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Federal Government Shutdown

Congress and the White House Reach Agreement to Reopen Government for Three Weeks

As the partial federal government shutdown approached week six and with the Senate voting but failing to pass either of two competing funding bills on January 24, President Trump announced on the following day, January 25, that an agreement had been reached to temporarily reopen the federal government for three weeks. The stopgap funding measure, known as a continuing resolution, would end the longest government shutdown in our nation's history and give legislators time to negotiate a larger spending deal and border security. The bipartisan deal passed in the House and Senate and was signed by the president.

With the reopening of the government, HUD now has three weeks to start renewing rental assistance contracts, ensure homeless service providers receive delayed funding grants, and fund both public housing operations and Housing Choice Vouchers. USDA will be able to renew rental assistance and approve loans. Three weeks will not be enough time, however, for HUD and USDA to address the backlog of work that piled up during the shutdown. Congress must pass full-year spending bills that provide robust funding for affordable housing and community development programs.

In response to President Trump's announcement that the government would be reopened temporarily, NLIHC President and CEO Diane Yentel issued a [statement](#):

“The shutdown was a disgrace, causing stress and hardship for our country's lowest-income and most vulnerable people. Over time, we will learn the extent of the longer-term damage done to the programs that serve them and to what extent the damage can be remedied. With a short-term agreement to reopen the government, millions of low-income renters and housing providers can now breathe a sigh of relief.

“But governing in 3-week increments is unacceptable.... Congress and the Administration must immediately work together to enact the full-year spending bills that already have strong bipartisan support. Only with full-year spending bills will low-income renters have the security they deserve and will the programs that serve them have the assurance of the long-term funding they need to properly function.”

NLIHC and other leaders of the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding are circulating a [national letter](#) calling on Congress and the Trump Administration to pass full-year spending bills that ensure affordable housing and community development programs receive robust funding. Organizations and local government officials are encouraged to sign on.

Prior to the president's announcement of a temporary spending deal, House Democrats passed both a stopgap funding bill that would fund the government through February 28 and a six-bill omnibus package ([H.R. 648](#)) based on previously negotiated spending levels that excluded funding for the Department of Homeland Security. Then, on January 24, Senate Republicans introduced an omnibus package based on the negotiated funding levels previously agreed upon, but which included several controversial provisions, including \$5.7 billion requested by President Trump for a border wall. The bill also included three years of relief for immigrants previously covered under Temporary Protected Status (TPS) or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) – which President Trump attempted to end in 2017 until the courts intervened – in addition to several other controversial immigration and asylum changes and \$12.7 billion in disaster aid. The proposal was unable to gain the support from Democrats needed to pass the bill with 60 votes.

The Senate also voted on a short-term funding proposal — which the House passed 237-187 earlier this month — that would have opened the government through February 8 and provide \$14.2 billion in disaster aid. The Senate failed to approve that measure as well, but six Republican senators — Susan Collins (ME), Lisa

Murkowski (AK), Lamar Alexander (TN), Cory Gardner(CO), Johnny Isakson (GA), and Mitt Romney (UT) – voted to move the bill forward.

Organizations and local government officials are encouraged to [sign onto a national letter](#) calling on Congress and the Trump Administration to pass full-year spending bills that ensure affordable housing and community development programs receive robust funding.

NHLP Provides Updated Legal Memo on Rights of Housing-Assisted Residents During Shutdown

The National Housing Law Project (NHLP) has updated its legal overview of the impact of the partial federal government shutdown on residents in key HUD and USDA Rural Development (RD) assisted housing programs (see *Memo*, [1/22](#)) and produced a one-page flyer summarizing residents’ legal rights during a shutdown. NLIHC has prepared a four-page outline of key points in NHLP’s legal analysis.

NHLP notes that only a relatively small group of residents in HUD and RD project-based rental assistance properties faced an immediate risk due to the December and January expirations of contracts between property owners and HUD or RD. Most HUD and RD residents should have experienced little or no disruption in housing services because rental assistance payments were expected to continue through February. If the shutdown continued past the end of February, the situation would have dramatically deteriorated.

