of these efforts, Governor O’Malley announced that he would keep existing funding for rental housing programs intact in his FY13 budget, and requested an additional \$15 million for the new initiative. Shortly after this announcement, MAHC held a Housing Day advocacy event in Annapolis. Over 200 advocates attended, meeting with their legislators and expressing support for the initiative. The legislature ultimately increased funding even beyond the governor’s request, allocating \$17.5 million to the Rental Housing Works Initiative.

The initiative had great success in its first year and Governor O’Malley recently included \$25 million for the program in his FY14 budget, a \$10 million increase over last year’s budget request.

The second annual **Resident Organizing Award** will go to the Central Advisory Council (CAC) for its longstanding commitment to affordable and available housing for public housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher recipients in Chicago.

Since the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) developed its Plan for Transformation in 2000, CAC has played an active role ensuring that tenants’ rights are fully protected, and providing comments on CHA’s Annual Plan, Moving to Work Agreement, and Housing Choice Voucher Plan.

Last year, CAC submitted the 2012 Strategies and Recommendations Report to CHA. CHA ultimately used 60% of CAC’s recommendations as it developed its new Plan Forward, the next phase in the Plan for Transformation. CAC also developed a 2013 Tenant Resource Calendar and a companion piece, the Tenant Resource Guide, which were distributed to 25,000 public housing and voucher households in Chicago.

Congratulations to the Maryland Affordable Housing Coalition and the Central Advisory Council!

NLIHC Welcomes New Outreach Associate

NLIHC is pleased to welcome Joseph Lindstrom as our newest Outreach Associate. Joseph first worked with the National Low Income Housing Coalition in 2000 while organizing Wisconsin advocates in support of the National Housing Trust Fund Campaign. He led campaigns in Madison, WI, on issues such as the local minimum wage, funding for homeless services, and eliminating housing discrimination against Housing Choice Voucher recipients. In addition to his advocacy and campaign work, Joseph has also worked in various direct service capacities including as a homeless outreach coordinator, tenant's rights counselor, and workforce development professional. Joseph received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Wisconsin with majors in political science and religious studies.

FACT OF THE WEEK

Worst Case Housing Needs Increase by 3.5 million from 2001 to 2011

The Change in the Number of Renter Households with Worst Case Housing Needs,* 2001 – 2011

	Number (in thousands)	Change (in thousands)	% Change from previous year
2001	5,014	---	---
2003	5,176	162	3.2%
2005	5,992	816	15.8%
2007	5,905	-87	-1.5%
2009	7,095	1,190	20.2%
2011	8,475	1,380	19.5%

*The term “worst case housing needs” is defined as very low income renters with incomes below 50% of the area median income who do not receive government housing assistance and who either paid more than half of their income for rent or lived in severely inadequate conditions, or who faced both of those challenges.

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2013). *Worst Case Housing Needs 2011: A Summary Report to Congress*. Washington, D.C.: Author. http://www.huduser.org/Publications/pdf/HUD-506_WorstCase2011.pdf

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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.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

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. You can also e-mail us at outreach@nlihc.org or call 202-662-1530 to request membership materials to distribute at meetings and conferences.



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Check out NLIHC's blog, *On the Home Front*, at www.nlihc.wordpress.com!