



Memo TO Members

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Take Action

Sign Letter Telling Congress to Protect Fair Housing

NLIHC encourages organizations to sign onto a [letter](#) urging the House of Representatives to oppose any amendments to the Fiscal Year 2017 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) appropriations bill that would repeal the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) rule. A vote on the FY 2017 THUD appropriations may be brought up in the House as soon as this week. The deadline to sign the letter is **Tuesday, February 28**.

The sign-on letter prepared by NLIHC, the National Fair Housing Alliance, PolicyLink, and the American Civil Liberties Union is a response to concerns that Representative Paul Gosar (R-AZ) will file an amendment that adopts some or all of the language in H.R. 482, the “Local Zoning Decisions Protection Act of 2017” (see *Memo*, [1/17](#)). In addition to nullifying the AFFH rule issued in July 2015 (see *Memo*, [7/13/15](#)), H.R. 482 would prohibit HUD from adopting another AFFH rule and prohibit use of federal funds to build, utilize, or provide public access to a federal database of geospatial information regarding community racial disparities and disparities in access to affordable housing. NLIHC strongly opposes the legislation and any attempts to attach similar provision to other bills.

The AFFH regulation implements a provision of the Fair Housing Act adopted nearly 50 years ago. Until the AFFH rule was adopted, cities, counties, and states that receive federal funds for housing and community development had little guidance about how to fulfill their obligations to affirmatively further fair housing. Before developing the AFFH rule, HUD undertook an extensive, years-long consultation process. Public officials in cities, counties, states, and public housing agencies across the country were asked for their input, and a prototype of the AFFH rule was piloted in 74 regions of various sizes and geographies. The rule and its accompanying tools also went through a public comment process.

Read and sign onto the letter at: <http://bit.ly/2mhwnKN>

Advocates are urged to share this letter with their networks.

Contact your representative directly at: <http://cqrcengage.com/nlihc/lookup>

NLIHC’s statement opposing H.R. 482 is at: <http://bit.ly/2jk8gKu>

The Congress.gov link to H.R. 482 is at: <http://bit.ly/2jFz0Ee>

Basic information about AFFH is on page 7-4 of NLIHC’s *2016 Advocates’ Guide* at: <http://bit.ly/1WiozGd>

Sign Letter Urging Congress to Protect and Expand the National Housing Trust Fund

[Contact Congress](#) today to emphasize the importance of the national Housing Trust Fund (HTF), and sign your organization onto a [letter](#) from advocates around the country asking Congress to protect and expand this resource. In the first year of funding for HTF, states made plans to build and preserve affordable rental homes for extremely low income veterans, seniors, people with disabilities or special needs, low-wage workers, and people experiencing homelessness. This is an important first step toward ensuring the nation’s 11.4 million extremely low income households have access to decent, affordable housing.

The HTF is the first new federal affordable housing resource in a generation, and it is exclusively targeted to build and preserve housing affordable to people with the lowest incomes. In 2016, the first \$174 million in HTF dollars were allocated to the states. Because the HTF is administered as a block grant, each state has the flexibility to decide how best to use HTF resources to address its most pressing housing needs. The first year of

funding was a strong start to the program, but Congress must significantly expand the HTF in order to address the critical affordable housing needs of the lowest income renters in every community in the U.S.

The need to protect and preserve the HTF is relevant in Congressional actions on the budget, and in negotiations for FY2017 and FY 2018 appropriations. Additionally, Congress is considering reforms to the government sponsored enterprises (GSE), Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, in 2017. Because the HTF is funded through a small assessment on Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's new business each year, reforms to the GSEs would have a direct impact on the HTF. Previous bipartisan legislation reforming the GSEs included a significant increase in resources to the HTF. Congressional leaders considering reforms this Congress must protect and expand the national Housing Trust Fund to assist the 7.4 million extremely low income households who lack access to affordable homes. There may also be opportunities to expand the HTF in a comprehensive infrastructure package and in comprehensive tax reform efforts.

Sign the [letter](#) urging Congress to expand the HTF and share it with your networks.

Read and sign the letter at: <http://bit.ly/2IKahD5>

NLIHC News

Honor 2017 Housing Leadership Awardees Amy Anthony and Ron Terwilliger!

Each year, NLIHC honors two extraordinary individuals for their contributions to affordable housing. This year's honorees are **Amy S. Anthony and J. Ronald Terwilliger**. Help us honor them with a [contribution](#) today.