NHLP’s 14-page legal analysis dated January 23 is at: <https://bit.ly/2TiIrvL>

NHLP’s one-page flyer summarizing residents’ rights during the shutdown is at: <https://bit.ly/2HxQumS>

NLIHC’s four-page outline of key points in NHLP’s legal analysis is at: <https://bit.ly/2Wq9yXt>

Opportunity Starts at Home

***Opportunity Starts at Home* Hosts Congressional Briefing to Unveil “Within Reach” Policy Agenda**

The [Opportunity Starts at Home](#) multi-sector affordable homes campaign hosted a congressional briefing on January 24 with over 110 Capitol Hill staffers and advocates to unveil the release of its national policy agenda, "[Within Reach](#)." "Within Reach" identifies short- and long-term policy strategies essential for Congress to act on to address the affordable housing crisis in America.



Panelists (from left to right): Angelo McClain, CEO of the National Association of Social Workers; Allison Bovell-Ammon, deputy director of policy strategy at Children's HealthWatch; Mary Kusler, senior director of the Center for Advocacy at the National Education Association; Jim Weill, president of the Food Research & Action Center; Mike Wallace, director of community and economic development at the National League of Cities; and Diane Yentel, NLIHC president and CEO

NLIHC President and CEO Diane Yentel opened the event with an overview of the U.S. housing affordability crisis and a description of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign, as well as an explanation of the various policy strategies recommended.

“We all have a stake in solving the housing affordability crisis,” said Ms. Yentel. “Other sectors are increasingly recognizing that they cannot be fully successful unless more people are affordably housed.”

Mike Koprowski, national campaign director of *Opportunity Starts at Home*, then moderated a panel discussion featuring senior leaders from the campaign’s Steering Committee:

- Jim Weill, president of the Food Research & Action Center;
- Angelo McClain, CEO of the National Association of Social Workers;
- Mike Wallace, director of community and economic development at the National League of Cities;
- Mary Kusler, senior director of the center for advocacy at the National Education Association; and
- Allison Bovell-Ammon, deputy director of policy strategy at Children's HealthWatch.

These leaders from different sectors explained why their organizations joined the campaign and discussed how housing is deeply connected to their respective fields of work.



More than 110 Capitol Hill staffers and advocates attended the briefing

“As housing costs have gone up, it’s harder for people to pay for the food they need. Families are constantly struggling with these tradeoffs,” said Mr. Weill. “We cannot accomplish our goal to end hunger without affordable, stable housing.”

View a recording of the congressional briefing at: <https://bit.ly/2sJt1oi>

Read the “Within Reach” policy agenda at: <https://bit.ly/2WaBYVi>

Read the January 25 press release: <https://bit.ly/2S4MdeC>

Also, please follow the *Opportunity Starts at Home* multi-sector affordable housing campaign on all social media platforms to get updates on the policy agenda: [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#)

2019 Housing Policy Forum

NLIHC’s 2019 Housing Policy Forum to Elevate Rural and Native Housing Issues and Solutions, March 27-29

The needs of rural and Native American tribal areas can often be overlooked in conversations about affordable housing, but the need in these places is no less severe. In fact, in many cases it is far worse. NLIHC’s [2019 Housing Policy Forum: *Seizing the Moment for Bold Solutions*](#) will feature a panel examining the affordable housing crisis in rural areas and tribal lands and providing strategies to better incorporate those issues in advocacy efforts to achieve real solutions. The Forum will take place in Washington, DC, March 27-29. Register today at: <http://www.nlihcforum.org/>

Speakers on rural and native housing will be:

- Rob Weiner, California Coalition for Rural Housing
- Tony Walters, Native American Indian Housing Council
- Lance George, Housing Assistance Council
- Sonya Acosta, NLIHC (Moderator)

Other topics to be addressed at this year’s forum include:

- The state of affordable housing in 2019, recent successes and challenges, and emerging opportunities
- The state of play related to affordable housing on Capitol Hill in 2019
- Achieving greater racial equity in housing
- The growing *Opportunity Starts at Home* multi-sector affordable housing movement
- The U.S. eviction epidemic and its solutions
- Getting started building and preserving homes for people with the lowest incomes through the national Housing Trust Fund
- Best practices in non-partisan voter engagement and ways to get candidates for public office to make affordable housing a priority in their campaigns
- Working with and making housing an issue with the media
- The future of public housing
- Achieving development without displacement
- Research on the issues and solutions related to housing for extremely vulnerable populations
- The keys to state, local, and resident-led organizing
- Ensuring equitable housing recovery in the wake of recent and future disasters
- Low-income resident leadership
- And more

