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## **Budget and Appropriations**

### **Congress Passes and President Biden Signs into Law Debt Ceiling Agreement Capping Federal Spending Programs for Two Years**

Congress passed and President Joe Biden signed into law the “[Fiscal Responsibility Act](#),” an agreement to lift the federal debt ceiling until 2025 in exchange for capping federal spending programs at fiscal year (FY) 2023 levels in FY2024 and allowing an only 1% increase in spending in FY2025. The bill also rescinds unspent COVID-19 relief funds, imposes more burdensome work requirements on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients, and reallocates funding previously provided to help the IRS audit higher-income households for other purposes.

The agreement comes after months of on-and-off negotiations between the White House and Congressional leaders. U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) Secretary Janet Yellen warned that, without Congressional action, the U.S. government was likely to default on its debt obligations as soon as June 5, which would cause a potentially catastrophic economic fallout across the country and around the world. Under the leadership of House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA), House Republicans were pushing to exact drastic funding cuts to domestic spending programs in exchange for raising the federal debt ceiling for less than one year. Their proposed “Limit, Save, and Grow Act” would have resulted in estimated cuts to HUD’s affordable housing and homelessness assistance programs of between 22% and 30%, and while the agreement ultimately spared domestic programs from these deep cuts, capping funding at FY2023 levels still poses a serious threat to these vital programs.

#### *Implications for HUD Affordable Housing and Homelessness Assistance Programs*

It is crucial that HUD’s rental assistance programs – including Housing Choice Vouchers, Project-Based Rental Assistance, and other programs that help people with the lowest incomes afford rent – receive increased funding every year to sustain assistance. Because the cost of housing rises every year, flat funding acts as a cut, reducing the number of people served by these essential programs. The dramatic increase in the cost of rent over the last year means that voucher renewal costs will be significantly higher: it is estimated that voucher renewals will require an extra \$7 billion over FY2023 funding just to maintain the number of households currently being served by the program.

HUD’s budget is under additional strain in FY2024 because of lower receipts from the Federal Housing Administration (FHA). FHA receipts are reinvested into HUD, helping to “cushion” HUD’s budget by providing extra money outside of what is allocated through the regular appropriations process. This year, FHA receipts are expected to be about \$6 billion lower than in FY2023; in total and without taking into account the newly instated budget caps, **HUD’s budget is facing a potential shortfall of an estimated \$13 billion compared to FY2023 funding.**

#### **Take Action!**

It is thanks to the hard work and tenacity of advocates around the country that debt ceiling negotiators backed away from House Republicans’ demand to cap FY2024 spending at FY2022

levels. In order to ensure the debt ceiling proposal does not strip funding away from HUD's affordable housing and homelessness assistance programs, we must continue this urgent work.

Failure to increase appropriations for HUD's vital affordable housing and homelessness assistance programs would result in devastating impacts on the people served by these programs. Even with recent funding increases to federal programs, many are still being impacted by the austere spending caps put in place by the "Budget Control Act of 2011." HUD's cumulative appropriations since FY2010 are [still slightly lower](#) than if annual appropriations had remained at FY2010 levels and been adjusted only for inflation.

We cannot afford to take a step backwards. Advocates can continue to take action by:

- [Signing your organization on to the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding's \(CHCDF\) annual budget letter](#), calling on Congress to reject spending cuts and instead provide the highest possible allocation for HUD's and USDA's affordable housing, homelessness, and community development programs in FY2024.
- [Emailing your members of Congress today](#) and urging them to increase – not cut – resources for affordable housing and homelessness in FY2024 and to support NLIHC's top appropriations priorities:
  - \$32.7 billion for the TBRA program to renew existing vouchers and to expand the program to an additional 200,000 households.
  - \$5.4 billion for public housing operations and \$5 billion for public housing repairs.
  - \$3.8 billion for HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants program.
  - \$100 million for legal assistance to prevent evictions.
  - \$3 billion for a permanent Emergency Rental Assistance program.
  - \$300 million for the competitive tribal housing grants, targeted to tribes with the greatest needs.
- [Checking out NLIHC's advocacy toolkit](#), "Oppose Dramatic Cuts to Federal Investments in Affordable Housing," for talking points, sample social media messages, and more!

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## Tenant Protections

### Federal Housing Finance Agency Announces Opportunity to Advance Tenant Protections; NLIHC Urges Advocates to Weigh In!

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) [announced](#) a [Request for Input \(RFI\)](#) regarding ways the agency can create and enforce renter protections for households living in rental properties with federally backed mortgages. The announcement represents a key opportunity to advance a major priority of NLIHC's policy agenda: strengthening federal renter protections to address the power imbalance between landlords and renters. NLIHC, along with [our partner organizations](#), is calling for robust responses to the RFI from tenants, tenant advocates, and directly impacted people. Advocates have until July 31, 2023, to weigh in with FHFA to help shape strong renter protections.

“Federal renter protections are needed to address the power imbalance between landlords and renters that puts renters at greater risk of housing instability, harassment, and homelessness and fuels racial inequity,” said NLIHC President and CEO Diane Yentel in a [press statement](#). “The Biden-Harris administration has an opportunity now to create strong, enforceable renter protections for a significant share of renters across the nation and to put America on a pathway towards stronger protections for all renters.”

Because more than 12 million renters live in properties with federally backed mortgages, any renter protections created by FHFA could cover a significant share of renters across the nation. Landlords and business interests will come out in full force to try to stop FHFA from protecting renters, so it is critical that advocates take action and make their voices heard. You can advance federal renter protections in the following ways:

- **Submit a public comment by July 31.** It is critical that FHFA hear from you and as many advocates as possible in support of renter protections. Use NLIHC’s [sample comment letter](#) to craft your comment and submit it using <https://tenantcomment.org>
- **Sign on to NLIHC’s [national support letter](#),** calling on FHFA to create strong federal renter protections.
- **Join our weekly working group on renter protections,** held Wednesdays at 4 pm ET, to help inform and strengthen NLIHC’s comment letter. Register for the weekly meeting [here](#).
- **Call on advocates in your community to participate.** Share this information with your networks and encourage them to demand federal renter protections.

NLIHC’s top priorities for federal renter protections include: source-of-income protections to prohibit landlords from discriminating against households receiving housing assistance and to give families greater choice about where they live; “just cause” eviction standards and the right to renew leases to help protect renters from housing instability; anti-rent gouging protections to stop landlords from dramatically raising rents; and requirements to ensure housing is safe, decent, accessible, and healthy for renters and their families.

Read the announcement from FHFA at: <https://tinyurl.com/4c5uud3s>

Read more about the Federal Housing Finance Agency and NLIHC’s opportunities for engagement at: <https://tinyurl.com/mr473235>

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## **NLIHC Submits Comment on CFPB and FTC Request for Information on Tenant Screening Practices**

NLIHC submitted a [comment](#) on May 30 in response to a Request for Information ([RFI](#)) released by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) and Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The RFI solicits public comments on tenant background screening practices, with a focus on how screenings may shut people out of housing, especially members of historically underserved and marginalized communities.

“Reforms to tenant screening policies and practices are critically needed to ensure everyone has a safe, stable, accessible, and affordable place to call home,” said NLIHC in the comment. “The FTC’s and CFPB’s role in enforcing the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) and identifying practices that unjustly prevent consumers from finding and maintaining housing means the agencies can also play an important role in strengthening and enforcing renter protections, particularly as they relate to tenant screening.”