Amy Anthony, former CEO and founder of Preservation of Affordable Housing (POAH), will receive the 2017 Cushing Niles Dolbear Lifetime Service Award for her many years of dedication, service, and innovative leadership in producing and preserving affordable rental housing for low income households. Ron Terwilliger, founder of the J. Ronald Terwilliger Foundation for Housing America's Families, will receive the 2017 Edward W. Brooke Housing Leadership Award for his outstanding contributions to elevating the national discussion on recalibrating federal housing policy to better serve the needs of low income households.

Make a [contribution](#) today to help us honor these two exceptional individuals!

The Annual Leadership Reception is NLIHC's single fundraising event, the proceeds of which constitute a significant part of NLIHC's budget.

The 2017 Leadership Reception takes place on Tuesday, April 4 from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Washington Court Hotel in Washington DC. For more information or questions, please contact Christina Sin at csin@nlihc.org or 202-507-7453.

Join Webinar on NLIHC's New Housing Affordability GAP Report and UFH Campaign, March 2

NLIHC will hold a webinar on the 2017 edition of its report *The GAP: A Shortage of Affordable Homes* on March 2. The report measures the availability of rental housing affordable to extremely low income (ELI) households and other income groups nationwide. It shows that the U.S. has a shortage of 7.4 million affordable rental homes available to the nation's 11.4 million ELI renter households, or just 35 affordable and available units for every 100 ELI renter households. Seventy-one percent of ELI renter households are severely cost-burdened, spending more than half of their income on rent and utilities. *The GAP* report also indicates that the shortage disappears for households higher up the income ladder.

This year's analysis is slightly different from previous years in that NLIHC adopted the federal government's new statutory definition for ELI households, which are those whose income is less than 30% of their area median income or the poverty guideline, whichever is higher. The report shows that ELI renter households face a shortage of affordable and available rental homes in every state. The shortage ranges from 15 affordable and available homes for every 100 ELI renter households in Nevada to 61 in Alabama. ELI renter households also face a shortage of affordable and available rental homes in every major metropolitan area. Among the 50 largest metropolitan areas, the shortage ranges from 12 affordable and available homes for every 100 ELI renter households in Las Vegas, NV to 46 in Boston, MA.

The report demonstrates why federal housing expenditures must be better targeted to serve households with the greatest needs. It calls for adoption of the NLIHC-led United for Homes (UFH) campaign proposals to rebalance federal housing policy by making modest reforms to the mortgage interest deduction (MID) and investing the savings into affordable housing programs for the lowest income households.

NLIHC invites all affordable housing advocates to join a webinar on March 2 at 2 pm ET to learn about NLIHC's 2017 edition of *The GAP* and about the UFH campaign. The webinar will review critical findings from *The GAP* report, share key information and resources from the newly designed UFH website, and provide legislative updates related to affordable housing, comprehensive tax reform, and the MID.

Register for the webinar today at: <http://bit.ly/2kr9AiH>

United for Homes

Learn about United for Homes Campaign to End Homelessness and Housing Poverty

Learn about the NLIHC-led United for Homes (UFH) campaign to end homelessness and housing poverty by visiting the new UFH [website](#) and by attending a March 2 [webinar](#) about the campaign. The UFH campaign calls for modest reforms to the mortgage interest deduction (MID) that would benefit millions of lower income homeowners and generate revenue to end homelessness and housing poverty in America. With tax reform a priority for the 115th Congress and reforms to the MID being considered, the time is ripe for the UFH solutions. Get involved!

The new UFH website features important information about the campaign's proposal, breaks down the impact of the proposal both nationally and by state, and provides resources for advocating with Members of Congress and communicating through social and traditional media. The new website provides an array of tools and strategies to engage others to join the campaign, updates on new legislation and calls to action related to the campaign, and a list of the more than 2,300 current UFH endorsers. Check out the website at: www.unitedforhomes.org and let us know what you think.

NLIHC invites all affordable housing advocates to join a webinar on March 2, 2 pm ET to learn about the United for Homes campaign and NLIHC's 2017 edition of *The Gap: A Shortage of Affordable Housing* (see *Memo*, [2/21](#)). The webinar will review critical findings from *The GAP* report, share key information and resources from the newly designed UFH website, and provide legislative updates related to affordable housing, comprehensive tax reform, and the MID. Register for the March 2 webinar at: <http://bit.ly/2kr9AiH>

The next monthly UFH endorser webinar is scheduled for March 8, 2 pm ET. This webinar will focus on how to effectively organize and advocate for the UFH campaign and on ways to expand the movement to include allies in healthcare, education, transportation, labor, and other sectors.