Learn more about the Forum and register today at: <http://www.nlihcforum.org/>

Honor 2019 Housing Leadership Awardee Representative Emanuel Cleaver

Join NLIHC in recognizing [2019 Housing Leadership Award](#) honoree **Representative Emanuel Cleaver**, who will receive the 2019 Edward Brooke Housing Leadership Award for his years of leadership in Congress, unwavering commitment to addressing the needs of the lowest-income people in the U.S., and steadfast support for federal affordable housing and homelessness programs. As ranking member of the Housing and Insurance Subcommittee, he co-authored the “Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act,” a comprehensive bipartisan housing bill passed into law unanimously in 2017. The award is named after former U.S. Senator and NLIHC Board Chair Edward W. Brooke.

Also honored at the NLIHC’s 37th **Annual Housing Leadership Awards** Reception on Thursday, March 28 at the Washington Court Hotel in Washington, DC, will be **Dr. Mitchell Katz**, president and CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals, and **Emma “Pinky” Clifford**, executive director of the Oglala Sioux Tribe Partnership for Housing and NLIHC board member. [Learn more and contribute to NLIHC in honor of these outstanding leaders today!](#)

Emma “Pinky” Clifford will receive the Dolbeare Lifetime Service Award, named for NLIHC’s founder Cushing Niles Dolbeare, a true pioneer of the affordable housing movement. Ms. Clifford will receive the award for her many years of leadership and dedication on behalf of Native Americans and her tireless work to secure decent, safe, and affordable homes for the lowest income people living on Pine Ridge Reservation.

Dr. Katz will receive the 2019 Sheila Crowley Housing Justice Award for elevating public and policy-maker awareness about the connections between health, housing, and homelessness and for implementing bold solutions to meet the affordable housing needs of the lowest-income people. The award is named after former NLIHC President and CEO Sheila Crowley, who led NLIHC for more than 17 years.

Donate to NLIHC in honor of these three exceptional leaders today! There are three ways to contribute:

- [Donate Online as an Individual](#)
- [Donate Online as an Organization](#)
- [Download the Pledge Form and Submit Via Email](#)

Your contribution will help NLIHC achieve socially just public policy to ensure the lowest income people in America have decent, affordable homes.

The 2019 Leadership Awards Reception will be held on the second evening of NLIHC’s 2019 Housing Policy Forum: *Seizing the Moment for Bold Solutions* taking place March 27-29. Register for the Forum and/or Leadership Awards Reception at: <https://bit.ly/2SzJcjW>

Disaster Housing Recovery

Disaster Housing Recovery Updates – January 28, 2019

The following is a review of disaster housing recovery developments since the last edition of *Memo to Members and Partners* (for the article in the previous *Memo*, see [1/22](#)). NLIHC also posts this information at our [On the Home Front](#) blog.

Legislation and Congressional Action

The partial federal government shutdown had far-reaching effects on disaster response and recovery. In addition to delaying much-needed funding and preventing communication with HUD, federal researchers dedicated to predicting hurricanes and other storms were furloughed during the shutdown, [preventing](#) them from conducting important analyses that will help the government prepare for hurricane season, which officially begins in June.

Both the House and the Senate have included disaster funding in their recent spending proposals to end the shutdown. Senate Republicans provided \$12.7 billion in disaster relief in their bill, including over \$1 billion in Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) grants for areas impacted by storms in 2018; however, unlike the supplemental spending bill passed in the House, it failed to allocate any funding for Puerto Rico's Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) – which faces a [financial cliff](#) in March that will result in 1.3 million people losing assistance. A recent [statement](#) from the White House described funding for NAP as “excessive and unnecessary.”

