



Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding

Working to ensure maximum federal resources for housing and community development.

October 8, 2013

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
1011 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senate and House Leaders,

We are writing to you to urge a quick resolution of the government shutdown by passing a clean continuing resolution (CR) and then to act with deliberate speed to finalize a FY14 budget that eliminates sequestration and ultimately provides strong funding for HUD and USDA Rural Housing Service programs.

The undersigned members of the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF) are concerned about continuous cuts housing programs have taken in the past three years and the impact that underfunding these critical programs is having on low income persons with disabilities, seniors, families with children, and people experiencing homelessness.

The government shutdown is stopping communities from pursuing development activities that will promote local economic growth through the creation of affordable housing opportunities for low and moderate income families, threatening to destabilize over 4 million households that depend on HUD's rental assistance programs and creating widespread uncertainty for affordable housing investors.

Further, while a clean CR is necessary to ensure that housing and community development activities are supported until a final budget is determined, a long-term or year-long CR at FY13 funding levels for HUD's programs will not be adequate to address the growing housing needs of millions of low income households. The multi-year decline in funding for many HUD programs coupled with deep cuts from sequestration has forced providers and local communities to do less with less, reducing the number of households being served and stalling much needed community revitalization efforts.

It is essential that both the Administration and Congress understand the important role that housing and community development programs have in supporting local economies and improving the lives of low-income households across the country. Congress should act quickly to open the government, eliminate sequestration, and provide funding for HUD's programs as proposed by S.1243 and full funding for USDA Rural Housing Service programs.

Sincerely,

Community Action Partnership
Consortium for Citizens With Disabilities Housing Task Force
Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
Council of State Community Development Agencies
CSH
Enterprise Community Partners
Housing Assistance Council
LeadingAge
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Lutheran Services in America
Mercy Housing
National AIDS Housing Coalition
National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
National Center for Child & Housing Welfare
National Center for Healthy Housing
National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development
National Community Development Association
National Disability Rights Network
National Fair Housing Alliance
National Housing Conference
National Housing Trust
National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty
National Leased Housing Association
National Low Income Housing Coalition
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby
Public Housing Authority Directors Association
Rebuilding Together
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future
The Arc of the United States

cc: The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
The Honorable Richard Shelby
The Honorable Harold Rogers
The Honorable Nita Lowey
The Honorable Patty Murray
The Honorable Susan Collins
The Honorable Tom Latham
The Honorable Ed Pastor
HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan
OMB Associate Director Dana Hyde