An estimated 90% of landlords use background screening companies to evaluate prospective tenants. These companies use a largely automated process to create reports on prospective tenants, and reports receive little, if any, review before being sent to a landlord or property manager. The data used to generate these reports is often incomplete, inaccurate, and outdated, leading to erroneous reports that can result in a prospective tenant being unjustly denied housing. Prospective tenants do not typically have the chance to correct inaccurate or incomplete information, if they are able to view the report at all.

In the comment, NLIHC urges CFPB and FTC to reign in the unjust practices of tenant screening companies, including by:

- Reaffirming that FCRA applies to companies that sell information for FCRA-covered purposes, including tenant screening.
- Creating and requiring tenant screening companies to follow measures to ensure the accuracy of reports.
- Requiring landlords and property managers to provide a comprehensive, transparent list of screening criteria included in their background check.
- Guaranteeing a prospective tenant the right to review a screening report and correct any inaccurate, misleading, or false information.
- Holding companies found in violation of FCRA requirements accountable for changing their practices.

Additionally, the comment highlights the specific barriers posed by conviction and eviction record screenings. Due to historical and ongoing discrimination in housing, employment, and the criminal-legal system, people of color, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ+ community are disproportionately represented among people with conviction and eviction records; as such, screening policies that impose a blanket denial on people with conviction or eviction records disproportionately impact these groups, raising fair housing concerns.

In addition to submitting its own letter, NLIHC also joined comments submitted by the [Partnership for Just Housing](#), co-run by NLIHC and the Shriver Center on Poverty Law, and the [Housing Justice Network](#), organized by the National Housing Law Project.

Read NLIHC’s comment [here](#).

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## **HoUsed Campaign for Universal, Stable, Affordable Homes**

### **Reps. Quigley and Ocasio-Cortez to Join Today's (June 5) National HoUsed Campaign Call for Universal, Stable, Affordable Homes!**

[Join](#) today's (June 5) national HoUsed campaign call from 2:30 to 4 pm ET. NLIHC's Diane Yentel will be joined by Representative Mike Quigley (D-IL), ranking member of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Appropriations' Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, for a conversation about threats to HUD's fiscal year (FY) 2024 budget. Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) will join the call to talk about the urgent threats facing people experiencing homelessness, as anti-homelessness rhetoric rises and Congress prepares FY2024 budget negotiations. Pascale Leone and Tierra Labrada of the Supportive Housing Network of New York will discuss dehumanizing rhetoric against people experiencing homelessness. We will also receive field updates; share the latest updates from Capitol Hill on the final debt ceiling agreement; discuss advocacy needed to ensure the highest level of funding for housing and homelessness programs; provide an overview of the Request for Input issued by the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA); and outline ways advocates can take action to urge the federal government to protect renters.

#### **Agenda:**

- Welcome and Updates
  - Diane Yentel, NLIHC
- Rising Threats against People Experiencing Homelessness
  - Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY)
- Dehumanizing Rhetoric against People Experiencing Homelessness
  - Pascale Leone and Tierra Labrada, Supportive Housing Network of New York
- Threats to HUD's FY2024 Budget
  - Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL)
- Field Updates
  - Isabel McClain and Allison Brown, Virginia Housing Alliance
  - Chelsea Sedani, Economic Mobility Pathways (MA)
- Policy Updates
  - Kim Johnson and Kayla Laywell, NLIHC
- Next Steps

[Register for today's call here](#)

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## **Disaster Housing Recovery**

### **Organizations Working with Disaster-Impacted Communities Request Community Representative on FEMA National Advisory Council**

NLIHC and more than 25 local, state, and national organizations working on disaster recovery policy sent a [letter](#) on May 30 to FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell requesting the appointment of at least two community representatives to FEMA's National Advisory Council (NAC). Signatories included the Natural Resources Defense Council, SBP, the National Housing Law Project, the Hispanic Federation, Taproot Earth, Georgia ACT, the Florida Housing Coalition, and the NC Inclusive Disaster Recovery Network, among others.

The NAC is an advisory body that advises FEMA leadership on how to better fulfill the agency's mission. The Council is made up of over 40 individuals, including elected officials, local and state government employees, tribal officials, and experts in emergency management and related fields. In addition to appointing officials to positions according to explicit regulatory requirements, the FEMA Administrator has the power to appoint some individuals on the basis of the administrator's own prerogative. In the current application cycle, Administrator Criswell will appoint up to nine new members to serve three-year terms. The NAC meets twice a year for three-day meetings, and members are reimbursed for travel expenses, lodging, meals, and incidentals.

In 2020, the NAC explicitly told FEMA that its programs exacerbate underlying inequities, especially along lines of race and income, and made recommendations for how the agency could do better, demonstrating that there is some potential for NAC to facilitate equity- and access-related reforms. By bringing in community representatives with lived experiences of disaster, the NAC's equity-related recommendations can be strengthened in future reports. This request aligns with FEMA's recent focus on equity, encapsulated in the agency's most recent strategic plan making the establishing of equity as a foundation of emergency management a major objective.

“The appointment of non-governmental community representatives will ensure that the important input and analysis provided by the NAC will contain the voices of those communities directly impacted by disasters and served by FEMA programs,” reads a portion of the letter. “The lived experience of disaster survivors can and should be highlighted and utilized to improve the utility and pertinence of the NAC's advice. As dictated within FEMA's Whole Community approach, all aspects of a community have expertise and perspectives that can contribute to the overall resilience of a community. By ensuring that low-income and disaster impacted communities are represented within the NAC, the council's discussions can be similarly benefited.”

Read the letter at: <https://bit.ly/3IVtvzf>

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## **NLIHC's Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition Releases Resource Guide for 2023 Hurricane Season**

The 2023 Atlantic hurricane season has officially begun, and NLIHC has prepared the following resource guide to provide resources, information, and links regarding hurricane preparedness, response, and recovery. The resources listed below will also be posted on the [Disaster Housing Recovery](#) section of the NLIHC website.



**Please note:** in the event of a hurricane, tropical storm, or other disaster, you should listen to the directions and pay attention to the emergency alerts from federal, state, and local officials and first responders. While individuals can and should remain aware of their ability to advocate for themselves and their civil and human rights during and after disasters, first responders will have access to information about disaster impacts, evacuations, and potential health and safety dangers that you may not. For this reason, it is safest to follow their instructions in the context of immediate disasters.

*Portions of the following information have been taken from Southerly Magazine's [Disaster Glossary](#). Readers, especially those living in the Appalachian and Southern regions of the U.S., should refer to this article for additional information on the topics covered below.*

## Preparing for Hurricane Season

### **Know Your Risk**

A tropical cyclone is a rotating, organized system of clouds and thunderstorms that originates over tropical or subtropical waters and has closed circulation. A tropical cyclone forms as a tropical depression, which is classified as a tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 38 mph or less but which can intensify into a major hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 111 mph. Tropical cyclones in the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico [typically form](#) between June 1 and November 30. However, it is important to note that these storms have appeared outside of that time period. The “busy season,” during which the most storms are seen, [statistically](#)-speaking, lasts from August through October. Learn more [here](#).

