



September 5, 2019

To ABC, Univision, and Moderators of the next presidential candidate debate:

We, the undersigned 617 organizations, urge you to ask each presidential candidate how they would address the nation's housing and homelessness crisis.

Our country is in the grips of a severe and pervasive housing affordability crisis. Nationally, there is a shortage of 7 million homes affordable and available to the lowest-income renters. Rents have risen faster than renters' incomes over the last two decades, and while more people are renting than ever before, the supply of housing has lagged. Fewer than four affordable and available rental homes exist for every 10 of the lowest-income renter households nationwide. As a result, record-breaking numbers of people cannot afford decent homes. Every state and community – urban, rural, and suburban – is impacted.

So far, 11 presidential candidates have released major housing plans or other housing proposals to address the housing crisis. They are talking about these plans on the campaign trail - in town halls, forums, and coffees in New Hampshire, Iowa, and beyond. But during the first two rounds of presidential debates, debate moderators have neglected to directly ask candidates how they would address our nation's housing affordability crisis. People in America need to hear all presidential candidates share what they will do to make homes affordable to the tens of millions who are struggling to keep roofs over their heads or who have no homes at all.

This is an issue of paramount importance to voters. According to a recent national public opinion [poll](#), 60% of people say housing affordability is a serious problem where they live, up 21 points from 2016. Over 61% of people report having to make at least one sacrifice in the past three years because they were struggling with housing costs, such as cutting back on learning activities for their child, nutritious food, or healthcare.

Strong majorities of the public expect solutions. Eighty-three percent say elected officials are not paying enough attention to the cost of housing and the need for more affordable housing. Nearly 8 in 10 people in America say the president should "take major action" to make housing more affordable for low-income families. And 91% of Democratic voters say they are more likely to vote for candidates who have detailed plans for making housing more affordable.

When people have stable, accessible, and affordable homes, lives dramatically improve, economic productivity is stronger, and our nation is more just and equitable. Voters want our leaders to address affordable housing, and they need to know where the candidates stand.

As you prepare for the September Democratic debates, we urge you to ask each candidate the question on the minds of voters: How will you address the nation's affordable housing crisis?

Sincerely,

National and Multistate Organizations

African American Health Alliance
Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
ADAPT (Americans with Disabilities Action Planning Team)
Autistic Self Advocacy Network
B'nai B'rith International
Catholic Charities USA
Catholic Health Association
Center for American Progress
Center for Community Progress
Children's Defense Fund
Children's HealthWatch
Coalition on Human Needs
Community Solutions
Corporation for Supportive Housing
Council of State Community Development Agencies
Enterprise Community Partners
Fahe, Inc.
Family Promise
Funders Together to End Homelessness
Grounded Solutions Network
Habitat for Humanity International
Healthy Schools Campaign
Housing Justice Center
International Center for Appropriate and Sustainable Technology
Legal Action Center
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
National Affordable Housing Trust
National AIDS Housing Coalition
National Alliance of HUD Tenants
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alliance on Mental Illness Northwest
National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Association of Housing Cooperatives

National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies
National Association of Social Workers
National Association Resident Management Corporation
National Church Residences
National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
National Coalition for the Homeless
National Community Development Association
National Council on Agricultural Life and Labor Research Fund, Inc.
National Disability Rights Network
National Fair Housing Alliance
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Housing & Redevelopment Association
National Housing Conference
National Housing Law Project
National Housing Trust
National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty
National Leased Housing Association
National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund
National Low Income Housing Coalition
National NeighborWorks Association
National Women's Law Center
Natural Resources Defense Council
Next Step Network, Inc.
PathStone Corporation
Poverty and Race Research Action Council
Prosperity Now
ReFrame Association
RESULTS
The Arc
The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights
Up for Growth Action
Volunteers of America
ZERO TO THREE

State Organizations

Alabama

Collaborative Solutions, Inc.
Low Income Housing Coalition of Alabama
YWCA Central Alabama

Alaska

Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
Alaska Community Development Corporation

Cook Inlet Housing Authority
Family Promise Mat-Su

Arizona

Ability360
Arizona ADAPT
Arizona Housing Coalition
Arizona Housing, Inc.
DIRECT Center for Independence
HOM, Inc.
Our Family Services
Southwest Fair Housing Council

Arkansas

Better Community Development, Inc.
Delta Community Development and Law Center, Inc.
Fort Smith Housing Authority
Universal Housing Development Corporation