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) sent a [letter](#) on January 21 to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Mick Mulvaney and HUD Secretary Ben Carson expressing her concern that the Trump Administration is “using the shutdown as a pretext for withholding funds from Puerto Rico.” The letter points to previous statements made by President Trump about cutting off additional funding for Puerto Rico and the recent [statement](#) from the White House that opposed funding for the Nutrition Assistance Program for Puerto Rico. Reports have indicated that HUD will be unable to disburse CDBG-DR funding to Puerto Rico due to the shutdown. Senator Warren poses questions to Director Mulvaney and Secretary Carson about this delay and the president's instructions regarding funding for Puerto Rico. During a visit to Puerto Rico yesterday, Senator Warren [called](#) for the resignation of FEMA Administrator Brock Long for his agency's poor response to Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico.

2018 California Wildfires

The State of California has almost [completed](#) the first phase of the debris-removal process in Butte County, which involved removing household hazardous waste from 13,000 properties. The next phase will remove fire-related debris from damaged or destroyed properties. This effort is the largest ever state-run debris removal undertaking in California.

Hurricane Michael

Florida

State Action

Governor Ron DeSantis and FEMA Administrator Brock Long [visited](#) the Florida Panhandle on January 16. Governor DeSantis announced that the State of Florida would provide “an additional \$2.8 million in matching funds for debris removal in Mexico Beach” and [directed](#) the state Division of Emergency Management to expedite funding to Panhandle communities financially and physically swamped with debris. He also promised to push the White House for increased federal reimbursements for debris cleanup.

Local Perspectives and Resources

Many Panama City residents are still struggling to return home due to financial troubles, legal issues, and a lack of housing. A recent Panama City News Herald [article](#) details four of their stories.

Housing was [listed](#) as one of the top five primary concerns post-Hurricane Michael for local leaders by State Representative Jay Trumbull and State Senator George Gainer as they met with area mayors on January 21, though an exact recovery plan was not discussed.

Severe weather in Bay County on the night of January 20 created chaos by causing [damage](#) to tarps - used in lieu of roofing - still left from Hurricane Michael recovery efforts.

Residents of Bay County say prices of rental properties in the area have [skyrocketed](#), complicating the already difficult search for affordable housing in the area after Hurricane Michael: "I understand high demand and low supply. However, everyone is suffering in this town one way or the other. If housing is more affordable, that would help the community a whole lot."

Hurricane Florence

North Carolina

State Action

The deadline for North Carolinians impacted by Hurricane Florence to apply for the Sheltering and Temporary Essential Power (STEP) program has been [extended](#) to February 1. The STEP program provides partial home repairs for homeowners at no cost.

Local Perspectives and Resources

Legal Aid of North Carolina will be holding [clinics](#) to help survivors file FEMA appeals on February 9 in Wilmington and February 23 in Morehead City. Anyone denied FEMA assistance can appeal the decision.

An [article](#) by *The Charlotte Observer's* editorial board describes three different potential sources of disaster recovery funding that have failed to be allocated to North Carolina due to the government shutdown: \$1.14 billion from Congress for Hurricane Florence, \$168 million from HUD for Hurricane Matthew and mitigation, and an undesignated amount from the \$12 billion disaster recovery bill that seems unlikely to pass in the Senate.

An [article](#) in *Environmental Health News* discusses how Hurricane Florence impacted the mental and physical health of New Bern residents. The lack of affordable housing options forced many survivors to live in mold-infested homes, which can cause serious health issues. Additionally, the trauma of living through a storm and dealing with the aftermath often greatly affects survivors of natural disasters.

2017 Disasters

Federal Response

Harvey's impact on Houston serves as a warning to mortgage lenders that FEMA's flood risk maps [fail](#) to account for extreme weather. Eighty percent of homes flooded in the Houston area lacked flood insurance, causing severe mortgage delinquency following the hurricane. The area only avoided widespread foreclosures because post-hurricane investors were able to pay cash.

Local Perspectives and Resources

Researchers at the University of Michigan [found](#) that the federal response to Hurricane Maria was slower and less robust than the efforts for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. The study demonstrates that disparities between storms in terms of both federal funding and staffing did not align with storm severity and resulted in more deaths and slower recovery in Puerto Rico than in Florida and Texas.