If you have not already registered for the monthly UFH endorser webinars, register for the March 8 event at: <http://bit.ly/2irHS2E>. Once you register, you will not need to register again for the monthly UFH endorser webinars.

If you are not already a UFH endorser, please join the campaign at: <http://bit.ly/2lXytCa>

Congress

Final Confirmation Vote on Dr. Carson as soon as This Week

The full Senate is expected to vote this week to confirm Dr. Ben Carson to serve as HUD secretary. In his confirmation hearing before the Senate Banking Committee and in written responses to questions for the record, Dr. Carson committed to expanding and improving federal housing programs and to enforcing federal fair housing law. Once confirmed, NLIHC will work with Dr. Carson to follow through on these commitments to ensure that the lowest income people in America have decent, affordable and accessible homes.

At his confirmation hearing, Dr. Carson stated his belief that the federal government has an important role to play in supporting deeply poor households and families. He gave strong support to rental assistance programs, public housing, VASH vouchers, Community Development Block Grants, Choice Neighborhoods, and lead abatement programs, and he recognized the role housing plays as a social determinant of health. He acknowledged that fair housing is the “law of the land” and committed to upholding and implementing the law.

In his written responses to questions from Ranking Member Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-WA), Dr. Carson stated that he “will absolutely commit” to advocating for housing to be included in the president’s infrastructure package, agreed to consider hiring additional staff to enforce federal fair housing laws, and gave support to increasing efforts to help formerly incarcerated people reintegrate into their communities. Dr. Carson stated that he is “a fan of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit” and that healthy housing will be one of his priorities. He promised to “call for continued investment to end homelessness for veterans, the chronically homeless, and children and families.”

Dr. Carson affirmed that he will advocate for increasing resources for affordable housing for people with the lowest incomes. “When it comes to deep affordability, though, removing all regulatory barriers won’t get you there,” Dr. Carson wrote. “It comes down to subsidy. Subsidy levels haven’t changed appreciably under Democratic or Republican administrations. I think we can all agree that we will all make sure housing is a key consideration in every appropriations bill.”

Moreover, Dr. Carson also promised to “recruit a bipartisan list of practitioners, not ideologues, to serve as assistant secretaries.”

Dr. Carson’s responses to NLIHC’s top 10 questions: <http://bit.ly/2hFAdKK>

NLIHC President and CEO Diane Yentel’s statement: <http://bit.ly/2fGHXM3>

Senator Brown’s press statement about his vote for Dr. Carson’s nomination and Dr. Carson’s written responses to Mr. Brown’s questions can be found at: <http://bit.ly/2kjh16l>

Senator Elizabeth Warren’s (D-MA) press statement about her vote for Dr. Carson’s nomination and Dr. Carson’s written responses to Ms. Warren’s questions can be found at: <http://bit.ly/2j8508f>

Bill Would Provide Legal Assistance to Low Income Tenants

Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN) introduced the “Equal Opportunity for Residential Representation Act of 2017” (H.R. 1146), designed to help provide legal and supportive services to lower income families, on February 21.

The bill would create a pilot program at HUD that would distribute grants to state-based organizations to provide legal representative assistance to families with incomes at or below 80% of their area medium income. Because counsel is not guaranteed in civil court, many low income families are susceptible to being evicted without sufficient legal representation. A similar initiative was recently announced in New York City, where almost 90% of tenants appear in civil court without representation.

“Every American deserves fair and equal representation under the law, whether in federal court or tenant or housing court,” Mr. Ellison stated in a press release on the bill. “We should be following New York’s lead and make sure that a person’s ability to afford a lawyer does not dictate whether they end up deeper in poverty or homeless”

The text of the bill has not yet been posted.