California

A Community of Friends
A Lens of Her Own
ArcSource Consulting, Inc.
Bonnewit Development Services
BRIDGE Housing
Brilliant Corners
Burbank Housing
California Coalition for Rural Housing
California Housing Partnership
Castillo & Company
Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities
Center for Sustainable Neighborhoods
Christian Church Homes
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition
Democrats of the Desert
Destination: Home
Diverse and Eclectic Productions
Domestic Violence Solutions for Santa Barbara County
EAH Housing
East San Gabriel Valley Coalition for the Homeless
Energy and Associates
EveryOne Home
Fair Housing Council of the San Fernando Valley
Haven Connect

Homeless Resource Council of The Sierras
Housing Authority City of Los Angeles
Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara
Housing on Merit
Laurin Associates
LeadingAge California
Little Tokyo Service Center
Love Never Fails
Mary Erickson Community Housing
Montebello Housing Development Corporation
New Harmony Habitat
Oakland Tenants Union
Office of the City of Chico Councilmember Karl Ory
Orange County United Way
Park Pacific Tower Tenant Community
Pathways of Hope
People's Self-Help Housing Corporation
Poly Clean Center
Provider Alliance to End Homelessness
Pyatok Architects
Redwood Gardens Tenant Association
Resources for Community Development
Sacramento Housing Alliance
Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness
Sacred Heart Parish
Seifel Consulting
Shelter Partnership, Inc.
Single Room Occupancy Housing Corporation
Sonoma County Housing Advocacy Group
South Bay YIMBY
Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing
Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation
The John Stewart Company
The Kennedy Commission
The Public Interest Law Project
Townspople
Transition House
U.S. Vets Homeless Feeding & Housing Services
Van Meter Williams Pollock LLP
Western Regional Advocacy Project
Women Organizing Resources, Knowledge and Services
Women's Empowerment
Xun Biosphere Project

Colorado

CARE Housing, Inc.
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
Community Restoration Partners LLC
Housing Colorado
Mercy Housing, Inc.
Mercy Loan Fund
Metro West Housing Solutions
Toolbox Creative

Connecticut

Affordable Housing Alliance of Connecticut
Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness
East Windsor Housing Authority
Eastern Connecticut Housing Opportunities
Fairfield Housing Authority
Neighborhood Housing Services of Waterbury
New London Housing Authority
The Housing Development Fund, Inc.

Delaware

Better Homes of Seaford, Inc.
Empowering Single Moms, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County
Housing Alliance Delaware

District of Columbia

Coalition for Nonprofit Housing and Economic Development
Community of Hope
D.C. Tenants' Advocacy Coalition
Jubilee Housing, Inc.
Latino Economic Development Center
N Street Village
Unity Health Care

Florida

Ability Housing, Inc.
Affordable Homeownership Foundation
Arcadia DeSoto County Habitat for Humanity
Central Florida Commission On Homelessness
Cordoba Courts Tenant Association
Cornerstone Housing, Inc.
Fair Housing Center of the Greater Palm Beaches

Florida Alliance of Community Development Corporations, Inc.
Florida Supportive Housing Coalition
Habitat for Humanity of Pensacola
Hallisky Davis & Associates LLC
Housing Partners of Florida LLC
Jericho Road Legal Service Ministry, Inc.
Neighborhood Renaissance, Inc.
October 22nd Alliance to End Homelessness
Pablo Towers
Saint Johns Housing Partnership, Inc.
Stone Soup Development
Sulzbacher

Georgia

Catholic Charities Atlanta
Crossroads Community Ministries, Inc.
Georgia Advancing Communities Together, Inc.
Georgia Federation of Democratic Women
Georgia Supportive Housing Association, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity - DeKalb
JCVision and Associates, Inc.
NeighborWorks Columbus
Tapestry Development Group
Thomaston Housing Authority

Hawaii

Hale Kipa
Hale Makana O Nanakuli - Mark Development, Inc.
Hawai'i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development
Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice
Office of State Senator Stanley Chang

Idaho

Habitat for Humanity of Idaho Falls Area
Idaho Asset Building Network
Nez Perce Tribal Enterprises

Illinois

Action Ridge
Blessed Virgin Mary Sisters
Brinshore Development
Chicago Area Fair Housing
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
Chicago Rehab Network