Nearly [half](#) of all residents of Puerto Rico lack clear titles to their properties for loans or sales, complicating the process of housing recovery. Puerto Rico's governor has outlined a proposal for new development that promises no one will have to move but requires those living in flood-prone areas to comply with certain standards to receive public money.

Graduate students from Penn School of Design's City and Regional Planning department have spent months evaluating Philadelphia's response to the influx of Puerto Rican residents since Hurricane Maria and have found numerous government [shortcomings](#), particularly regarding housing, aid, and cultural transition.

Research

Fair Housing Testing in Chicago Finds Discrimination Based on Race and Source of Income

A study by the Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights, *Fair Housing Testing Project for the Chicago Commission on Human Relations*, tested for source-of-income and racial discrimination in six neighborhoods of Chicago. Out of 70 fair-housing tests, 30 (43%) found source-of-income discrimination, racial discrimination, or both.

Fair housing testing involves trained testers posing as prospective tenants or homebuyers. Tests were conducted in pairs, with one key characteristic, race or source of income, differing between each tester. A portion of the tests assessing both racial and source-of-income discrimination included a third tester. Source-of-income discrimination is defined as discrimination based on a renter's alternative source of income like a Housing Choice Voucher (HCV). The study identified three main types of discriminatory acts: refusal to rent, differential terms and conditions applied, and residential steering. In cases of source-of-income discrimination, refusal to rent was the most common discriminatory act, while offering differential terms and conditions was most common in cases of racial discrimination. Differential terms and conditions often took the form of offering preferable lease terms and deals to white testers and citing more requirements for African American testers. Additionally, white testers were more likely, than African American testers to report receiving service that went "above and beyond."

Of all tests for source-of-income discrimination (both with and without a racial component), discrimination was detected 49% of the time. Among tests for racial discrimination (both with and without a voucher component), racial discrimination was identified 27% of the time. Although a small number of tests assessed only source-of-income discrimination, discrimination was detected often enough to be significant, occurring 45% of the time, or in five out of 11 cases. Of the 29 tests manipulating only the race of testers, discrimination was identified in six cases, or 20% of the time. Among the 30 tests of both racial and source-of-income discrimination, at least one form of discrimination occurred 63% of the time, with four cases involving racial discrimination, nine involving source-of-income discrimination, and six involving both. African Americans posing as HCV participants were more likely to experience discrimination than white HCV testers.

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 prohibits housing discrimination nationally based on race, color, sex, national origin, religion, familial status, and disability. Chicago's Fair Housing Ordinance of 1990 also prohibits discrimination based on alternative sources of income, such as HCVs. Despite these protections, HCV program participants and African Americans, especially African Americans who participate in the HCV program, face discrimination and more limited opportunities in the housing market. Historic practices of housing discrimination persist and serve as barriers to housing opportunity across Chicago. The Chicago Lawyers' Committee recommends further fair housing testing in other cities and neighborhoods to determine the extent of housing discrimination. Complementing the fair housing study, the Committee offered a series of trainings on facilitating discussions about housing discrimination and informing housing providers of the federal, state, and

local fair housing laws. The Committee suggests expanding the reach of fair housing training to housing providers and home-seekers to inform them of fair housing laws and their rights and obligations under these laws.

Fair Housing Testing Project for the Chicago Commission on Human Relations Contract is available at: <https://bit.ly/2CpI4rG>