Mr. Ellison’s press release is at: <http://bit.ly/2IJ7ieD>

Update on ACA Repeal and Implications for Housing Services

The progress of efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA) remain unclear. Proposals to repeal the ACA Medicaid expansion and to convert Medicaid to a block grant or per-capita capped financing model have created controversy within the Republican Party and beyond. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that changing Medicaid to a per-capita capped program could eliminate \$370 billion from the program over the next 10 years. Such a reduction would force many states to change eligibility standards and to make deep cuts to benefits and reimbursements. Repeal of ACA taxes on wealthier Americans and an extension of tax credits to the same population would also mean that 50% of tax benefits from ACA repeal would accrue to those with incomes above \$1 million, according to the Tax Policy Center.

For housing advocates, a rollback of the ACA Medicaid expansion or a transition to a block grant or per-capita funding mechanism would result in a dramatic reduction in resources to supportive housing services, which have been essential to reducing homelessness. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities supportive housing services reduce health care spending by \$6,000 annually per individual served and allow individuals to spend 115 fewer days in homeless shelters. Earlier this year, Washington State was granted a waiver to provide Medicaid supportive housing benefits for such activities as helping individuals with the housing application process and developing a housing crisis plan. Medicaid expansion under ACA has provided states more funding to create these types of programs for the people who need them most. While coverage is not always comprehensive and can vary between states, repeal of the ACA Medicaid expansion or converting Medicaid to block grants or a capped per-capita system would threaten the progress many states like Washington have achieved.

Many groups are working to mobilize opposition to the repeal or inadequate replacement of the ACA, including the National Alliance to End Homelessness and Protect Our Care, a coalition that includes Families USA, the Center for American Progress, and NAACP, among others. The campaign’s webpage lists ways for advocates to get involved and provides resources and tools for contacting Members of Congress, submitting letters to editors, and communicating on social media.

For CBO estimates of the impact of per-capita capped financing of Medicaid, visit: <http://bit.ly/2IOwpML>

To learn more about block granting and per-capita capped financing of Medicaid, visit: <http://kaisarf.am/2kR9gGO>

For more on the tax impacts of ACA repeal, visit: <http://tpc.io/2ipiqaz>

For more on CBPP’s research on supportive housing, visit: <http://bit.ly/2IDxd6x>

To learn more about how the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services encourage coverage of supportive housing services, visit: <http://bit.ly/2mglqg3>

To read more about Washington State's Medicaid supportive housing program, visit: <http://bit.ly/2IEEC3Y>

For the Health and Human Services report on Medicaid and Permanent Supportive Housing for Chronically Homeless Individuals, visit: <http://bit.ly/2IExbcO>

To learn more about the Protect Our Care campaign and get involved, visit: <http://bit.ly/2kRC93O>

Federal Housing Finance Agency

Video Explains FHFA's Duty-to-Serve Obligation

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) offers a 3-minute video providing a simple explanation of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac's "duty to serve" underserved markets. FHFA oversees Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two government sponsored enterprises (GSEs) required by law to support mortgage lending in three underserved markets: affordable housing preservation, rural areas, and manufactured homes.

FHFA released its final rule regarding the GSEs' duty to serve underserved markets on January 14 (see *Memo*, [12/19/16](#)). The rule requires the GSEs to submit three-year Underserved Market plans detailing the scope of activities and objectives they will pursue to increase liquidity of mortgage investments and improve the distribution of investment capital available for mortgage financing for very low, low, and moderate income families who reside in the three underserved markets.

The video is at: <http://bit.ly/2kNzVHR>

HUD

HUD Posts Webinar on Equal Access and Gender Identity

HUD held and repeated a webinar (see *Memo* [11/7/16](#) and [1/9](#)) to educate stakeholders about the requirements of the Equal Access Rule (see *Memo*, [2/3/12](#)) and the Gender Identity Rule (see *Memo*, [10/3/16](#)), and how to ensure that various HUD-assisted projects operate in compliance with these rules. The webinar was tailored to Continuum of Care (CoC) collaborative applicants and providers, Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) recipients and sub-recipients, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA) grantees.

The webinar also provided "LGBT Language 101" training to aid participants on increasing their knowledge and skills in using appropriate, inclusive language with everyone they serve. Participants were also introduced to HUD's technical assistance materials to aid their compliance efforts.