Tropical storms and hurricanes can bring several different hazards to your area, including river and coastal flooding, tornados, rip currents, and high winds. Learn more about the impacts these hazards have [here](#).

Tropical storms and hurricanes can impact any area of the Eastern Seaboard and Gulf Coast from southern Texas to northern Maine. You can find out when the last time a tropical cyclone impacted your area via the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Historical Hurricane Tracker, located [here](#).

### **Build a Kit, Make a Plan, Stay Alert**

The best time to prepare for a tropical storm or a hurricane is before it forms. Making emergency kits and evacuation plans can seem expensive and time-consuming, but being prepared is vital to ensuring you and your family are safe during and after a disaster. In many areas of the country, local governments, non-profits, mutual aid organizations, and volunteer organizations offer essential goods that can help lower the overall cost of making kits.

### **Emergency Kit**

An emergency kit does not have to prepare you to live on a desert island, but it should contain food, water, and supplies to last for at least 72 hours and contain basic items that allow you to stay safe in the event of a disaster, making sheltering in place or staying at an emergency shelter

easier, should this be necessary. A basic emergency supply kit could include the following items (kept in a waterproof bag, box, or backpack):

- [Water](#) (one gallon per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation)
- [Food](#) (at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food) and a can-opener
- A battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA weather radio with a tone alert
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit, with bandages, antibacterial creams, ibuprofen or aspirin, tweezers, antiseptic wipes, tissues, and gauze
- Essential medications for your family
- Pet care items (for at least three days) and photos of your pets to help locate them if necessary
- A written list of emergency contacts
- Cash, if possible
- Electronics chargers
- COVID-19 masks and hand sanitizer
- Games, toys, books, or other items to entertain yourself and your family

You can find out more about creating emergency kits from FEMA [here](#).

Your kit should also include copies of vital documents stored in a waterproof container, including government issued IDs, proof of citizenship and legal residency, social security cards, documentation regarding medical needs (e.g., oxygen tanks, wheelchairs), car titles and registrations, home or renters insurance policies, a copy of your lease, information about housing subsidies if you live in federally assisted housing or utilize a housing voucher, deed and title information for your home if you own it, and financial documents such as a voided check.

## **Evacuation Plan**

In extreme situations, the safest course of action might be to evacuate. Likewise, local governments might call for a mandatory evacuation across a particular region. Making an evacuation plan ahead of time could save valuable time in a crisis.

How will I get out?

- *If you will drive your own car:* Fill your car up with gas as soon as local tropical storm or hurricane watches are issued. Gas stations and other services may be closed later.
- *If you do not have a car:* Check with your local emergency management office at the county or city level about transportation assistance. You may need to register in advance of the hurricane for assistance.
- *Special needs assistance:* Some counties and cities also offer specific assistance for elderly and disabled people in case of emergency. Call your local emergency management office to find out what assistance it may provide. Typically, you must register in advance of a hurricane or tropical storm.

Where will I go?

- Determine if you can stay with relatives or friends in another area that's unlikely to be affected by the same event and write down their address and directions to that location.
- Write down a list of hotels to which you may be able to drive if you can't stay with others.
- For emergency shelters: Download the [FEMA App](#), which will update information regarding public shelters operating during the crisis.
- Not all public shelters accept pets. If you plan to evacuate with your pet, check with your local emergency managers about this, or plan to find a hotel that allows pets indoors. Shelters are required to take service animals, so bring documentation if you use one.
- Check with your local emergency management office for the best routes out of town. Many counties or cities keep maps listing the recommended roads. Remember to check the routes before evacuating.

Who is coming with me?

- Check in with your neighbors, friends, and relatives who may need assistance with evacuating. Make sure you have their phone numbers and addresses written down or stored in your phone.
- If you will be evacuating with other people, plan to have enough snacks, water, medications, and other essentials with you in your emergency kit.

What should I take?

- Have a go-bag ready: This can be an emergency kit that you've already prepared, your important documents (see above), and cash.
- Subscribe to local weather and emergency alerts via email, text, etc. Monitor those alerts ahead of the storm.

## **Review Information on Disaster Response and Recovery**

The response to tropical storms and hurricanes involves a great number of different agencies and organizations working to coordinate assistance and ensure disaster survivors are safe and that communities recover. While disaster response will vary depending on disaster size, it is important to maintain familiarity with certain broad concepts.

### **Local Emergency Management Agencies**

Disasters begin and end locally. Your local emergency management office, agency, or department will be responsible for directing the disaster response in your area. Typically, each county or parish has at least one designated entity handling emergency management. Sometimes,

it will be called “Office of Emergency Management” and have its own staff, or it might be housed under other public safety-related government offices, such as fire departments. Whatever the name, it will be the “eyes and ears” of the broader emergency response taking place during and after the disaster. It will also maintain important disaster-related information, such as evacuation plans, disaster recovery plans, and other documents, that can be helpful when finding out what you need to do during a tropical storm or hurricane.

### **State Emergency Management Agencies**

Your state’s emergency management agency oversees and coordinates preparations, response, and recovery to disasters in your state. The state-level emergency management agency also provides local governments with resources and information to carry out preparation and response to disasters. It also assists those local government in applying for and receiving grants from FEMA regarding disaster response and recovery. In rural areas or areas without significant local emergency management agencies, the state department might become the lead agency coordinating the response. In some states, the state emergency management agency may take on the administration of assistance or sheltering to compliment those services created and administered by FEMA.

### **Sheltering**

Tropical storms and hurricanes typically result in emergency shelters being opened for those in voluntary or mandatory evacuation zones. Impacted households can go to these shelters to find places to sleep, as well as electricity, food, water, and sanitation facilities. These shelters are typically run by local and state emergency management agencies in partnership with volunteer organizations like the Red Cross. These shelters typically stay open for several weeks following major disasters. The [FEMA App](#) will contain information about open shelters in your area. Many shelters do not accept pets, but all are required to accept service animals.

If you have special needs related to a disability, you should inquire before arriving about whether the shelter is fully accessible and has facilities that meet your needs. While shelters are nominally required to be fully accessible, the quality of compliance ranges, although there is typically at least one fully accessible shelter within a locality during a disaster. Shelter staff are often supplemented by individuals from local Centers for Independent Living and Continuums of Care to handle the needs of those with disabilities or individuals experiencing homelessness.

If you do have special needs and are in need of information about available resources, you can reach out to DHRC member [The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies](#), which runs a toll-free disability and disaster hotline at +1 (800) 626-4959 and [hotline@disasterstrategies.org](mailto:hotline@disasterstrategies.org).

### **Disaster Declarations**

The “Stafford Act,” which governs the federal response to disasters, requires the President to approve a disaster declaration before FEMA and the federal government can provide direct assistance to impacted state and local governments, as well as disaster survivors. This declaration must be requested by the governor of a state or territory or leader of a Tribal nation. This request prompts FEMA to conduct a preliminary damage assessment, which looks at the impact of the disaster and other information about the impacted state or region, including response capability

and economic indicators. If damage is found to be severe enough, FEMA will direct the President to approve the disaster declaration. You can view active disaster declarations from FEMA [here](#).