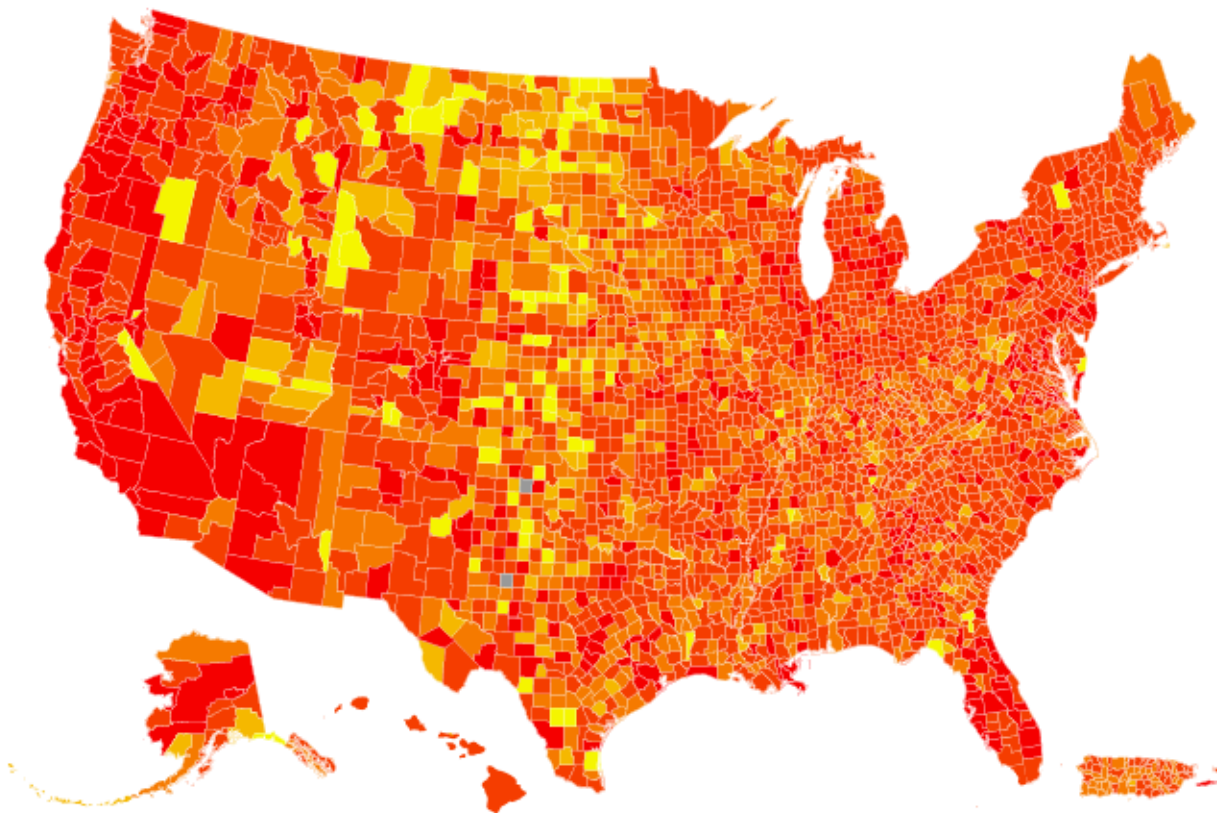
Fact of the Week

Shortage of Homes Affordable and Available to the Lowest-Income Households Spans the Country

Affordable and Available Rental Homes per 100 Extremely Low Income Renter Households (U.S. Counties or Equivalent)

Affordable and Available Rental Homes Per 100 Households

Missing Data 0-25 26-50 51-75 76-100 100+



Source: NLIHC tabulations of CHAS 2011-2015 data.
*Note: Extremely Low-Income households earn 30% or less of the area median income.

Source: NLIHC tabulations of CHAS 2011-2015 data.

From the Field

Advocates Celebrate Ohio Mayor's Affordable Housing Bond Proposal

Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther proposed on January 14 that \$50 million out of a \$1.03 billion bond package be devoted to affordable housing. Columbus residents will vote on the bond proposal on May 7, when it will appear on the primary-election ballot. The \$50 million bond revenue will help construct new or renovate existing affordable homes to address the city's severe shortage. Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio's (AHACO's) research on affordable housing needs, strategy-recommendations for addressing the affordable housing shortage, and advocacy were instrumental in the city taking this significant step.

If voters approve the bond initiative in May, it will be the first time a Columbus bond package creates a dedicated affordable housing fund. The city's affordable housing allocation is normally determined in the annual capital budget, which last year included \$5 million for affordable housing. The mayor later doubled that commitment, to come from current bond revenue rather than increased taxes.

There are few details on how the new bond funds—which will be available beginning in 2020—will be used, and the city has indicated that lack of specificity is intentional. The Mayor has assigned city staff to work with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission to develop a regional – rather than city-specific - housing plan for the Columbus area.