The webinar recording along with the presentation slides, speaker notes, and transcript are available on the HUD Exchange, under Homelessness Assistance, LGBT Homeless at: <http://bit.ly/2mggi8h>

Other related materials are on the LGBT Homeless page at: <http://bit.ly/2lzh135>

Questions regarding the 2016 Equal Access Rule should be submitted to the [Ask a Question \(AAQ\) desk](#)

Research

Education Reduces Families' Rental Assistance Needs

A report by the Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation (PAHRC), *The Education Boost: Lifting Families Out of Poverty*, finds that every additional year of education for rent-assisted householders increases their chance of successfully leaving rental assistance by 11%. The barriers they face in obtaining this education are the cost of college, childcare needs, transportation expenses, lack of internet access, and fewer peers who can help guide them through the college application and enrollment process.

The study found that rent-assisted adults have lower educational attainment, on average, than their unassisted low income peers. Among 18 to 29 year olds, the high school and college completion rates are nine and twelve percentage points lower for rent-assisted householders than their unassisted counterparts. Among 30 to 39 year olds, the college completion rate for rent-assisted householders is ten percentage points lower than for unassisted householders, but the high school completion rate is six percentage points higher for rent-assisted householders. These numbers indicate that GED programs are needed for younger rent-assistance recipients, while support for college enrollment is also important.

The report recommends strategies to help rent-assisted households enroll in educational programs, such as childcare support, assistance with transportation costs, internet access, mentoring and tutoring support, and college preparatory courses.

The Education Boost: Lifting Families Out of Poverty is available at: <http://bit.ly/29Cma8I>

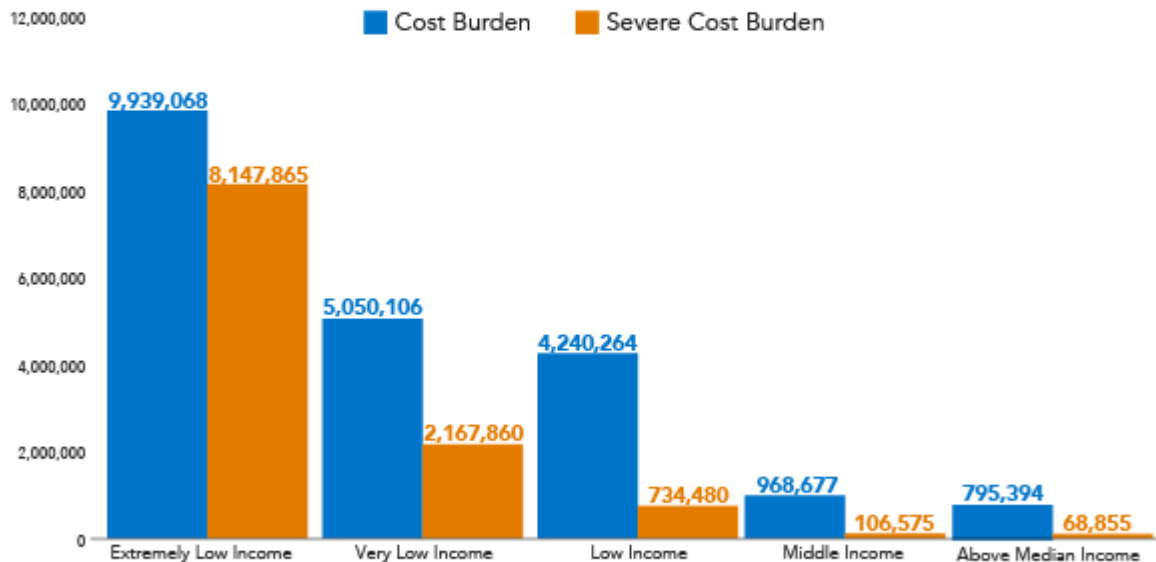
Fact of the Week

Millions of Extremely Low Income Households Cost-Burdened

From the Upcoming NLIHC Report:

THE GAP

FIGURE 3: RENTER HOUSEHOLDS WITH COST BURDEN BY INCOME GROUP, 2015



Source: NLIHC tabulations of 2015 ACS PUMS data.
©2017, National Low Income Housing Coalition



“Cost Burden” means spending more than 30% of income on housing and utilities. “Severe Cost Burden” means spending more than 50% of income on housing and utilities. “Extremely Low Income” = at or below 30% of AMI or the poverty rate; “Very Low Income” = 31% to 50% of AMI; “Low Income” = 51% to 80% of AMI; “Middle Income” = 81% to 100% of AMI; “Above Median Income” = above 100% of AMI.

Source: NLIHC tabulations of 2015 ACS PUMS Data.