## **FEMA**

FEMA is the federal agency in charge of disaster preparedness, prevention, response, and recovery. FEMA runs many programs that can aid people affected by natural disasters. The agency often works with state, tribal, and local governments. After a disaster, the agency oversees financial aid to local, state, and tribal governments as well as individuals who apply for aid. Applications for assistance can be completed online via [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://www.disasterassistance.gov).

FEMA and state and local emergency management agencies will typically open Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs), physical locations where people can go if they have questions about assistance programs. Sometimes FEMA deploys Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) teams to go door-to-door assisting with applications.

**Please note:** Anyone who knocks on your door claiming to be connected to FEMA should be asked to display their FEMA credentials. Federal employees and contractors always wear a government or government contractor badge to identify themselves. Call FEMA at 800-621-3362 (TTY 800-462-7585) if you are suspicious of someone who says they're from FEMA. Don't trust someone who asks for money in exchange for federal or state assistance.

Not every assistance program will be activated after every disaster, but it is important to know what programs exist.

*Transitional Sheltering Assistance Program:* If requested by the state, FEMA may provide short-term non-congregate shelter options for people displaced by a disaster, meant to serve as a bridge between an emergency shelter and permanent housing. Through this program, FEMA may temporarily cover the cost of a hotel room for an evacuee in a neighboring state. Evacuees are responsible for locating a pre-approved hotel from a list provided by FEMA.

*Lodging Expense Reimbursement:* FEMA may reimburse an evacuee for short stays in hotels, motels, or other short-term lodging. Receipts are required.

*Critical Needs Assistance:* In the immediate aftermath of a disaster, FEMA may provide a one-time, \$500 payment to cover life-saving resources to those impacted by a disaster. This can be used for food, water, infant formula, diapers, certain medical supplies, hygiene items, and fuel for transportation. To receive the payment, you must register through FEMA.

*Rental Assistance:* Homeowners and renters may receive funding to temporarily relocate if their home is not safe. Before providing aid, FEMA will inspect the primary residence; if it is deemed unsafe, the applicant can receive up to two months of initial rental assistance. If you receive rental assistance from an insurance company, you can't receive additional funding from FEMA. The rental assistance rate is set by an area's Fair Market Rent; look up yours [here](#). To receive assistance for longer than two months, you must be able to demonstrate ongoing need and prove that you are working towards securing permanent housing or making progress on repairs.

Generally, rental assistance can be used up to 18 months after the disaster declaration, unless FEMA approved an extension request from the state.

*Home repair or replacement:* FEMA may provide funding to help repair or replace owner-occupied homes that serve as the owner's primary residence. This program is geared towards homeowners who have uninsured or under-insured needs and aims to make the home "safe, sanitary, and fit to occupy," not to return the home to its pre-disaster condition. Receiving funds for replacements is rarer.

*Operation Blue Roof:* This program can provide free fiber-reinforced tarps to cover damaged roofs before permanent repairs are made. Homeowners and permanently occupied rental properties in disaster areas can be eligible. This program is managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for FEMA.

*Other Needs Assistance (ONA):* FEMA may provide assistance with medical and dental expenses caused by the storm, as well as funeral costs, and moving or storage costs; a one-time childcare stipend may be provided as well, covering eight weeks. In some cases — for example, for personal property or transportation assistance— the application goes through the Small Business Administration (SBA), even if the applicant is not a business owner.

*Crisis Counseling:* This program provides short-term mental health counseling to survivors of a natural disaster. Counseling may be available for up to nine months after a disaster and is available to anyone who may benefit from counseling who lived in the area impacted by a disaster.

## **Department of Labor**

*Disaster Unemployment Assistance:* This program provides assistance from the date you become unemployed due to a natural disaster and can be extended up to 26 weeks (about six months) after the Presidential Disaster Declaration. This program covers people who are not receiving, or do not qualify for, other types of state-level unemployment benefits. To apply for FEMA disaster unemployment assistance, you must be registered in your state's employment services office; other requirements, such as work searches, vary by state.

## **Department of Agriculture**

*Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP):* This program gives food assistance to low-income households with food loss or damage caused by a natural disaster. A state must be approved for individual assistance through a disaster declaration first and can then request approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to operate D-SNAP. Even if you don't typically qualify for SNAP, you may qualify for D-SNAP. More information can be found [here](#).

## **Small Business Administration**

*Disaster Recovery Loans:* This agency may provide [federally subsidized loans](#) for individuals and businesses. Individuals do not have to own a business to apply, and FEMA may refer people to the SBA. The agency provides loans to help repair damage to homes or personal property during a disaster. Businesses may receive a loan to repair physical damage or economic losses.

## HUD

If you are living in subsidized housing, you should contact your public housing authority (PHA) to access housing assistance if displaced. It is very important to contact them when you are able. The agency offers several key protections immediately after a disaster. For example, if you have a Federal Housing Administration loan on your home, you will be protected from foreclosure for 90 days.

HUD administers the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program, which can fund home repairs, public infrastructure, and buyouts for residents in particularly vulnerable flood zones. The program must be approved by Congress after a disaster, when there are significant unmet needs for long-term recovery. It is usually administered through a partnership with state governments.

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## Congress

### **NLIHC Signs On to Letter Urging Congress to Vote against Public Charge Resolution**

NLIHC signed on to a [letter](#) by the Protecting Immigrant Families (PIF) coalition urging Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives to vote against a resolution to overturn the Biden administration’s “public charge” rule. NLIHC is also urging other advocates to [sign](#) on to the letter by Friday, June 9. A vote on the resolution is expected as early as June 12.

Last week, the U.S. Senate passed a “Congressional Review Act” (CRA) resolution to overturn the Biden administration’s “public charge” rule, a common-sense policy that overturned the Trump administration’s 2017 public charge rule (see [Memo, 5/22](#)). President Biden’s public charge rule clarified that non-cash assistance provided through housing programs and other programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid does not count towards the public charge test. Two Democratic Senators – Joe Manchin (WV) and Jon Tester (MT) – voted with the Republican majority to overturn the Biden rule. Though President Biden has publicly committed to vetoing the resolution, PIF is calling for an all-out push to minimize the number of members in the House who vote in favor of the CRA resolution.

Read about the background of the public charge rule at: <https://pifcoalition.org/our-work/public-charge>

Read and sign on to the letter at: <https://tinyurl.com/mra443nr>

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## From the Field

### **Three Idaho Cities Pass Ballot Measures Dedicating Tax Revenues to Housing Initiatives**

Voters in the Idaho cities of Hailey, Ketchum, and Sun Valley approved local ballot measures that will dedicate existing tourism tax revenues towards housing initiatives. The ballot measures, which passed in local elections on May 16, will collectively raise approximately [\\$2 million for housing](#) across the three cities. Voters in all three municipalities approved the ballot measures with [overwhelming support](#) (85% in Hailey, 76% in Ketchum, and 85% in Sun Valley), far surpassing the 60% supermajority threshold required for passage. The measures will take effect on July 1.

Idaho state law [allows small resort cities](#) to enact Local Option Taxes (LOT) that raise revenues to address the financial impacts of tourism. Hailey, Ketchum, and Sun Valley each have an original and a supplemental LOT, which apply to a different set of goods and services in each city: [for example](#), Hailey's supplemental LOT taxes car rentals and lodging, while Ketchum also taxes retail (excluding food, liquor, and building materials). Each city's ballot measure asked whether to devote half of existing revenues from its 1% supplemental LOT to fund community or affordable housing initiatives. Currently, all revenues from the 1% tax are dedicated to supporting commercial air service. The passage of the ballot measures splits each city's 1% supplemental LOT for air service into a 0.5% supplemental LOT for air service and a 0.5% supplemental LOT for housing.

