

NLIHC Resources

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In addition to the *Advocates' Guide*, NLIHC offers advocates, policymakers, and others additional resources to learn more about affordable housing issues and solutions and to easily take action. Below are ways to get the most out of your relationship with NLIHC.

Field

Your first point of contact at NLIHC is the Field Team Housing Advocacy Organizer or Coordinator assigned to your state or region. These Field Team members serve as a direct resource for questions regarding advocacy, getting involved with NLIHC, data, federal policies, or NLIHC membership. The organizers also mobilize advocates from NLIHC's field when there is a federal housing issue that needs attention. Find the contact information for your state's Housing Advocacy Organizer or Coordinator at <https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state> by selecting your state then clicking the State Level Partners tab. You also can e-mail outreach@nlihc.org.

Our Homes, Our Votes

Our Homes, Our Votes is a non-partisan election engagement campaign to register, educate, and mobilize more low-income renters to vote in elections and to engage candidates on affordable housing issues. *Our Homes, Our Votes* provides tools and training to make it simple for affordable housing advocates to participate in election engagement. Renters, especially low-income renters, are underrepresented among voters. To ensure low-income housing interests are a priority for policymakers, it is critical that organizations engage renters and their allies in the voting process. More information can be found at www.ourhomes-ourvotes.org/.

IDEAS

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-racism, and Systems-thinking (IDEAS) is NLIHC's organization-wide initiative to advance racial equity and inclusion in our policy work, our internal operations and relationships, and our work with external partners. To learn more about IDEAS, visit www.nlihc.org/ideas.

Tenant Talk

Tenant Talk is NLIHC's biannual publication geared toward low-income renters and their allies. *Tenant Talk* provides NLIHC's low-income 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 and to view past issues of *Tenant Talk*, visit www.nlihc.org/explore-issues/publications-research/tenant-talk.

Federal Policy

NLIHC's Policy Team tracks, analyzes, and advocates for legislation and rulemaking related to NLIHC's federal policy priorities. The policy team creates fact sheets on NLIHC's federal policy initiatives and priority legislation and works closely with the Field Team to keep the field informed and mobilized to take action during key moments. Advocates can learn more about NLIHC's policy priorities and take action on key legislation using NLIHC's Advocacy Hub at <http://www.nlihc.org/take-action>. NLIHC also convenes a quarterly Policy Advisory Committee meeting open only to NLIHC members. The Policy Advisory Committee provides feedback on NLIHC's federal policy agenda and advocacy initiatives. To learn more about the Policy Advisory Committee meetings, contact outreach@nlihc.org.

Opportunity Starts at Home

The Opportunity Starts at Home campaign is a national, long-term, multi-sector campaign to meet the rental housing needs of the low-income people across the country. This campaign recognizes that an affordable home is central to other national priorities like health care, food security, education and more, and works with leaders in these other sectors to advance proven solutions to ending homelessness and housing instability. Explore how outcomes in other sectors are intertwined with housing and utilize factsheets available to demonstrate this in your own advocacy at www.opportunityhome.org.

Disaster Housing Recovery, Research, and Resilience

The lowest-income people – including people of color, seniors, people with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, people with limited English proficiency, and other individuals – are often hardest hit by disasters and have the fewest resources to recover. Despite the clear need, federal efforts frequently leave these survivors without the assistance needed to get back on their feet and their communities less resilient to future disasters. NLIHC aims to reform America's disaster housing framework and advance housing justice through its work on disaster housing recovery, research, and resilience. Learn more at www.nlihc.org/disaster-housing-recovery-research-resilience.

State and Local Tenant Protections

NLIHC's State and Local Policy Innovations team tracks and supports state and local policies pertaining to NLIHC's mission, especially as they relate to tenant protections and other measures to promote stable housing and housing choice. The State and Local team also periodically publishes reports on best practices and relevant research findings. To learn more, contact outreach@nlihc.org.

Research

NLIHC's Research Team publishes research on housing-related topics throughout the year including those listed below. Access the latest research and reports at www.nlihc.org/explore-issues/publications-research/research.

The Gap

NLIHC's annual research publication *The Gap* documents the shortage of housing for extremely low-income renter households. This report estimates the deficit or 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 for the nation, each state, and the 50 largest metropolitan areas. 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 www.nlihc.org/gap.

