November 19, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

To Senate Majority Leader Schumer, Senate Minority Leader McConnell, House Speaker Pelosi, and House Minority Leader McCarthy:

The below members of the Steering Committee of the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF), representing the more than 70 national organizations in the housing and community development field, urge Congress to act expeditiously to enact the highest possible funding for housing and community development programs for fiscal year 2022.

We urge both congressional chambers to look to the House Committee on Appropriations fiscal year 2022 HUD bill and, when more generous, to the Senate’s proposal for the fiscal year 2022 HUD bill. We also urge Congress to enact a fiscal year 2022 HUD funding bill as soon as possible. Multiple and/or lengthy Continuing Resolutions (CRs) are a recipe for greatly delayed funding for existing programs and for even longer waits for housing assistance and community investments, neither of which serve the country well.

A long-term CR would have devastating impacts on affordable housing and community development programs and the people they serve. Because the cost of housing and development programs rise every year, flat funding acts as a cut and reduces the number of people served. With the country in the midst of an ongoing pandemic that has left millions of households struggling to make ends meet, the importance of passing comprehensive spending bills quickly and avoiding a long-term CR cannot be overstated.

Ten years of federal spending caps have wreaked havoc on the ability of public and private organizations to adequately respond to the nation’s severe lack of affordable and accessible housing and the ubiquitous need for additional community development resources.
We are very grateful for the increases in the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations fiscal year 2022 HUD bill, which we see as a reflection of the need for, and the successful track record of, the HUD programs it funds. We urge quick passage of the bill.

Now is the time to take significant steps to truly meet the housing and community development needs of the nation.

Sincerely,

Center for Disability Rights
Corporation for Supportive Housing
Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
Enterprise Community Partners
LeadingAge
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
National Council of State Housing Agencies
National Housing Law Project
National Housing Trust
National Low Income Housing Coalition
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future

CC:
The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Richard Shelby, Vice Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Chair, House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Kay Granger, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Brian Schatz, Chair, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
The Honorable Susan Collins, Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
The Honorable David Price, Chair, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies