

Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding Working to ensure maximum federal resources for housing and community development

November 10, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer Majority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sherrod Brown Chair Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Maxine Waters Chair Financial Services Committee U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

To Majority Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, Chair Brown, and Chair Waters:

We, the members of the <u>Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding</u>\*, representing the housing and community development field, **urge Congress to quickly enact the Build Back Better Act, including its historic investments in affordable housing and community development**. Currently, the legislation provides \$154 billion in investments in affordable, accessible housing and community development, which will help millions of households of color, older adults, people with disabilities, women and families with children, people experiencing homelessness, and other households and their communities thrive.

Housing investments are foundational to other priorities in the Build Back Better Act, including healthcare and care economy infrastructure, racial equity, and climate change. Like roads and bridges, housing investments are also foundational to infrastructure, shaping our built environment for decades. Long-term investments in fair, affordable, and accessible housing in strong, well-resourced communities provide families and individuals with low incomes the stability needed to thrive, while furthering neighborhood revitalization. Our nation's long-standing lack of affordable and accessible housing and the need for additional community development resources has been exacerbated by the hardships brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic over the past year and a half.

The Build Back Better Act is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to invest in the affordable housing and community development needs acutely felt by underserved people and communities across our country. For this reason, we urge Congress to seize this opportunity to quickly enact the Build Back Better Act, including its bold investments in affordable housing and community development, to improve the lives of millions of people.

Sincerely,

American Association of Service Coordinators B'nai B'rith International Catholic Charities USA Center for Community Progress Center for Disability Rights **Council of Large Public Housing Authorities** Council of State Community Development Agencies CSH **Enterprise Community Partners** Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Fahe Funders Together to End Homelessness **Grounded Solutions Network** Habitat for Humanity International Housing Assistance Council LeadingAge Local Initiatives Support Corporation Low Income Investment Fund National Affordable Housing Management Association National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations National Alliance to End Homelessness National Association for County Community and Economic Development National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders National Association of Affordable Housing Lenders National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies National Center for Healthy Housing National Center for Housing & Child Welfare National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development National Coalition for Homeless Veterans National Coalition for the Homeless National Community Development Association National Council of State Housing Agencies National Disability Rights Network (NDRN) National Homelessness Law Center National Housing Law Project National Housing Resource Center National Housing Trust National Leased Housing Association National Low Income Housing Coalition National NeighborWorks Association National Network to End Domestic Violence National Partnership for Women and Families National Women's Law Center **NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice** Public Housing Authorities Directors Association Poverty & Race Research Action Council Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future

\*More about the members, mission, and work of the <u>Campaign for Housing and Community</u> <u>Development Funding</u>.