“In Idaho, the LOT is the only meaningful mechanism available to local governments that need to raise funds,” said Carissa Connelly, housing director for the city of Ketchum. “The passage of this ballot means that we now have much needed recurrent funds to address the housing crisis, which we will do through using LOT to preserve housing for locals and leverage public land, partnerships, and other resources.”

Each municipality plans to take a different approach to allocating its new housing resources. The City of Hailey plans to conduct a public engagement process to determine what types of community housing projects to fund. Sun Valley Mayor Peter Hendricks indicated that his city would use the housing resources for four initiatives: an eight-unit project for first responders at a local fire station, conversion of a city-owned inn into affordable housing, housing assistance payments to qualifying city employees, and fuel subsidies for qualifying city employees with long-distance commutes.

The City of Ketchum plans to place the housing funds in a designated account for community housing, which will enable the city to implement its [first-ever Housing Action Plan](#). A recent analysis to inform the Housing Action Plan determined that Ketchum must develop, preserve, or convert between 660 and 980 homes for locals within the next decade. The city developed the Housing Action Plan as population growth skyrocketed during the pandemic and the community's housing needs became more acute. Ketchum's population grew by 25% during the first year of the pandemic, and many new residents were remote workers earning far higher wages than local workers. The population influx resulted in rising prices and displacement.

As city leaders recognized the need to address the problem, Ketchum brought in partners from other resort communities to discuss their solutions and recommendations and sought input from stakeholders and community members countywide. The city originally dedicated state and local fiscal relief funds to its housing initiatives, but these resources were only temporary, and city officials recognized the need for a permanent funding stream.



Ketchum [initially attempted](#) to generate new housing resources with a ballot measure in May 2022, but voters narrowly rejected that measure, which would have raised the LOT tax and invested supplemental revenues into workforce housing. Carissa Connelly, housing director for the city of Ketchum, noted that community members were not aware that the existing resources were dedicated to other activities, like public safety, and were insufficient to divert to housing even if that were an option. Over the past year, city officials focused on educating community members about the structure of the city budget, the need for more funds, and what housing programs could be funded. These educational efforts built momentum for the 2023 ballot measure, which redirects existing revenues into housing initiatives rather than raising taxes.

While city officials focused on education, citizen advocates launched the [“Yes for Housing & Air” campaign](#), which collected endorsements and mobilized voters to support the supplemental LOT measures across all three cities. Wendy Jaquet, campaign coordinator for the citizens’ committee, described the committee’s organizing tactics that contributed to the measure’s success: “The key is having a citizen’s committee and being familiar with all the tools for running a campaign,” she said. The citizens’ committee was made up of three co-chairs (one for each municipality) and 13 members, including one member who had moved to the region recently and informed the committee’s outreach to new residents. To make information about the ballot measures accessible to the public, the committee created a website, worked with a technical writer to create easy-to-read campaign materials, and translated its materials into Spanish. Campaign volunteers tabled at post offices and grocery stores, gave presentations in public forums such as the local Botanical Garden, and canvassed door-to-door in Ketchum, where the vote was expected to be toughest. To get out the vote, the citizens’ committee sent postcards, hired a vendor to send text reminders, and launched a relational texting campaign, in which campaign volunteers personally reminded their own close contacts to vote.

The trio of successful ballot measures in Idaho indicates that housing is a winning issue at the ballot box, as previously demonstrated in the November 2022 midterm election cycle. Voters had the opportunity to weigh in on nearly 100 housing-related ballot measures in the midterm elections, leading to billions of dollars in new housing resources, groundbreaking tenant protections, and zoning changes to facilitate housing development.

Find a summary of ballot measures from the November 2022 midterms [here](#).

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## **Join Today’s (June 5) “Tenant Talk Live” Webinar on Adopting Tenants’ Rights**

NLIHC will host the next session of “Tenant Talk Live” – a webinar with and for tenant and resident leaders – today, June 5, at 6 pm ET. Alongside NLIHC staff, the webinar will feature Dee Ross, founder and CEO of The Ross Foundation, a statewide grassroots organization that oversees the Indiana Tenant Association and the Indianapolis Tenant Rights Union. Dee will be sharing insights about effective ways to advocate for tenants’ rights legislation. You can register for today’s Tenant Talk Live webinar at: <https://tinyurl.com/4x88k595>

Tenant Talk Live webinars are held on the first and third Mondays of every month at 6 pm ET. For information about future topics, visit: <https://nlihc.org/tenant-talk-live-webinar>. Stay up to

date on Tenant Talk Live events and connect with other attendees via the [Tenant Talk Facebook group](#).

Want to learn how to become more involved with NLIHC? Check out the following opportunities:

- NLIHC is currently recruiting members for the 2023-2024. Tenant Leader Cohort. The Cohort is a group of tenant advocates and community leaders with lived experience of housing insecurity who work towards housing justice and racial equity in their neighborhoods and greater communities. NLIHC collaborates with the Tenant Leader Cohort to inform our policy priorities so they best reflect the needs of low-income renters. If you're interested in being part of next year's cohort, please fill out the [interest form](#). Selections for the cohort will be made on an ongoing basis through early summer 2023.
- Urge the FHFA to provide robust federal renter protections at our Tenant Talk Live Comment Party on Monday, June 12, at 6 pm ET. The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) has issued a [Request for Input \(RFI\)](#) regarding how the agency can create and enforce renter protections for households living in rental properties with federally backed mortgages. Any renter protections created by FHFA could cover a significant share of renters across the nation and put the U.S. on a path towards stronger protections for all renters. Advocates have until July 31, 2023, to [submit a public comment](#) and demand strong renter protections for properties with federally backed mortgages. Join us on June 12 for a special comment party edition of Tenant Talk Live, during which you can work on your comment and ask NLIHC staff questions about the comment period. Register to attend the comment party at: <https://bit.ly/NLIHC-FHFA-CommentParty>
- Remember, Tenant Talk Live would not be possible without tenants like you! We strive to connect and engage with tenants and tenant leaders through our webinars. If you are a low-income tenant and have a topic you would like to propose for an upcoming Tenant Talk Live, or if you would like to participate as a speaker on an upcoming call or webinar, please email: [sbetancourt@nlihc.org](mailto:sbetancourt@nlihc.org).
- Webinars like Tenant Talk Live would not be possible without the support of our members. Become an NLIHC member [here](#)!

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## Rural Housing

### **NLIHC Joins Housing Assistance Council Letter Urging Inclusion of Rural Housing Bill in Farm Bill**

NLIHC joined a letter authored by the Housing Assistance Council (HAC) urging the U.S Senate Committees on Banking and on Agriculture to work together to ensure that bipartisan, commonsense improvements to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Housing Service (RHS) programs are considered for inclusion in the 2023 Farm Bill. NLIHC urges

advocates to join the letter, which will be available until Friday, June 9. Read the letter and sign on [here](#).

