

NLIHC's HoUSed Campaign for Long-Term Housing Solutions

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Welcome & Updates



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Agenda



Overview: President Trump's "Skinny" Budget Request for FY26

- Kim Johnson, Senior Policy Director, NLIHC

Threats to Rental Assistance in the FY26 "Skinny" Budget Request

- Sonya Acosta, Senior Policy Analyst, Center on Budget & Policy Priorities

LIHEAP Status Update & Implications for Low-Income Households

- Olivia Wein, Senior Attorney, National Consumer Law Center

On-the-Ground Impact & Advocacy

- Cathy Alderman, Chief Communications & Public Policy Officer, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

Resources & Next Steps

Overview: President Trump's FY26 "Skinny" Budget Request



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Overview: President Trump's FY26 "Skinny" Budget Request



What is a "skinny" budget request?

The "skinny" budget request acts as a preview to the President's full budget request

- Gives the White House more time to draft text for the full budget, while giving Congress the information it needs to start the appropriations process
- President's full budget request expected later in May or June

Remember: The President's budget request (skinny or not) represents the President and his Administration's priorities – *it is a wish list, not an inevitability*

Overview: President Trump's FY26 "Skinny" Budget Request



What does the "skinny" request propose for housing and homelessness assistance?

The "skinny" request would cut HUD's budget by 44% from FY25

- Including cutting \$26.7 billion – 43% -- from HUD's rental assistance program, and redesigning HUD rental assistance entirely
- Cuts Homeless Assistance Grants by \$532 million (13% decrease from FY25) and consolidates programs under the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program
- Imposes a two-year time limit on receiving rental or homelessness assistance
- Cuts \$479 million from Native housing programs and consolidates IHBG-Competitive and Native Housing Block Grant under the IHBG program

Overview: President Trump's FY26 "Skinny" Budget Request



What does the “skinny” request propose for housing and homelessness assistance?

The “skinny” request would cut funding for:

- Lead Hazard Reduction and Healthy Homes Funding (-\$296 million)

The “skinny” request would eliminate:

- Community Development Block Grants
- HOME Investment Partnership Programs
- Family Self-Sufficiency Program
- Pathways to Removing Obstacles (PRO) Housing Grants
- Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP)

Overview: President Trump's FY26 "Skinny" Budget Request



What about other housing-related programs?

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- Cuts funding for Non-Disaster FEMA Grant Programs (-\$646 million)
- Eliminates FEMA's Shelter and Services Program

Department of Agriculture

- Increases funding for Rental Assistance Grants (+\$74 million)
- Cuts funding for Rural Development Programs (-\$721 million)

Health & Human Services (HHS)

- Eliminates the Low-Income Heating and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Overview: President Trump's FY26 "Skinny" Budget Request



Take Action!

- Organizations can [sign a national letter](#) opposing cuts to federal housing investments, and in support of expanding resources.
- [Contact your members of Congress](#) and educate them about the importance of federal affordable housing and homelessness investments and why cuts to these investments will harm your communities and neighbors. Learn more about effective storytelling with NLIHC's resource, "[Storytelling Tips and Tricks](#)."
- Check out the "[Reject Housing Cuts and EHV Funding Cliff: Action Toolkit](#)," developed in partnership with the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, National Alliance to End Homelessness, and National Housing Law Project.

Threats to Rental Assistance in the FY26 “Skinny” Budget Request



Sonya Acosta

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Millions of People Would Face Homelessness under Trump Budget

Block Grant & Cut Rental Assistance

- Lump together 5 programs into block grant to states:
 - Housing Choice Vouchers
 - Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance
 - Public Housing
 - Section 202 Housing for the Elderly
 - Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities
- Cut by **\$27 billion** (43 percent)

Implement Time Limits

- Two-year time limit
- Would likely exclude older adults and some people with disabilities
- Ignores reality of low wages and high rents