The mayor considers affordable housing to be one of the greatest challenges facing the city. The monthly HUD Fair Market Rent (FMR) in 2018 for a two-bedroom apartment in Franklin County was \$910. A household must earn \$36,400 a year to afford a two-bedroom apartment at the FMR. The mean renter income in Franklin County, however, is less than \$34,500 a year, and the county is home to thousands of extremely low-income seniors, people with disabilities, and families with children who have incomes far lower than the mean.

Franklin County has 54,000 households living in or near poverty and paying more than half of their income on housing. The Affordable Housing Alliance has a ten-year goal of cutting the affordable housing shortfall in half with supply-side (construction and rehabilitation of homes for renters and homeowners) and demand-side (rental assistance) solutions. The short-term goal is to benefit 3,000 residents in Franklin County in three years.

The \$50 million bond package will help alleviate the affordable housing crisis in Columbus, but more resources will be needed to fully address the shortage of affordable homes. AHACO will continue to advocate for resources to fund affordable homes for the community's lowest-income households, including new development funds like those in the bond package.

Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio Chair E. J. Thomas applauded the mayor's proposal: "The Alliance is very grateful for the mayor's leadership on addressing the affordable housing challenge. We are confident that these bond funds can leverage additional public- and private-sector affordable housing resource commitments. We are well on the way to securing funding for the Alliance's 3-Year Start-Up Plan in 2019."

NLIHC in the News

NLIHC in the News for the Week of January 20

The following are some of the news stories that NLIHC contributed to during the week of January 20.

- “‘It’s like the real-life Hunger Games in America:’ Shutdown threatens HUD’s protections for vulnerable,” *The Washington Post*, January 24 at: <https://wapo.st/2CL3Ypv>

- “Shutdown now squeezing seniors, families in subsidized housing,” *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, January 23 at: <https://on-ajc.com/2Sbv8zC>
 - “San Jose: Mayor proposes protections for renters affected by government shutdown,” *San Jose Mercury News*, January 23 at: <https://bayareane.ws/2ScgNTw>
 - “Shutdown's Pain Cuts Deep for the Homeless and Other Vulnerable Americans,” *The New York Times*, January 21 at: <https://nyti.ms/2DqydDM>
 - “Government Shutdown Hiking Rent For Hundreds Of Low-Income Tenants,” *The Huffington Post*, January 19 at: <https://bit.ly/2FORbWs>
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Event

Pre-Event Registration Deadline for February 18-22 NeighborWorks Training Institute is January 28

January 28 is the pre-event registration deadline for the [NeighborWorks Training Institute \(NTI\)](#) being held in Cleveland, OH, February 18-22. The NTI is a premier provider of affordable housing and community development training and certifications, offering more than 100 professional courses lasting from one-to-five days each. In addition to coursework, this NTI will also feature a one-day symposium, "[Removing Barriers to Sustainable Housing Affordability \(ML932\)](#)," on February 20.

The NTI offers courses in affordable housing development and financing; housing asset management; community engagement; community revitalization; community economic development; housing construction and rehabilitation; financial capability and homeownership education, coaching, and counseling; nonprofit management and leadership; Native American and rural community development; and single-family and small business lending.

Read more about the NTI at: <https://bit.ly/2KZNEVP>

Register for the NTI at: <https://bit.ly/1ATs8Ia>

NLIHC News

NLIHC Welcomes Brooke Schipporeit as Housing Advocacy Organizer

NLIHC is pleased to welcome Brooke Schipporeit to its field team as its newest housing advocacy organizer. Brooke comes to NLIHC from Nebraska by way of Philadelphia, PA, where she spent the last few years supporting state and local coalitions in their efforts to achieve solutions to housing poverty. Specifically, she worked as an MSW intern with the Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania, informing and mobilizing coalition members to advance equitable housing policy. Then she worked as Philadelphia’s regional housing coordinator for the Self-Determination Housing Project of Pennsylvania, focusing on expanding affordable and accessible housing options for people with disabilities and older adults. Prior to beginning her career in affordable housing, Brooke spent time working in direct services in Nebraska for both the Head Start program and a domestic violence shelter. Brooke earned her Master of Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania and her Bachelor of Science in Social Work from Nebraska Wesleyan University. Please join us in welcoming Brooke to the NLIHC team!

