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# Chapter 10:

## ABOUT NLIHC

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# Make a Difference: Ways to Engage with and Support the National Low Income Housing Coalition

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## BECOME A MEMBER OF THE COALITION

**T**he best way to demonstrate your commitment to ensuring that the lowest income people in America have access to decent, affordable homes is to become a member of the Coalition. NLIHC's power to influence change is directly proportional to the number and active engagement of our members. NLIHC has been a membership organization since our earliest days, and our large and involved membership is what sets us apart from others.

Anyone can be an NLIHC member. Our membership base is broad and diverse, including low income renters, professionals who work in the housing field, tenant associations, state and local housing advocacy organizations, community development corporations, housing authorities, and individuals who believe in NLIHC's mission and want to support our work. Our members care about a broad array of affordable housing issues, from accessibility and affordability for people with disabilities, to the preservation of resources for homelessness prevention and affordable housing programs, to veterans' housing, fair housing, community development, and more.

## WHY OUR MEMBERS ARE CRUCIAL

The modest membership contributions from each individual and organization, when multiplied by our many hundreds of members, is a significant source of revenue to allow NLIHC to continue our work. Members provide us invaluable feedback about the housing issues that low income and homeless people face every day in cities across the country. Most importantly, members are advocates, the people we count on to reach out to their networks, to their local elected officials, to local media, and to members of Congress about the affordable housing needs of low income people. A geographically wide and sizeable membership base brings true power to NLIHC's advocacy efforts.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

In addition to the satisfaction of knowing you are supporting the most effective national organization working to expand affordable housing for extremely low income individuals and families, NLIHC members receive:

- *Memo to Members & Partners*, NLIHC's acclaimed weekly newsletter on federal housing issues.
- Discounted rates to NLIHC's annual Housing Policy Forum and Leadership Awards Reception.
- Free or discounted access to our research publications like *Out of Reach* and *The GAP: A Shortage of Affordable Homes*, educational resources like the *Advocates' Guide* and regular webinars, and tenant resources like the *Tenant Talk* newsletter.
- Consultations with NLIHC staff on how to most effectively use NLIHC research data.
- Periodic "Calls to Action," alerting you to the issues that need attention and action.
- Telephone resource referrals with links to state and regional networks.
- The opportunity to participate in NLIHC's policy-setting decisions.

## BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

Joining NLIHC is easy. Our membership rates are flexible, and tiered by member type. All rates are suggested—you can join at any contribution amount affordable to you. Join at [www.nlihc.org/membership](http://www.nlihc.org/membership)

You can also contact your housing advocacy organizer for assistance, or to learn more about membership by emailing [outreach@nlihc.org](mailto:outreach@nlihc.org)

## MAKE A DONATION TO NLIHC

Contributions to NLIHC directly support our research, education, organizing, policy

development, and regulatory efforts. The financial support we receive through donations is crucial to helping us achieve our mission.

## WHAT CAN YOU DONATE TO NLIHC?

A contribution at any level makes a difference. You can support our work by making an end-of-year gift, a general contribution, or by sponsoring the Annual Housing Leadership Awards Reception. Your contribution helps subsidize low income membership rates and low income Policy Forum registration rates and allows NLIHC to work to end housing poverty and homelessness. Individual donations to NLIHC are tax deductible.

## YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The generosity of our donors makes it possible for NLIHC staff to produce our acclaimed weekly

newsletter *Memo to Members & Partners*, conduct research on the housing wage and the housing gap for extremely low income households, and produce our valuable publications like *Out of Reach*, *The GAP: A Shortage of Affordable Homes*, *Tenant Talk*, and the *Advocates' Guide*. Your contributions support our efforts to ensure success of the national Housing Trust Fund; to build awareness and support for affordable housing; and to keep our members informed about the federal budget and appropriations, changing federal regulations, policy developments, and much more. Each contribution makes a powerful difference. Please donate to NLIHC today.

To donate to NLIHC, visit [www.nlihc.org/donate](http://www.nlihc.org/donate)

You can also contact NLIHC's Development Coordinator, Christina Sin, at [csin@nlihc.org](mailto:csin@nlihc.org), for donation questions or assistance.