From the Field

Tennessee Advocates Urge Legislators to Support Affordable Housing

A diverse group of more than 60 housing advocates from across Tennessee joined the Tennessee Affordable Housing Coalition (TNAHC) in Nashville on February 22 for the Coalition’s “Housing Day on the Hill.” The Coalition, whose membership includes housing developers, homeless service providers, Habitat for Humanity chapters, and others, designed the event to help legislators better understand both the diversity of and the need for affordable housing in the state.

TNAHC Housing Day on the Hill began with a legislative training for advocates, covering both state and federal policy. Ann Carr, lobbyist for public housing authorities in the state, told advocates that few of the 1400

bills introduced in the Tennessee legislature since January were related to housing, but encouraged the audience to meet with legislators and tell them how affordable housing impacts their districts. Sarah Jemison, housing advocacy organizer at NLIHC, spoke to the group about a number of threats at the federal level that could affect the state, including those related to the federal budget continuing resolution, proposed cuts to non-defense discretionary spending, tax reform, and reform of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Ms. Jemison also spoke about opportunities in the current political climate, including the potential for affordable housing to be incorporated in infrastructure investments and increased funding for affordable housing through the United for Homes campaign's call for mortgage interest deduction reform.

Following the training, advocates attended a lunch hosted by TNAHC with legislators from across the state and discussed with them the need for affordable housing and the challenges of developing homes affordable to those with the greatest needs. Coalition members found that many legislators were unaware of the obstacles low income Tennesseans face in accessing affordable homes and the insufficiency of federal and state housing financing agency resources to meet the need of extremely low income households. The advocates urged legislators at the lunch and subsequent office meetings to include funding for affordable housing and supportive services for homeless households in the state budget.

The event drew a wide range of legislators and providers and offered advocates opportunities to share stories of those in need and data about the insufficiency of current programs. Organizers encouraged advocates to continue building relationships with their state and local elected officials to build support for affordable homes across Tennessee.

“It was great to see advocates from across the state joining together in support of affordable housing,” said Melanie Cordell, CEO of the Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless, an NLIHC member. “It is time for affordable housing to be placed in the state's budget, and I am encouraged by the interest of our legislators to invest in housing. Now it is the role of advocates to continue to push for affordable housing funding across the state.”

To learn more about the Tennessee Affordable Housing Coalition, visit: www.tnahc.org

Resources

The Guardian News Outlet Partners with Gates Foundation and Speakable on Cutting-Edge Series on Homelessness

The Guardian news outlet and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation have teamed up to launch a year-long series, “Outside in America,” focusing on people on the frontline of the devastating homelessness crisis on the West Coast. This initiative combines people-focused reporting and concrete ways readers can take action using a platform provided by Speakable, a technology company that facilitates civic engagement, to help solve the problem.

Over the next year, The Guardian will publish news articles, in-depth reporting, investigations, films, and interactive graphics about the people and places that are grappling with the homelessness crisis. The Guardian is working with Speakable to embed their “Action Button” in the content so readers can easily take action to support homelessness solutions, including making a donation to organizations like NLIHC and those that provide housing assistance locally or volunteering at a homeless shelter.

NLIHC is proud to be a part of this ambitious and innovative project with the Guardian and Speakable to raise awareness of the pressing need to end homelessness and housing poverty and to tap the power of concerned individuals to achieve positive change.

More on the “Outside in America” project can be found at: <http://bit.ly/2m158iy>

Sign up for “Outside in America” alerts at: <http://bit.ly/2kRYQG5>

NLHA Announces Scholarships for Residents of Assisted Housing

The National Leased Housing Association (NLHA) announced it is seeking applications for a scholarship program for residents of federally assisted rental housing. The NLHA Education Fund was created by NLHA in 2007.

The Education Fund is made possible by donations from affordable housing providers, lenders, and brokers, with significant assistance provided by AIMCO through its AIMCO Cares charity. Last year 51 scholarships were awarded.

The Education Fund will provide Section 8 voucher recipients and individuals living in privately owned federally assisted housing four kinds of scholarships, three named in memory of long-time affordable housing advocates. Funds are provided directly to the college/school for tuition assistance on behalf of successful applicants. Applicants may only apply under one of the following categories:

- **The AIMCO Cares Scholarship** – Assists college freshmen or returning undergraduates.
- **The Bill Gandert Memorial Scholarship** – Assists graduating high school seniors interested in studying a specific trade (e.g., electrician, nurse, plumber, and medical assistant).
- **The Mary Lou Manzie Memorial Scholarship** – Assists non-traditional students (students who have been out of high school for at least three years) in pursuing an associate or bachelor’s degree.
- **The Neil Churchill Memorial Scholarship** – Assists individuals seeking to complete graduate-level coursework.