City View Heights Development
Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc.
Community Partners for Affordable Housing, Inc.
Connections for the Homeless
Disability Resource Center
DuPagePads
Embrace Living Communities
Enterprise Community Asset Management, Inc.
HEAR US, Inc.
Hope Fair Housing Center
Housing Action Illinois
Housing Choice Partners
Housing Plus NFP
Illinois-Iowa Center for Independent Living
Lightengale Group
LUCHA
Manufactured Home Owners Association of Illinois
Next Steps
North/Northwest Suburban Task Force on Supportive Housing for Individuals with Mental
Illness
South Suburban Housing Center
Springfield Center for Independent Living
Supportive Housing Providers Association
Tria Adelfi LLC
Wilmette Justice Team

Indiana

Coburn Place Safe Haven
Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana
HAND, Inc.
Kirkpatrick Management Company
Mental Health America of West Central Indiana

Iowa

Family Promise of Greater Des Moines
Humility Homes and Services
Polk County Housing Trust Fund
Sisters of Saint Francis, Clinton, Iowa

Kansas

Interfaith Housing and Community Services, Inc.

Kentucky

AU Associates, Inc.

Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky
Kentucky Habitat for Humanity
People's Self-Help Housing, Inc.
River City Housing, Inc.
Shelter of Hope, Inc.

Louisiana

BGC Advantage LLC
Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center
Habitat for Humanity of Saint Tammany West
HousingLOUISIANA
HousingNOLA
Louvis Services, Inc.
Lower 9th Ward Homeownership Association
New Horizons, Inc.
Operation Restoration
Union Parish Section 8 Housing
UNITY of Greater New Orleans

Maine

3i Supportive Housing LLC
Auburn Housing Authority
Brunswick Housing Authority
Coastal Enterprises, Inc.
Community Housing of Maine
Fair Tide
Maine Affordable Housing Coalition
Portland Housing Authority
Preservation Management
Raise-Op Housing Cooperative

Maryland

Advocacy and Training Center
Creative Clayworks
Disability Rights Maryland
GMC Joint Venture LLC
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative
Habitat for Humanity Choptank
Heritage Housing Partners Corporation
Homes for America
Maryland ADAPT
Oxford Planning Group LLC
Wurzbacher and Associates

Massachusetts

Alliance of Cambridge Tenants
Autism Housing Pathways
Boston Tenant Coalition
Citizens' Housing and Planning Association, Inc.
Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations
Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition
Metro Housing | Boston
Norwood Housing Authority
Pine Street Inn
Preservation of Affordable Housing, Inc.
Regional Housing Network of Massachusetts
Uniting Citizens for Housing Affordability in Newton
Windham & Windsor Housing Trust

Michigan

Community Action House
Community Economic Development Association of Michigan
Greenhouse Tenant Council
Habitat for Humanity of Oakland County
Interfaith Hospitality Network
Michigan Association of Service Coordinators
Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness
SafeHouse Center
Saginaw Housing Commission
Shelter Association of Washtenaw County
United Tenant Council of Councils
Washtenaw Housing Alliance

Minnesota

Churches United for the Homeless
Ecolibrium3
Episcopal Homes of Minnesota
HOME Line
Housing for All
Integrated Community Solutions, Inc.
IntegratedService LLC
Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers
Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing
Minneapolis Highrise Representative Council
Minnesota Homeownership Center
Minnesota Housing Partnership

Minnesota Interfaith Coalition for Affordable Housing
Minnesota Interfaith Coalition for Affordable Housing Northeast Chapter
Neighbors, Inc.
North Star Treasury LLC
Our Spring Lake Store LLC
Rice County Habitat for Humanity
Solid Ground
Saint Stephen's Human Services

Missouri

Columbia Housing Authority
East Missouri Action Agency, Inc.
Empower Missouri
Habitat for Humanity of Springfield, Missouri
Hispanic Economic Development Corporation
Housing Authority City of Jefferson
Independence Housing Authority
New Beginnings Apartments
Sanctuary In The Ordinary
Sisters of the Most Precious Blood of Fallon, Missouri
Saint Charles County Housing Assistance Program
Saint Patrick Center
Urban Neighborhood Initiative
Vecino Group

Montana

Habitat for Humanity of Flathead Valley

Nebraska

Cirrus House
Hall County Housing Authority
Nebraska Housing Developers Association