Block Granting Will Lead to Future Cuts

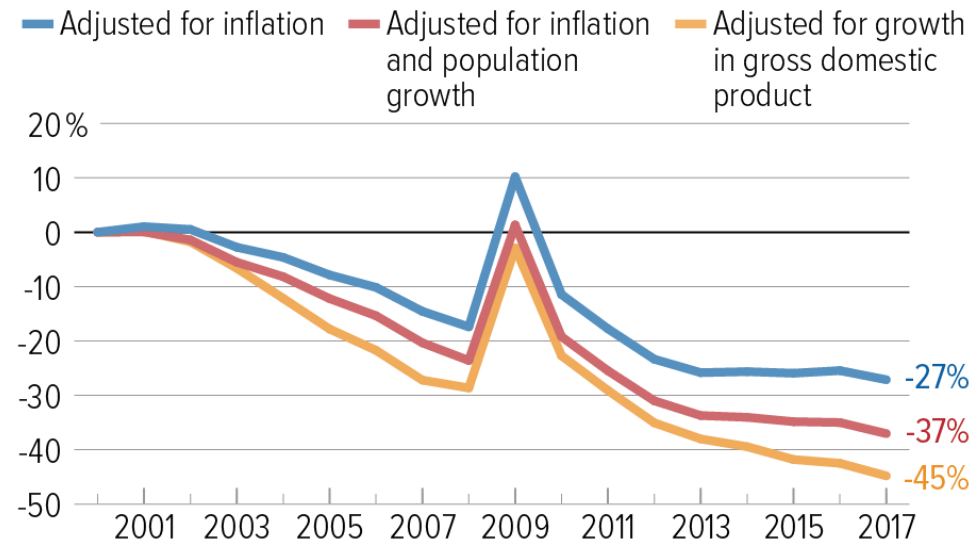
History shows block grants for people with low incomes lose funding over time

Any state funding available to “share costs” would just be offsetting cuts

States then responsible for implementing harsh cuts

Overall Funding for Housing, Health, and Human Services Block Grants Has Fallen Significantly Since 2000

Change relative to 2000 funding level



Note: Includes funding from the 2009 Recovery Act. For non-entitlement programs, 2017 levels represent annualized funding under the current continuing resolution (which expires on April 28, 2017); final levels for 2017 may end up higher or lower than shown here.

Source: CBPP based on Congressional Research Service reports, agency budget justification documents, and appropriations legislation. Inflation data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics; population data from the Social Security and Medicare Trustees; gross domestic product data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

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Additional Funding Needed to Ensure Nearly 60,000 Households Stay Housed

Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs) received \$5 billion in 2021

- Targeted to people at risk of or experiencing homelessness and survivors of domestic violence and trafficking