Rural housing programs “are incredible resources for small towns and rural communities but are in need of modernization and streamlining to function more effectively in the contemporary rural context,” states the letter. The letter goes on to explain that “there are a variety of tested, commonsense improvements to the RHS programs that have been discussed and agreed upon in a bipartisan fashion in Congress, and the 2023 Farm Bill is an opportunity to bring those improvements across the finish line.”

Read and sign your organization on to the letter at: <https://tinyurl.com/37dydfs4>

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## **Opportunity Starts at Home**

### **New Report Examines Effects of Exclusionary Zoning on Educational Opportunities in New York City**

A new report by the Century Foundation examines the impacts of exclusionary zoning on educational opportunities in New York City by examining two communities in Queens: Bayside/Little Neck and Jamaica/Hollis. The first in a series of studies undertaken in partnership with New York University’s Furman Center, the report examines current discussions about housing reform in NYC, the housing policies shaping the two Queens communities, the intersections of restrictive zoning and access to high-performing schools, the impacts of political obstacles on policy solutions, and strategies for the future. “For most people, where you live determines which public schools your children are allowed to attend,” writes Richard Kahlenberg, a former senior fellow at the Century Foundation, in an article about the report. “Because the vast majority of students in America attend neighborhood public schools, housing policy is also school policy. Exclusionary housing policies that keep many families out of high-performing public school districts thwart opportunity for low-income and working-class students, many of them students of color.” Read Kahlenberg’s article about the report [here](#).

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## **Research**

### **Eviction Filing Fees Impact Filings, Judgements, and Serial Filing Practices**

New research published in *Housing Policy Debate*, “[The Racially Disparate Influence of Filing Fees on Eviction Rates](#),” examines how eviction filing fees impact the prevalence of eviction filings, eviction judgments, and serial eviction filings by landlords. The study further examines how these effects vary according to neighborhood racial composition. Higher eviction filing fees appear to significantly reduce eviction filing rates and eviction judgments, while lower fees are associated with higher rates of serial eviction filings by landlords. All three effects appear to be larger in majority-Black neighborhoods compared to majority-white neighborhoods. The authors

argue that filing fees are an important local policy lever for addressing housing instability, especially for Black renters, who are disproportionately impacted by evictions.

The authors obtained data on eviction filing costs from online resources and local court officials, eviction filings and judgements from Princeton's Eviction Lab, and neighborhood characteristics from the American Community Survey (ACS). Serial eviction filings were defined as instances in which a landlord made more than one eviction filing against the same tenant within a year and rates were inferred in the aggregate from the eviction data. To conduct their analysis, the authors compared eviction filing costs with eviction filing, eviction judgement, and serial eviction filing rates at the neighborhood level (census tracts), while controlling for other factors such as rental market characteristics, tenant protection laws, political context, race, income, and household composition.

Filing fees ranged from \$15 to \$350. After controlling for other factors, the authors found that a \$76 increase in eviction filing fees was associated with a 1.71 percentage point decline in eviction filing rates and a 0.49 percentage point decline in eviction judgements. A \$76 increase in eviction filing fees was also associated with 3.11 percentage point decline in the share of serial eviction filings. Eviction filing fees were also found to have greater impacts on eviction filing rates (357%), eviction judgement rates (361%), and serial eviction filing rates (107%) in majority-Black neighborhoods compared to majority-white neighborhoods.

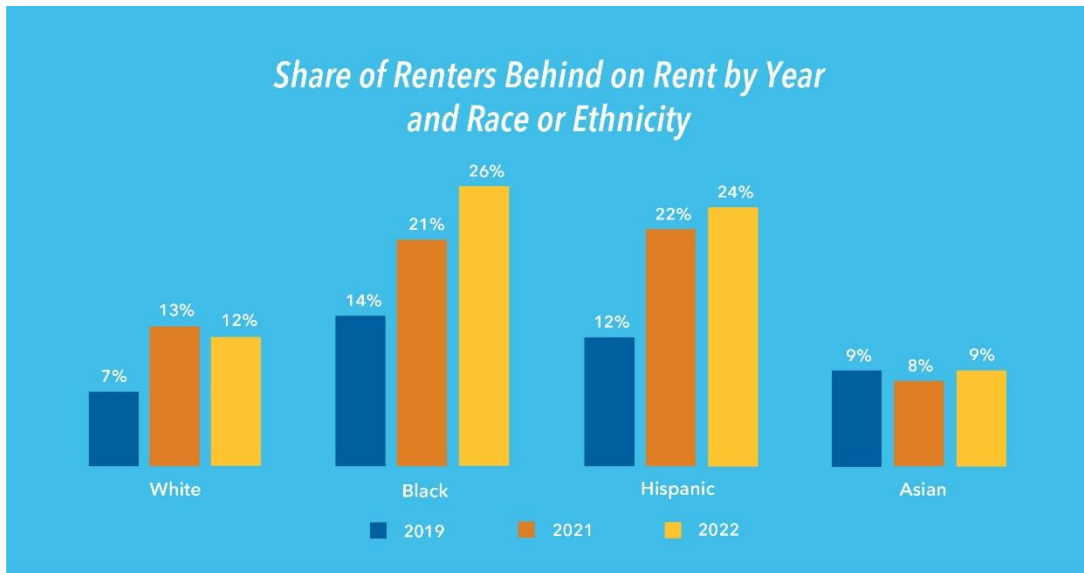
These findings strongly suggest that eviction filings fees are an effective policy lever for addressing housing instability at the local level, especially for Black renters, who suffer disproportionately from evictions. The authors argue that localities should consider increasing eviction filing fees to reduce eviction filings, eviction judgements, and serial eviction filings. However, the authors caution that landlords might resort to informal evictions in communities where eviction filing fees increase. Complimentary measures, such as tenants' rights education campaigns and greater oversight of utility shutoffs, are needed to inhibit landlords from resorting to informal evictions.

Read the report at: <https://bit.ly/3IQv6WZ>

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## **Fact of the Week**

### **Disproportionate Shares of Black and Hispanic Renters Are Behind on Rent**



Source: Adapted from Figure 27 in “Economic Well-being of Households in 2022,” by the Federal Reserve Board, 2023. Retrieved from <https://www.federalreserve.gov/consumerscommunities/shed.htm>



Source: Adapted from Figure 27 in “Economic Well-being of Households in 2022,” by the Federal Reserve Board, 2023. Retrieved from: <https://www.federalreserve.gov/consumerscommunities/shed.htm>

## NLIHC Publications

### Hard Copies of NLIHC Publications Are Now Available!

Did you know that in addition to digital versions, NLIHC publishes paper copies of all our flagship publications, including *Tenant Talk*, *The Gap*, and the *Advocates’ Guide*? [Tenant Talk](#) is a bi-annual newsletter for tenants, residents, and other low-income renters that engages people from different backgrounds in housing advocacy. [The Gap](#) documents the gap between the number of renter households and rental units that are affordable and available to them by income grouping in every state and the largest 50 metropolitan areas. [Advocates’ Guide](#) is a comprehensive resource designed to educate advocates about the programs and policies that make housing affordable to low-income people across America. You can order paper copies of these publications today by contacting NLIHC at [CommunicationsTeam@nlihc.org](mailto:CommunicationsTeam@nlihc.org). Discounted bulk rates are available for members, and all publications are available while supplies last.