Nevada

Nevada Homeless Alliance
Nevada Rural Housing Authority

New Hampshire

Affordable Housing, Education and Development, Inc.
CATCH Neighborhood Housing
Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth
Concord Coalition to End Homelessness
Cross Roads House, Inc.
Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire

Fellowship Housing Opportunities, Inc.
Greater Seacoast Community Health
Housing Action New Hampshire
JSA Architecture
Keene Housing
Lakes Region Community Developers
Leading Age Maine & New Hampshire
NeighborWorks Southern New Hampshire
Southwestern Community Services

New Jersey

Bergen Volunteers
Bridges Outreach
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Newark
Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey, Inc.
Diocesan Housing Services Corporation of the Diocese of Camden, Inc.
Diocese of Camden
DuBois Douglass Strategies
Haven House at Saint John of God
Homes of Montclair Ecumenical Corporation
Housing & Community Development Network of New Jersey
HQM Properties, Inc.
Hudson County Housing Resource Center, Inc.
Manufactured Home Owners Association of New Jersey
Morris Habitat for Humanity, Inc.
New Community Corporation
New Jersey Association on Correction
New Jersey Coalition to End Homelessness
New Jersey Tenants Organization
Northern Ocean Habitat for Humanity
Office of State Senator Troy Singleton
Pleasantville Community Development Corporation
Stonegate at Saint Stephens
Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey
The Village Apartments of Cherry Hill
Unified Vailsburg Services Organization
Urban League of Essex County
Victorian Towers Urban Renewal
Village at Saint Peter's Senior Housing

New Mexico

Community Against Violence, Inc.
El Refugio, Inc.
Family Promise of Albuquerque

Greater Albuquerque Housing Partnership
Heading Home
High Mountain Youth Project of Lincoln County, New Mexico
Mesilla Valley Community of Hope
New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness
NewLife Homes
One Door
Silver City Gospel Mission
Saint Elizabeth Shelters & Supportive Housing
Valle del Sol of New Mexico

New York

334 East 92nd Street Tenant Association
AIM Independent Living Center
Arbor Housing and Development
Association for Mental Health and Wellness
Barb Lamphere Consulting
Center for Disability Rights
Center for New York City Neighborhoods
Central Park Gardens Tenants' Association
CMC Development Group
Coalition for the Homeless
Community Development Corporation of Long Island
Community League of the Heights, Inc.
Community Service Society of New York
Concern for Independent Living, Inc.
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation
Disability Awareness Training
Geel Community Services, Inc.
Goshow Architects
Greater Syracuse Tenants Network
Habitat for Humanity of New York City
Habitat for Humanity of Ontario County
Habitat for Humanity of Tompkins and Cortland Counties
HANAC, Inc.
Housing Visions Unlimited, Inc.
Hudson River Housing, Inc.
IMPACCT Brooklyn
Keuka Housing Council, Inc.
Lantern Community Services
Leviticus Fund
Long Island Housing Services, Inc.
Mount Vernon United Tenants
New Destiny Housing Corporation

New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development
New York County Democratic Committee
New York Housing Conference
New York State Association for Affordable Housing
New York State Rural Housing Coalition
New York State Tenants and Neighbors
Norwich Housing Authority
Partners Ending Homelessness
Rochester Housing Authority
RUPCO, Inc.
Rutgers Houses Resident Association
Saugerties Public Housing Agency
Selfhelp Realty Group
Supportive Housing Network of New York
Tenants Political Action Committee
The Bluestone Organization
The Disaster Law Project
The Housing Council at PathStone
The New School
Unity House of Troy, Inc.
Upper West Side MoveOn/Indivisible Action Group
V&A Life Science Corporation

North Carolina

Affordable Housing Management, Inc.
Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity
Brunswick Housing Opportunities, Inc.
Community Home Trust
Community Link
Davidson Housing Coalition
Disability Rights North Carolina
Greensboro Housing Coalition
Habitat for Humanity of Goldsboro-Wayne
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Greensboro
Habitat for Humanity of Orange County
Helping Homeless to Housing
North Carolina Housing Coalition
North Carolina Justice Center
Olive Hill Community Economic Development Corporation, Inc.
SAGE Raleigh LGBT Senior Housing Initiative