Specific criteria have been developed for each scholarship category, and consideration will be afforded to all eligible candidates who apply. All applicants must apply electronically through NLHA’s website at: http://www.hudnlha.com/education_fund or at: <https://nlhascholars.communityforce.com>

Applications are due by **April 17, 2017**. Awards are expected to be announced in early June.

Events

Webinar on Renters’ Rights, March 1

The National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty will hold a free webinar, “Housing Not Handcuffs: Preventing Homelessness by Protecting Renters’ Rights,” on March 1. The webinar will discuss best-practice housing laws and policies that address the underlying causes of homelessness rather than forcing homeless persons into the criminal justice system. Topics will include: civil right to counsel, just-cause eviction, rent-stabilization ordinances, and strategies for landlord engagement.

The webinar will be held on Wednesday, March 1 at 2:00 pm ET, 1:00 pm CT, noon MT, 11:00 am PT.

Speakers will include:

- Tristia Bauman, senior attorney, National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty
- Elisha Harig-Blaine, principal housing associate, National League of Cities
- John Pollock, staff attorney, Public Justice Center
- Daniel Saver, senior attorney, Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto

Register at: <http://bit.ly/2lcOaID>

Webinar on How President Trump’s First Budget Could Impact Affordable Housing, March 6

NLIHC and other leaders of the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF) invite you to join advocates from across the country on a March 6, 3 pm ET [webinar](#) to learn about the significant threats facing affordable housing and community development programs and how you can help protect these critical resources from severe funding cuts.

During the webinar CHCDF will also launch its new report, “A Place to Call Home: The Case for Increased Federal Investments in Affordable Housing” and new tools to help support your advocacy, including factsheets, sample op-eds, and statewide data on the economic impact of HUD and USDA Rural Housing investments.

Elayne Weiss, NLIHC senior policy analyst will moderate the event. Speakers include:

- Doug Rice, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
- Linda Couch, LeadingAge
- Ellen Lurie Hoffman, National Housing Trust
- Steve Berg, National Alliance to End Homelessness
- Tess Hembree, National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
- Marion McFadden, Enterprise Community Partners

With more households struggling to make ends meet, we cannot afford funding cuts to the very programs that sustain our communities and help families thrive.

Register today at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6427440792150412291>

NeighborWorks Training Institute Goes to Minneapolis, May 22-26

The next NeighborWorks Training Institute (NTI) takes place May 22-26 in Minneapolis, MN. The NTI offers more than 100 course offerings 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; and single-family and small business lending.

More information about the NTI is at: <http://bit.ly/1Zx8Ima>

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

NLIHC in the News

NLIHC in the News for the Week of February 19

The following are some of the news stories that NLIHC contributed to during the week of February 19:

- “Is it Time to “Repeal and Replace” the Mortgage Interest Deduction?,” *Philadelphia Magazine*, February 21 at: <http://bit.ly/2mjqcFd>
- “Landlord Appreciation Day last week,” *The Sunbury News*, February 22 at: <http://bit.ly/2mtl81f>
- “Housing authorities need more resources to administer Housing Choice Voucher Program by Lynda Carson,” *IndyBay*, February 21 at: <http://bit.ly/2INEdOC>

- “Affordable rental housing hit hard in Knoxville, elsewhere,” *Knoxville News Sentinel (AP)*, February 20 at: <http://bit.ly/2mfl73H>
- “Habitat Greenville raises walls on first home in new Veterans Build program,” *UpstateBizSC*, February 17 at: <http://bit.ly/2lhI4k5>

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 Stephanie Hall, Field Intern/MSW Practicum Fellow x230
 Sarah Jemison, Housing Advocacy Organizer, x244
 Paul Kealey, Chief Operating Officer, x232
 Hannah Keith, Communications and Graphic Design Intern, x250
 Joseph Lindstrom, Manager, Field Organizing, x222
 Lisa Marlow, Communications Specialist, x239
 Sarah Mickelson, Director of Public Policy, x228
 Khara Norris, Director of Administration, x242
 Marjorie Pang, Research Intern, x229
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