## NLIHC Careers

### NLIHC Seeks Director of Operations

NLIHC seeks a director of operations to work closely with the NLIHC vice president of finance and operations and the operations associate to ensure effective and efficient NLIHC operations in support of the Coalition's mission to achieve racially and socially equitable public policy that ensures people with the lowest incomes have quality homes that are accessible and affordable in communities of their choice. The director of operations is responsible for implementing and enhancing the financial, human resources and administrative processes that will enable the Coalition to effectively fulfill its mission. The director of operations will report to the vice president of finance and operations.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

### **Financial Management**

1. Accounts Payable/Receivables. Implement business policies and accounting practices, including the preparation of all payments and entries into the payment and accounting systems, and monitoring of deposits, invoices, and expenditures. Review the assignment of general ledger codes to revenue receipts (grants, donations, memberships, and other payments).
2. Accounting and Auditing. Work with accountants, the vice president of operations and finance, and the operations associate to prepare monthly finance reports; to prepare year-end work documents for accountant's review; and to provide auditors required accounting/financial/personnel documentation needed in the preparation and execution of annual audit and the 990 preparation.
3. Reporting. Maintain all financial records in an accurate, orderly, and up-to-date manner; ensure relevant financial data are generated for use by the president/CEO, VP of operations and finance, and the Finance Committee and/or Board of Directors. In coordination with the VP of operations and finance, prepare monthly financial Excels assigning expenses to NLIHC's 501(c)(4) and for the monthly tracking of outside donor financials.
4. Banking and Insurance. Review on-line bank accounts; manage merchant accounts and submit information for payment; monitor insurance policies and respond to related issues.
5. Form preparation. Prepare required forms with accurate data/information for annual 403b IRS 5500 tax filings and anti-discrimination testing.

### **Vendor/Partners/Grantees**

1. Vendors/Partners/Grantees. Play a key role in all relationships with NLIHC vendors, partners and grantees to include contract preparation and oversight, deliverable tracking, invoicing and payments. Maintain relationships with all vendors; solicit comparisons to assure economical and high-quality purchasing and vendor services.
2. IT and Cybersecurity Vendor. Work with IT and Cybersecurity vendor to manage implementation of IT infrastructure and updates. Lead efforts to improve IT systems based on recommendations from IT and Cybersecurity vendor(s).

### **Facilities Management**

1. Equipment. Oversee status of all office equipment; arrange for routine maintenance and special repairs; ensure supplies are maintained in sufficient quantities for uninterrupted service;

manage phone system, including assignment of codes; maintain printers/scanner in top working order, as well as equipment related to the computer system.

2. Building. Oversee relationship with landlord and key and access card distribution to staff. Respond to physical problems with office, report to building supervisor, and follow up to ensure resolution.

### **Human Resources: Hiring, Staffing, Personnel, Payroll and Benefits**

1. Hiring. Oversee hiring process with Operations Associate. Responsible for review of resumes, conducting reference checks and preparing offer letters for potential candidates.

2. Onboarding. Oversee onboarding process for both new hires and interns, to include orientation schedules.

3. Benefits. Administer the Coalition's health and benefits program with the vice president of operations and finance; manage contracts with health, dental, retirement and life/ disability insurance providers. Prepare annual workers compensation audits for insurance renewal. Submit applications and terminations for new and departing employees. Update staff on benefits changes and guide staff on enrollment (new-staff enrollments and annual renewals. Assist new staff with enrolling in the 403b plan.

4. Payroll. Process payroll every two weeks. Manage relationship with payroll provider. Ensure processes for registration of staff in states where they reside, and proper state employment-related taxes are paid.

5. Records maintenance. Assure the completion and administration of all required employment-related documents, leave records and personnel records.

6. Performance Management. Assist in the performance management process with Department leaders and VP of Operations and Administration.

7. Support the development and implementation of HR initiatives and systems.

### **Other Duties**

1. Financial/Personnel Document Management. Coordinate the proper management, retention, and destruction of all financial and personnel documents and files.

2. Internal communication. Ensure staff are informed of all pertinent financial, benefits, human resource, building facilities and other pertinent information; ensure that all staff receive pertinent notices and information.

3. Policy development / adherence: Update and ensure adherence to company policies and procedures. Ensure NLIHC office environment/equipment is adequate and safe. Implement policies and procedures that will improve day-to-day operations. Coordinate annual update of the NLIHC Disaster Preparedness/Business Continuity Plan. Coordinate with NLIHC staff the regular updating of the NLIHC Standard Operating Procedures – 4-5 functional areas each year.

4. Business License: Coordinate business license registration materials, submissions and timelines.

### **Organizational Support**

1. Attend and provide staff support at all Board meetings, state coalition meetings, annual policy forum and fundraising event, and other special events.

2. Attend and participate in staff meetings, retreats, trainings, and all Coalition events.

3. Other duties as assigned.

### **Qualifications**

This is a full-time position with a hybrid schedule in Washington, DC. Applicants must have a strong commitment to social justice and NLIHC's mission. This position would be ideal for someone with over 10 years of relevant experience in the workforce who have strong experience in finance, human resources and administration.

All applicants must be proficient in the Microsoft Office suite. Knowledge of Sage Intacct or comparable accounting software is extremely beneficial. A solid- to intermediate-level of proficiency with Excel is required.

A person will be most successful in this role if you have strong interpersonal skills with a commitment to confidentiality, and have strong analytical, writing, and organizational skills, as well as a keen attention to detail. A candidate will also thrive in a diverse, fast paced-environment.

An equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, NLIHC offers a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

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### **NLIHC Seeks Operations Associate**

NLIHC seeks an operations associate to work closely with the NLIHC director of operations and the vice president of operations and finance to ensure effective and efficient NLIHC operations in support of the Coalition's mission to achieve racially and socially equitable public policy that ensures people with the lowest incomes have quality homes that are accessible and affordable in communities of their choice. The operations assistant will support the operations team with key functions related to financial management, organizational recordkeeping, mailing, meetings and events, intern hiring, IT support; and other duties as assigned. The operations assistant will report to the director of operations.

#### **Responsibilities/Duties:**

##### **Administration and Recordkeeping**

- Maintain key operations department files (financial, contract, personnel, etc.) and provide requested documents for annual audit.
- Coordinate with NLIHC staff in procuring needed office supplies.
- Ensure check deposits to NLIHC's bank account at least weekly.
- Assign general ledger codes to revenue receipts (grants, donations, memberships, and other payments).
- Receive vendor/contractor invoices and requests for staff expenditures, prepare payments to vendors/staff with appropriate general ledger coding in Bill.com, and make allocations to NLIHC's 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) as appropriate. Submit payments for approval by VP of operations and finance and/or director of operations in Bill.com.