Ohio

Barbara Poppe and Associates
Bethany House Services

CHN Housing Partners
Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio
Fair Housing Resource Center
Lowenstein Development LLC
Mt. Auburn Good Housing Foundation
Neighborhood Housing Partnership of Greater Springfield
Ohio Community Development Corporation Association
The City Mission
The Partnership Center, Ltd.
Wallick Communities

Oklahoma

Housing Authority of Sayre

Oregon

Central City Concern
Innovative Housing, Inc.
Northwest Pilot Project
Oregon Housing Alliance
ROSE Community Development Corporation
Transition Projects, Inc.
Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services
Women's International League for Peace & Freedom Portland

Pennsylvania

Allegheny County Housing Authority
Allentown Housing Authority
Center for Leadership, Development and Advocacy
Erie United Methodist Alliance, Inc. (EUMA)
Fayette County Community Action Agency
H.E.L.P. Philadelphia
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Pittsburgh
Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania
Housing Authority of Chester County
Housing Development Corporation MidAtlantic
Integra Home Counseling, Inc.
Perry Housing Partnership
Philadelphia Association of Community Development Corporations
Project HOME
Public Health Management Corporation

Puerto Rico

Coalición de Coaliciones Pro Personas sin Hogar de Puerto Rico, Inc.

Rhode Island

Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center
Community Housing Land Trust of Rhode Island
Foster Forward
House of Hope Community Development Corporation
Housing Network of Rhode Island
HousingWorks Rhode Island
Pawtucket Central Falls Development Corporation
Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless
Rhode Island Homeless Advocacy Project
Smith Hill Community Development Corporation
South County Habitat for Humanity
United Way of Rhode Island

South Carolina

Berean Community Development Corporation
Habitat for Humanity of York County

South Dakota

1008 Solutions
Oglala Sioux Tribe Partnership for Housing, Inc.

Tennessee

Clarksville Montgomery County Crisis Intervention, Inc.
Clinch-Powell Resource Conservation and Development Council
Creative Compassion, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Memphis
Memphis-Shelby County Healthy Homes Partnership
New Level Community Development Corporation
Tennessee Valley Coalition to End Homelessness
Vision Heirs, Inc.

Texas

ADAPT of Texas
Central Texas Housing Consortium
Harlingen Community Development Corporation
Housing Opportunities of Fort Worth, Inc.
Houston Housing Authority
J. DePenning Consulting, Inc.
Merced Housing Texas
NeighborWorks Laredo
New Hope Housing, Inc.
Personal Attendant Coalition of Texas
Project LIFT

REACH Resource Centers on Independent Living in in Fort Worth, Dallas, Denton and Plano
Rockhaven Ministries, Inc.
SouthFair Community Development Corporation
Texas Association of Community Development Corporations
Texas Homeless Network
Texas Housers
Texas Tenants' Union
Women Opting for More Affordable Housing Now, Inc.

Utah

Davis Community Housing Authority
Utah Housing Coalition

Vermont

Cathedral Square Corporation
Champlain Housing Trust
Committee on Temporary Shelter
Downstreet Housing & Community Development
Twin Pines Housing
Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition
Vermont Housing Finance Agency
Vermont Interfaith Action

Virginia

Arlington Retirement Housing Corporation - Culpepper Garden
Better Housing Coalition
Blue Ridge Independent Living Center
Bristol Redevelopment & Housing Authority
Community Housing Partners
Cornerstones
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
Dominion Due Diligence Group
Mid-Atlantic Affordable Housing Management Association
Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance
Piedmont Housing Alliance
SewTime
Shelter House
Virginia Community Development Corporation
Virginia Housing Alliance
Virginia Housing Development Authority

Washington

Bellwether Housing
Capitol Hill Housing
Catholic Charities Housing Services

Community Action Center
Everett Housing Authority
Homeward Bound
Housing Development Consortium of Seattle-King County
Housing Opportunities of Southwest Washington
Northwest Harvest
OPAL Community Land Trust
Parallax Perspectives
Resident Action Project
Shepherds Transformation Mansions Homeless Program
Washington Low Income Housing Alliance
Washington State Housing Finance Commission

West Virginia

Cebell-Huntington Coalition for the Homeless
West Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness

Wisconsin

DLoumos Consulting
Madison Area Community Land Trust
Oshkosh-Winnebago County Housing Authority
Pathfinders Milwaukee, Inc.
Stepping Stones of Dane County
Wisconsin Housing First Coalition
Wisconsin Partnership for Housing Development, Inc.