Out of Reach

NLIHC's other annual research publication *Out of Reach* offers a side-by-side comparison of wages and rents for every county, metropolitan 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. The report calculates the Housing Wage for each jurisdiction. The Housing Wage is the hourly wage a full-time worker must earn to afford a rental home priced at the area's Fair Market Rent (FMR) without paying more than 30% of their income for rent and essential utilities. The Housing Wage is available for a range of home sizes by number of bedrooms. *Out of Reach* is available on NLIHC's website at www.nlihc.org/oor.

State Housing Profiles

NLIHC's State Housing Profiles illustrate the housing needs of low-income renter households for every state. 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/housing-needs-by-state by selecting the state and then clicking on the Resources tab.

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/housing-needs-by-state by selecting the state and then clicking on the Resources tab.

Rental Housing Programs Database

NLIHC created the Rental Housing Programs Database (RHPD) to capture the diverse ways state and local governments use their own financial resources to close the gap between available federal funding for rental housing and the unmet needs of renters in their communities. More specifically, the RHPD provides information on state and locally funded programs that create, preserve, or increase access to affordable rental housing. It includes program goals, target populations, tenant eligibility requirements, and other program characteristics. Read a summary of the findings from the 2023 RHPD report *State and Local Investments in Rental Housing* and explore the database at www.nlihc.org/rental-programs.

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 stock of subsidized 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 (NHPD) is the only de-duplicated, geo-coded, extractable, national inventory of federally subsidized properties which links all a property's subsidies to its main address. The database can be found at www.preservationdatabase.org. Users can also access "Preservation Profiles" on the NHPD website, which provide national and state-level snapshots of preservation needs. The Preservation Profiles are available at www.preservationdatabase.org/reports/preservation-profiles/. This year, a new interactive Preservation Dashboard was also published at www.preservationdatabase.org/preservation-dashboard/, where users can access preservation data for states, counties, and congressional districts. For more information on the database, visit www.preservationdatabase.org or email demmanuel@nlihc.org and kmcelwain@pahrc.org.

Contact Your Elected Officials

NLIHC's Advocacy Hub makes it easy to directly contact your members of Congress about affordable housing issues and their solutions and to sharpen your advocacy skills. To look up your federal elected officials, add your organization to NLIHC's sign-on letters, contact your members of Congress with pre-filled emails and phone call talking points, and learn about advocacy best practices, access NLIHC's Advocacy Hub at www.nlihc.org/take-action.

NLIHC State and Tribal Partners

NLIHC's State Partners are independent housing and homeless advocacy organizations who serve whole states or large regional areas, and Tribal Partners are non-profit organizations that serve members of tribes in a particular geographic region and prioritize advocacy for the lowest-income renters. State and Tribal Partners are NLIHC's closest advocacy partners. NLIHC relies on these partners to educate and mobilize their networks to take action around NLIHC's policy priorities, and in return, partners receive specialized support from NLIHC. To find a list of State and Tribal Partners, visit www.nlihc.org/explore-is-sues/projects-campaigns/state-partner-project. To learn more about becoming a State or Tribal Partner, email outreach@nlihc.org.

local partners, and guest posts from people directly impacted by housing and homelessness issues. Join the discussion at www.hfront.org.

Sign up to receive NLIHC emails for the latest federal affordable housing news, calls to action, and NLIHC events at www.nlihc.org.

Annual Housing Policy Forum

NLIHC hosts its annual Housing Policy Forum and Capitol Hill Day every March in Washington, DC. The forum offers housing and homelessness policy plenary and breakout sessions and networking opportunities for participants and ends with Capitol Hill Day where advocates meet with members of Congress and their staff. For more information, visit <https://nlihc.org/events>.

Follow NLIHC

NLIHC uses social media to share updates with the field on the following platforms:

- X: Follow @NLIHC on X for daily updates at www.twitter.com/NLIHC?lang=en.
- Instagram: Follow @nlihc on Instagram for quick snapshots of information at www.instagram.com/nlihc/?hl=en.
- Facebook: Like NLIHC on Facebook and get updates on the latest housing news and information at www.facebook.com/NLIHCDC. Check out NLIHC's blog *On the Home Front*, where we feature policy analyses from our staff, advocacy wins achieved by state and