Coronavirus and Housing/Homelessness
Hosted by NLIHC and the Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition
June 2, 2020
Welcome & Overview

Diane Yentel
President & CEO
National Low Income Housing Coalition
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Guest Speaker
• Speaker of the US House of Representatives Nancy Pelosi

Preventing Unlawful Evictions
• Zach Neumann and Sam Gilman, COVID-19 Eviction Defense Project

Overview of New Poll Results – Support for Policy Priorities
• Mike Koprowski, Opportunity Starts at Home Campaign

Using CRF for Rental Assistance
• State Representative Delia Ramirez, Illinois

Field Updates
• Dev Wakeley, Alabama Arise
• Martie North, Arkansas Coalition of Housing and Neighborhood Growth and Empowerment (ACHange)
• Phyllis Chamberlain, Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania

Update and Advancing Priorities in the Next Coronavirus Spending Bill
• Sarah Saadian, NLIHC
• Joey Lindstrom, NLIHC

Next Steps

www.nlihc.org
Guest Speaker

Speaker of the House
Nancy Pelosi
12th District of California
U.S. House of Representatives
Preventing Unlawful Evictions

Zach Neumann & Sam Gilman

Co-Founders

COVID-19 Eviction Defense Project

cedproject.org
THE COVID-19 EVICTION DEFENSE PROJECT RESPONDS TO THIS UNPRECEDENTED CRISIS BY:

• Pairing lawyers with tenants
• Developing economic analyses & legislation
• Amplifying human experiences with this crisis
• Providing financial support for renters

CEDP client Kendra Tallent and her family tell their story

No money, but rent is due: In Colorado, few eviction protections as coronavirus spreads

"We're having to choose between whether we can eat or pay rent," one tenant said.
ALMOST 26 MILLION PEOPLE WILL STRUGGLE TO PAY RENT BY SEPTEMBER
RENTERS WHO ARE UNDOCUMENTED, EARN LOW INCOMES OR NOT WHITE ARE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE

RENTAL DEBT COULD APPROACH $90 BILLION BY 2021 IF CURRENT CONDITIONS DO NOT CHANGE

Tenant Rental Debt (2020), $

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Overview of New Poll Results – Support for Policy Priorities

Mike Koprowski

National Campaign Director

Opportunity Starts at Home Campaign

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Over half of all people in the U.S. express concern that they will *lose their housing* if they don’t get additional assistance to help cover the costs.

Source: Public Opinion Poll
May 15-20, 2020 Hart Research Associates
Nearly half (46%) have made sacrifices since beginning of COVID-19 to make sure they can pay rent or mortgage.

Which of the following actions, if any, have you had to do since the beginning on the coronavirus outbreak to make sure you can pay your rent or mortgage?

- Cut back on healthy, nutritious food (17%)
- Stop saving for retirement (16%)
- Used a credit card to help cover all or some of your housing costs (15%)
- Accumulate credit card debt (13%)
- Borrowed money from a friend or family member to cover all or some of your housing costs (11%)
- Skip paying other important bills such as electricity, water, or insurance (10%)
- Take on an additional job or work more at your current job (8%)
- Cut back on activities and learning materials for your child (8%)
- Cut back on healthcare for you or a family member (6%)
- Taken out a payday loan or car title loan to cover all or some of your housing costs (5%)
80% of the public thinks it’s very or fairly important for government to provide assistance to help people cover their housing costs during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Source: Public Opinion Poll
May 15-20, 2020 Hart Research Associates
Nearly 8 in 10 people in the U.S. agree that our elected leaders are not putting enough attention on people’s need for help to pay for their housing during the coronavirus outbreak.

Source: Public Opinion Poll
May 15-20, 2020 Hart Research Associates
88% of the public agrees that providing housing assistance to prevent evictions and homelessness during the COVID-19 outbreak should be considered as urgent a priority as investments in healthcare.

Source: Public Opinion Poll
May 15-20, 2020 Hart Research Associates
Nearly 9 in 10 people in the U.S. agree that our elected leaders in Washington should take major action to make sure everyone has stable, affordable housing during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Source: Public Opinion Poll
May 15-20, 2020 Hart Research Associates
Which of the following statements do you agree with more, even if it is not exactly how you feel?

**STATEMENT A**: Because we are in a time of national crisis, our most important priority right now needs to be the health and safety of the American people. We know that making sure people can stay in their homes is critical to stable families and communities, which will be essential to rebuilding our economy. The government should make major investments to ensure that people who cannot cover their housing costs can stay in their homes during the coronavirus outbreak and through the recovery, even if it means increasing the deficit.

**STATEMENT B**: The government has already invested $2.5 trillion in aid and relief for American families, workers, and businesses during the coronavirus outbreak and we have to draw the line somewhere. Businesses have already started to re-open and people will be back to work making money to support their families. We cannot afford to go deeper into debt, increasing the federal deficit, which will ultimately hurt the economy and be a burden for future generations.
By a 2:1 margin, the public wants to see government make major housing investments even if it means increasing the deficit.

Source: Public Opinion Poll
May 15-20, 2020 Hart Research Associates
When asked about **housing instability and homelessness** during the COVID-19 outbreak...

- **89%** of people in the U.S. favor a nationwide policy that stops all evictions
- **93%** favor providing emergency rental assistance
- **90%** favor expanding funding for homeless assistance programs that minimize the number of people living in large shelters

Using CRF for Rental Assistance

Representative Delia Ramirez

State Representative

Illinois
Field Updates

Dev Wakeley
Policy Analyst for Human Rights and Consumer Protection
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Field Updates

Martie North
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Field Updates

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Update and Advancing Spending Bill Priorities

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Resources


Next Steps