NLIHC Seeks a New Housing Advocacy Organizer

NLIHC seeks a well-qualified and talented housing advocacy organizer. As a member of the NLIHC field team, the housing advocacy organizer mobilizes NLIHC members and partners on federal policy advocacy based on NLIHC's approved policy agenda, assists in the design and implementation of campaign field strategies, and conducts outreach activities in specific states. The organizer will spend significant time developing and retaining NLIHC membership, increasing endorsements for NLIHC campaigns, and mobilizing membership and state coalition partners on "calls to action" and other organizing efforts in support of providing decent, accessible, affordable homes to people with the lowest incomes.

The position requires strong written and oral communication skills, strong project management experience, and excellent electronic technology skills, including proficiency in the Microsoft Office suite, database management, and social media use; some familiarity with customer relationship management systems like Salesforce would be a plus. Priority consideration will be given to candidates with organizing experience mobilizing a community or constituent base at a national, state, or local level. Some knowledge of federal housing policy would be a plus. A bachelor's degree is required. The position is based in Washington, DC. Some travel is required.

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

Interested candidates should email a cover letter with salary requirements, a resume, and two writing samples to Renee Willis, VP for field and communications, and Paul Kealey, COO, National Low Income Housing Coalition, 1000 Vermont Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20005 at: rwillis@nlihc.org and pkealey@nlihc.org

NLIHC Seeks Field Intern for the Winter-Spring 2019 Semester

NLIHC is accepting applications for its field internship position for the winter/spring 2019 semester. The NLHC field intern assists our Field team in creating email campaigns focused on important federal policies, writing blogs, managing our database of membership records, mobilizing the field for the legislative efforts, and reaching out to new and existing members. Interns are highly valued and fully integrated into our staff work. We seek students passionate about social justice issues with excellent writing and interpersonal skills.

NLIHC interns are expected to work 25 hours a week beginning in January and finishing up in May. A modest stipend is provided. A cover letter, resume, and writing sample are required for consideration. In your cover letter, please specify the position(s) for which you applying and that you are interested in the winter/spring 2019 semester.

Interested students should send their materials to: Joey Lindstrom, Manager of Field Organizing, National Low Income Housing Coalition, 1000 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005 via email to: jlindstrom@nlihc.org

Where to Find Us – January 28

NLIHC President and CEO Diane Yentel and other NLIHC staff will be speaking at the following events in the coming months:

- Discussion on Housing, Homelessness and Collaboration, Anchorage, AK, on January 29
- CHAPA Federal Housing Policy Forum, Boston, MA, on February 15
- [Solutions for Individual Homeless Adults: A National Conference](#), National Alliance to End Homelessness, San Diego, CA, February 21–22
- [HousingWorks Austin Annual Summit](#), Austin, TX, on March 1
- [Tennessee Housing Conference](#), Nashville, TN, March 6 and 7
- Arkansas Fair Housing Commission 2019 Annual Fair Housing/Fair Lending Conference, Little Rock, AR, on April 19
- [Building Michigan Communities Conference](#), Lansing, MI, April 30
- Rural Housing Summit, San Jose, CA, on November 7

NLIHC Staff

Sonya Acosta, Policy Analyst, x231
 Andrew Aurand, Vice President for Research, x245
 Lily Barrett, Policy Intern, x241
 Victoria Bourret, Housing Advocacy Organizer, x244
 Josephine Clarke, Executive Assistant, x226
 Abby Cooper, Research Intern, x249
 Dan Emmanuel, Senior Research Analyst, x316
 Ellen Errico, Creative Services Manager, x246
 Ed Gramlich, Senior Advisor, x314
 Paul Kealey, Chief Operating Officer, x232
 Mike Koprowski, Director, Multisector Housing Campaign, x317
 Joseph Lindstrom, Manager, Field Organizing, x222
 Lisa Marlow, Communications Specialist, x239
 Sarah Mickelson, Senior Director of Public Policy, x228
 Khara Norris, Director of Administration, x242
 Catherine Reeves, Development Coordinator, x234
 Brooke Schipporeit, Housing Advocacy Organizer, x233
 Elayne Weiss, Senior Policy Analyst, x243
 Chantelle Wilkinson, Housing Campaign Coordinator, x230
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