

# NLIHC Resources

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In addition to the *Advocates' Guide*, NLIHC offers many other resources for advocates, policymakers, students, and others in order to provide information on the most relevant housing and housing-related programs and issues. Here are ways to get the most out of your relationship with NLIHC.

## FIELD

Your first point of contact at NLIHC is your housing advocacy organizer. Housing advocacy organizers are members' best direct resource for answers to federal policy or membership questions. The organizers also coordinate responses from NLIHC's field when there is a federal housing issue that needs attention. NLIHC's housing advocacy organizers are assigned specific states. Find the contact information for your state's housing advocacy organizer at [www.nlihc.org/takeaction/field](http://www.nlihc.org/takeaction/field), or e-mail [outreach@nlihc.org](mailto:outreach@nlihc.org)

*Tenant Talk*. *Tenant Talk* is NLIHC's quarterly newsletter geared toward low income renters and their allies. *Tenant Talk* provides NLIHC's low income resident members and others with updates about the policies affecting them, ways to take action and get involved, tips for effective organizing, local tenant victories, and other resources. *Tenant Talk* is distributed through email and mail. To be added to the mailing list, visit [www.nlihc.org/library/tenanttalk/signup](http://www.nlihc.org/library/tenanttalk/signup)

To view past issues of *Tenant Talk*, visit [www.nlihc.org/library/tenanttalk](http://www.nlihc.org/library/tenanttalk)

## POLICY

NLIHC's policy team tracks, analyzes, and advocates for NLIHC's policy priorities. The policy team updates Fact Sheets on NLIHC's policy initiatives and priority legislation on a monthly basis. NLIHC's policy priorities can be found at [www.nlihc.org/issues](http://www.nlihc.org/issues)

NLIHC also convenes a policy advisory committee, comprised of NLIHC board members and individual members. The policy advisory committee informs NLIHC's policy agenda. Committee information is available online at [www.nlihc.org/involvement/policycomm](http://www.nlihc.org/involvement/policycomm)

## RESEARCH

NLIHC's research team publishes research on housing-related topics throughout the year. Access the latest research and reports in our "Resource Library" online at [www.nlihc.org/library](http://www.nlihc.org/library)

*Out of Reach*. NLIHC's annual research publication, *Out of Reach*, offers a side-by-side comparison of wages and rents for every county, metropolitan area [Metropolitan Statistical Area or HUD Metro Fair Market Rent (FMR) Area], combined state nonmetropolitan area and state in the United States. Advocates across the country use the data in this report to show the lack of housing affordability in their communities for low and minimum wage workers, and other low income households. For each jurisdiction, the report calculates the Housing Wage, which is the amount of money a household must earn in order to afford a rental home priced at the area's FMR, based on the generally accepted affordability standard of paying no more than 30% of income for housing costs. The Housing Wage is available for a range of apartment sizes. *Out of Reach* is available on NLIHC's website at [www.nlihc.org/oor](http://www.nlihc.org/oor)

The Housing Wage for metropolitan area ZIP codes is also available on-line.

*The Gap*. NLIHC's other annual research publication, *The Gap*, documents the shortage of housing for extremely low income renter households. For the nation, each state, and the 50 largest metropolitan areas, this yearly report estimates the deficit/surplus of rental homes, cost burdens (households spending more than 30% of their income on housing), and severe cost burdens (households spending more than 50% of their income on housing) for extremely low income, very low income and low income renter households. The report documents the number of additional affordable and available rental homes that are needed for the lowest income renters. *The Gap* is available on NLIHC's website at <http://nlihc.org/research/gap-report>

*Housing Spotlight*. This series of occasional research briefs uses data from different sources to highlight a variety of housing issues. Find them online in the Resource Library at: [www.nlihc.org/library/housingspotlight](http://www.nlihc.org/library/housingspotlight)

*Congressional District Housing Profiles.* NLIHC's Congressional District Housing Profiles offer a snapshot of housing needs for each congressional district in the country. Each profile pulls data from a variety of sources and illuminates several dimensions of housing affordability for renter households in each district, the surrounding area, and the state. The profiles can be found at [www.nlihc.org/library/CDP](http://www.nlihc.org/library/CDP)

*State Housing Profiles.* NLIHC's State Housing Profiles illustrate the housing needs of low income renter households for each state in the country. The profiles include visual representations of housing affordability issues as well as key facts about housing in each state. The profiles can be found at [www.nlihc.org/library/SHP](http://www.nlihc.org/library/SHP)

*National Housing Preservation Database.* NLIHC and the Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation maintain an online database of nearly all federally assisted multifamily housing in the country. It includes information on properties subsidized by HUD, the USDA, and the Treasury Department. Advocates can use this database to get a clear picture of the subsidized stock of housing in their community and to identify properties that might be at risk of being lost from the affordable housing stock. The National Housing Preservation Database is the only de-duplicated, geo-coded, extractable, national inventory of federally subsidized properties, which links all of a property's subsidies to its main address. The database can be found at [www.preservationdatabase.org](http://www.preservationdatabase.org)

For more information on the database, visit [www.preservationdatabase.org](http://www.preservationdatabase.org) or email [aurand@nlihc.org](mailto:aurand@nlihc.org) or [kstater@housingcenter.com](mailto:kstater@housingcenter.com)

## CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

To find contact information for your state or federal elected officials, visit [www.nlihc.org](http://www.nlihc.org), click on

“Contact Congress,” and enter your ZIP code in the search box. Access NLIHC's entire Legislative Action Center at [www.cqrcengage.com/nlihc](http://www.cqrcengage.com/nlihc)

## NLIHC STATE COALITION PARTNERS

NLIHC maintains close ties with our State Coalition Partners, housing and homeless advocacy organizations that serve statewide or regional areas. To find a list of State Coalition Partners, visit [www.nlihc.org/partners/state](http://www.nlihc.org/partners/state)

For information on becoming a State Coalition Partner, visit [www.nlihc.org/involvement/state-coalition/apply](http://www.nlihc.org/involvement/state-coalition/apply)

## ANNUAL HOUSING POLICY FORUM

NLIHC hosts a forum every spring in Washington, DC. The forum offers federal housing policy plenary sessions, keynote speakers, and workshops as well as a Lobby Day, during which advocates have the opportunity to weigh in with members of Congress and their staffs. For more information, visit [www.nlihcforum.org](http://www.nlihcforum.org)

## NLIHC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

*Facebook.* Like NLIHC on Facebook and get instant updates on the latest housing news and information at [www.facebook.com/NationalLowIncomeHousingCoalition](http://www.facebook.com/NationalLowIncomeHousingCoalition)

*Twitter.* Follow @NLIHC on Twitter for daily updates at [www.twitter.com/NLIHC](http://www.twitter.com/NLIHC)

*Instagram.* Follow @NLIHC on Instagram for quick snapshots of information at <https://www.instagram.com/nlihc/>

*Blog.* NLIHC's blog, *On the Home Front*, features news and analysis from our staff, guest posts from state and national partners, and opinions on the latest developments in housing policy. Join the discussion at [www.hfront.org](http://www.hfront.org)