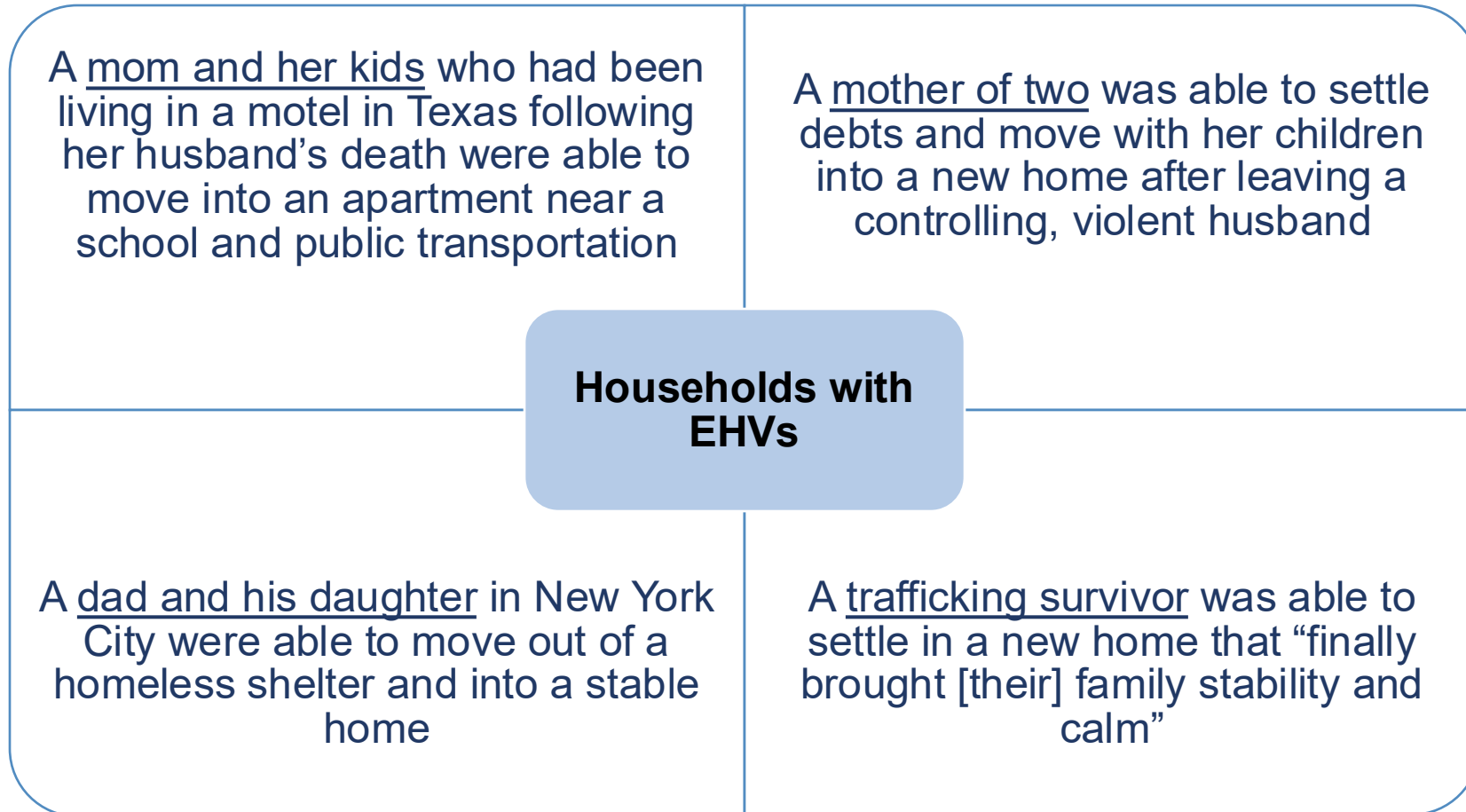
Funding projected to run out mid-way through 2026 or sooner for some agencies

- Rapid rent increases in 2021 and 2022 led to higher program costs

More than 59,000 households still rely on EHVs to pay rent every month

- Communities lack resources to transition them to other programs

Use Our Toolkit to Lift Up the Stories of People with EHV_s in Your Community



Housing Voucher Funding Asks for 2026 and Beyond

1. Fully Funding Housing Choice Vouchers

Includes ensuring that no one with an EHV loses assistance

2. Reject Proposal to Block Grant Rental Assistance

3. No Policies That Take Assistance Away from People

Includes time limits and work requirements

4. Looking forward, we need a rental assistance guarantee

Rental assistance is a proven tool, the remaining need is high, and improvements can be made that don't deny people assistance

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LIHEAP Status Update & Implications for Low-Income Households



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On-the-Ground Impact & Advocacy



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Resources & Next Steps



Read [NLIHC's analysis](#) of the Trump Administrations FY26 “skinny” budget request.

Check out the [Defending Rental Assistance Toolkit](#) for advocacy ideas, talking points, resources, and more!

[Learn more](#) and take action to defend LIHEAP [by sharing your story](#) with NCLC.

Learn more about the [Colorado Coalition for the Homeless](#).

View [recordings](#) of previous National Calls and [register](#) for future calls.

Join our next National HoUsed Campaign Call:
Tuesday, May 27 at 4:00 -5:00 pm ET