- Work with NLIHC program staff to ensure proper preparation of grants from NLIHC to state and local partners, ensure grant letters are signed in a timely manner, and get grants processed for payments in Bill.com. Maintain electronic files of all contracts and grants for submission to auditors.
- Coordinate with the operations director to transition previous years financial documents into storage (on and off-site) and to update the system to receive the new/current years financial documents.
- Implement procedures to process staff expenditure requests and payments.
- Completing monthly credit card reconciliation.
- Update approved changes to NLIHC Personnel Policies handbook.
- Prepare bi-weekly expense report from Bill.com for the CEO's review as part of the department's reconciliation activities.
- Conduct annual equipment inventory.
- Monitor status of all office equipment, including assigning inventory codes; arrange for routine maintenance and special repairs; ensure supplies are maintained in sufficient quantities for uninterrupted service; assist in managing phone system, including assignment of extension codes; ensure maintenance of printers/scanners in top working order, as well as equipment related to the computer system.
- Manage relationship with landlord and key and access card distribution to staff. Respond to physical problems with office, report to building supervisor, and follow up to ensure resolution.
- Coordinate document organization and destruction in the NLIHC storage facility once per year.
- Assist in preparation and mailing of acknowledgement letters, publications and other NLIHC correspondence, as needed.
- Coordinate business license registration materials, submissions and timelines
- Assist in internal IT troubleshooting and updates to IT and telecommunication systems.
- Other duties as assigned.

### **Hiring/Staffing/HR**

- Post vacancy position announcements, review resumes, schedule interviews.
- Ensure intern postings on Idealist and university websites each semester.
- Prepare new staff and intern IT accounts, equipment, and on-boarding orientation schedules in coordination with outsourced IT contractor
- Ensure timely delivery of intern stipend payments in Bill.com.
- Coordinate/facilitate quarterly intern outing or group experience.

### **Board**

- Assist executive assistant in coordinating Board travel.
- Assist Operations Department in staffing relevant Board committees (finance, investment and personnel) to include but not limited to scheduling meetings, preparing minutes and providing other meeting support.

### **Meetings and Events**

- Assist in the planning and preparation of NLIHC events in conjunction with staff members and potential consultants.

### **Qualifications:**

This is a full-time position with a strong preference for candidates physically located in the metropolitan Washington, DC area. Applicants must have a strong commitment to social justice and NLIHC's mission. This position would be ideal for someone with 2-8 years of relevant experience in the workforce; candidates with a variety of relevant experience will be considered. All applicants must be proficient in the Microsoft Office suite. Basic to intermediate-level Excel skills strongly preferred.

A person will be most successful in this role if you have strong interpersonal skills with a commitment to confidentiality, and have strong analytical, writing, and organizational skills, as well as a keen attention to detail.

An equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, NLIHC offers a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter with salary requirement to June Jimenez via email at: [info@tama-solutions.com](mailto:info@tama-solutions.com), who is assisting with this search.

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## **NLIHC in the News**

### **NLIHC in the News for the Week of May 28**

The following are some of the news stories to which NLIHC contributed during the week of May 28:

- “Why So Many Luxury Condos Are Built in Cities Facing an Affordable Housing Crisis” *Forbes*, May 30 at: <https://tinyurl.com/bdzkc8nw>
- “The Pros and Cons of the Debt Deal for States and Localities” *Route Fifty*, May 30 at: <https://tinyurl.com/ws7ej7bs>
- “Debt-ceiling deal’s work requirements and spending caps would hurt poor people, advocates warn” *MSN*, June 1 at: <https://tinyurl.com/3rkejy9n>

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## **NLIHC News**

### **NLIHC Welcomes Sarah Abdelhadi as Senior Research Analyst**

NLIHC is pleased to welcome Sarah Abdelhadi as a senior research analyst. Sarah previously served as a research associate with Legal Services Corporation (LSC), the nation's largest funder of civil legal services for low-income individuals. As part of the team behind LSC's congressionally funded [Eviction Study](#), Sarah led the development of the [Eviction Laws](#)

[Database](#) in partnership with the Center for Public Health Law Research at Temple University. She was also a founding member of the [Civil Court Data Initiative](#), which collects and translates civil court data into actionable insights for civil legal aid providers, justice advocates, and policymakers. Prior to joining LSC, Sarah worked in healthcare delivery, program monitoring and evaluation, and advocacy efforts on behalf of refugee communities and other vulnerable populations with organizations like the Syrian American Medical Society, Unite for Sight, and Universities Allied for Essential Medicines. She received a Master of Public Health degree in 2017 from the University of North Texas Health Science Center, where she specialized in epidemiology and global health. She also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry from the University of Texas at Austin.

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## Where to Find Us – June 5

- Sinergia NY Housing Advocacy Program - Virtual, June 7 (Lindsay Duvall)
  - South Dakota Housing for the Homeless Consortium, Annual Homeless Summit – Pierre, SD, June 13-14 (Diane Yentel and Courtney Cooperman)
  - Housing & Community Development Network of New Jersey [Legislative Day](#) – Trenton, NJ, June 15 (Lindsay Duvall)
  - Supportive Housing Network of New York Conference – New York, NY, June 29 (Diane Yentel)
  - 17<sup>th</sup> Annual KATZ Lecture, Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging – Virtual, July 13 (Diane Yentel)
  - [A Home for Everyone](#) – Oshkosh, WI, July 19-20 (Courtney Cooperman)
  - Virginia Housing Alliance, Annual Awards Lunch – Richmond, VA, July 21 (Diane Yentel)
  - Ability Housing, Inc. Annual Summit – Kissimmee, FL, September 12-13 (Diane Yentel)
  - [Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of New York Annual Conference](#) – Saratoga Springs, NY, September 19 (Lindsay Duvall)
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## NLIHC Staff

Sarah Abdelhadi, Senior Research Analyst

Meredith Abel, Research Intern

Andrew Aurand, Senior Vice President for Research, x245

Sidney Betancourt, Housing Advocacy Organizer, x200

Victoria Bourret, ERASE Senior Project Coordinator x244

Jen Butler, Vice President of Media Relations and Communications, x239

Alayna Calabro, Senior Policy Analyst, x252

Matthew Clarke, Writer/Editor, x207

Courtney Cooperman, Housing Advocacy Organizer, x263

Lindsay Duvall, Senior Organizer for Housing Advocacy, x206

Dan Emmanuel, Senior Research Analyst, x316

Ed Gramlich, Senior Advisor, x314

Sarah Gallagher, Senior Director, ERASE Project, x220  
Jordan Goldstein, Communications/Graphic Design Intern  
Yingxue Snow Guo, Communications Intern  
Danita Humphries, Senior Executive Assistant, x226  
Nada Hussein, ERASE Project Coordinator, x264  
Kim Johnson, Public Policy Manager, x243  
Mike Koprowski, OSAH Campaign Director, x317  
Kayla Laywell, Housing Policy Analyst, x231  
Mayerline Louis-Juste, Senior Communications Specialist, x201  
Steve Moore Sanchez, Development Coordinator, x209  
Khara Norris, Senior Director of Administration, x242  
Noah Patton, Senior Housing Policy Analyst, x227  
Mackenzie Pish, Research Analyst  
Ikra Rafi, Creative Services Manager, x246  
Benja Reilly, Development Specialist, x234  
Gabrielle Ross, Housing Advocacy Organizer, x208  
Sarah Saadian, Senior Vice President for Public Policy and Field Organizing, x228  
Brooke Schipporeit, Manager of Field Organizing x233  
Sophie Siebach-Glover, Research Analyst, x205  
Lauren Steimle, Web/Graphic Design Specialist, x246  
Chantelle Wilkinson, OSAH Campaign Manager, x230  
Renee Willis, Senior Vice President for Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, x247  
Diane Yentel, President and CEO, x225