Policy Priorities For Creating Homes Families Can Afford and Ending Homelessness in NJ

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants - Support a $237 million increase to $2.487 billion for Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants program

Medicaid

- Oppose any replacement of the Affordable Care Act that eliminates Medicaid expansion
- Raise the important role Medicaid expansion plays in ensuring people experiencing homelessness receive critical healthcare services

HOME Investment Partnerships - Restore funding to $1.2 billion

Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers – Protect and expand the voucher program to help connect families to areas of opportunity with access to good schools, well-paying jobs, healthcare, and transit

National Housing Trust Fund (HTF)

- Ensure finding for the HTF by opposing any legislative or administrative attempts to prevent Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac from providing funding for HTF or to prevent its further implementation
- Increase funding for HTF through the budget process, tax reform, housing finance reform, investments in infrastructure, and other legislative opportunities.

Tax Reform

- Reprioritize current federal housing spending as part of comprehensive tax reform
- Support H.R.948 - *Common Sense Housing Investment Act of 2017* and modest reforms to the mortgage interest deduction (MID) to benefit low income homeowners and generate billions of dollars to be reinvested in rental housing programs that serve families with the greatest needs
- Specifically, support reforms to MID that reduce the amount of a mortgage eligible for a tax break from $1 million to the first $500,000 and convert the deduction to a 15% non-refundable tax credit.

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) – Oppose any legislative proposals seeking to undermine HUD's AFFH rule, including the *Local Zoning Decisions Protection Act of 2017* S. 103/H.R. 482

Low Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit/LIHTC)

- Protect and maintain the viability of the Housing Credit and housing bonds in tax reform
- Expand and strengthen the Housing Credit to increase the availability of safe and affordable housing and revitalize local economies
  - Support the Cantwell (D-Wash.) and Hatch (R-Utah) *Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act of 2017*, S.548, to increase low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) authority by 50% phased in over 5 years.
  - Support the proposed Housing Credit changes that would make credits more useful for assisting lower-income households

Housing Counseling: Fund Housing Counseling at $60 million, the amount passed in the House budget

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