

October 20, 2014

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Harold Rodgers
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Mikulski, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chairman Rodgers and Ranking Member Lowey,

The undersigned organizations are housing developers, owners, tenant advocates, service and housing providers and housing agencies committed to creating and maintaining the supply of supportive housing for the most vulnerable populations, urge you to pass a full FY2015 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. We are concerned that a year-long Continuing Resolution at FY2014 levels will undermine communities' ability to reduce and end homelessness for individuals and families.

Supportive housing is affordable rental housing combined with services to help stabilize families and individuals and enable them to live independently while addressing their most pressing needs. It is a proven cost-effective intervention that significantly reduces the use of emergency shelters, hospitals, emergency rooms, jails and prisons.

HUD's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), McKinney Vento Homelessness Assistance and the Section 811 Project Rental Assistance for Persons with Disabilities programs are the main resources used for creating and maintaining supportive housing. These programs allow local communities and states to make decisions on how best to use resources to address the housing needs to target populations with the highest needs.

Congress should pass a full FY2015 T-HUD Appropriations bill that provides enough money to fully renew all existing vouchers and restore lost vouchers due to sequestration, include an additional \$301 million for the McKinney Vento Homelessness Assistance grants and create new units dedicated to persons with disabilities. Adequate funding for both programs is critical for communities and states to continue to create more affordable housing options for the most vulnerable populations and support critical economic development initiatives. Continued investment in HUD's programs is essential to ending homelessness for all populations and providing affordable housing for those at-risk of becoming homeless.

Affordable housing serves as the platform to transform and improve the lives of the most vulnerable populations. We respectfully request that Congress pass a full FY2015 T-HUD Appropriations in order to expand supportive housing opportunities and programs across the country.

Sincerely,

Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD)

CSH

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

National Coalition for the Homeless

National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH)

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

National Equity Fund (NEF)

Technical Assistance Collaboration (TAC)

Volunteers of America (VOA)

Adanta Behavioral Health Services, Community Mental Health Center-Somerset, KY

Advanced Housing, Inc.

Aeon-Minneapolis, MN

AIDS Connecticut

AIDS Foundation of Chicago-Chicago, IL

Alliance for the Betterment of Citizens with Disabilities

Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County-Hillside, IL

Arbor Housing and Development-Bath, NY

Bexar Management Development Corporation-San Antonio, TX

Boise/Ada County Homeless Coalition-Boise, ID

Broadway Area Community Development Corporation-Gary, IN

Cameron County Homeless Partnership-Brownsville, TX

California Coalition for Rural Housing-Sacramento, CA

Care for the Homeless- New York, NY

Center for Housing and Health-Chicago, IL

Central City Concern-Portland, OR

Central Kentucky Housing and Homeless Initiative-Lexington, KY

Charitable Assistance to Community's Homeless-Boise, ID

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless-Chicago, IL

CLUSTER Community Services-Yonkers, NY

Coalition for the Homeless-Louisville, KY

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO)-Columbus, OH

The Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention (CHIP)-Indianapolis, IN

Community Enrichment Center-North Richland Hills, TX

Community Housing of Maine

Community LINC-Kansas City, MO

Community Shelter Board-Columbus, OH

Concho Valley Homeless Planning Coalition- San Angelo, TX

Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness-Hartford, CT

Connecticut Housing Coalition-Wethersfield, CT

Crosspoint Human Services-Danville, IL

Dignity Health-Pasadena, CA
The Doe Fund-New York, NY
East Texas Human Needs Network-Tyler, TX
ECHO Housing Corporation-Evansville, IN
Ecker Center for Mental Health-Elgin, IL
Encore Community Services-New York, NY
Ending Community Homelessness Coalition-Austin, TX
Family & Children's Association-Mineola, NY
Family Housing Fund-Minneapolis, MN
The Family Resource Center of Peekskill-Peekskill, NY
Family Service Society of Yonkers-Yonkers, NY
Housing Authority of Bexar County-San Antonio, TX
Housing California-Sacramento, CA
Grace Church Community Center, White Plains, NY
The Guidance Center of Westchester, Inc.-Mount Vernon, NY
Healthcare for the Homeless-Baltimore, MD
Healthcare for the Homeless, Inc.-Baltimore, MD
Horizon House-Indianapolis, IN
Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey
Housing Opportunities-Valparaiso & Michigan City, IN
Housing and Services, Inc.-New York, NY
Houston/Harris County CoC-Houston, TX
Homeless Planning Council of Delaware-Wilmington, DE
Housing Network of Rhode Island-Pawtucket, RI
Human Development Services of Westchester-Mamaroneck, NY
Human Resources Development Institute-Chicago, IL
Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence-Indianapolis, IN
Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living-Springfield, IL
KARP, Inc.-Lexington, KY
Kim Wilson Housing-Kansas City, MO & Kansas City, KS
Kosciusko County Shelter for Abuse-Warsaw, IN
Lake County Minority Health Coalition-Gary, IN
Lester and Rosalie Anixter Center-Chicago, IL
Lexington Center for Recovery-Mount Kisco, NY
Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government-Lexington, KY
Long Island Coalition for the Homeless-Amityville, NY
Lutheran Office of Government Ministry, NJ
Maine Center-Park Ridge, IL
Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless-Lynn, MA
Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers-Minneapolis, MN
Miami Coalition for the Homeless-Miami, FL
Mid-Alabama Coalition for the Homeless-Montgomery, AL
Mental Health Association in New Jersey
Mental Health America of Vigo County-Terre Haute, IN

Mental Health Centers of Central Illinois-Springfield, IL
Metropolitan Community Churches-Locations throughout Texas
Metropolitan Family Services-Chicago, IL
Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness-Lansing, MI
Minnesota Housing Partnership-St. Paul, MN
Mississippi United to End Homelessness (Balance of State CoC)-Jackson, MS
Monarch Housing Associates
Nassau/Suffolk Continuum of Care Group-Long Island, NY
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)- Chicago Office-Chicago, IL
National Organization for Women, NJ Chapter
Nazareth Housing-New York, NY
New Jersey Coalition to End Homelessness-Roseland, NJ
New Jersey Tenant Organization
New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness-Santa Fe, NM
New Reach-New Haven, CT
NJ Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies, Inc.
The North and Northwest Suburban Task Force on Supportive Housing for Individuals with Mental Illness-Wheeling, IL
North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness-Raleigh, NC
Northwest Indiana Reinvestment Alliance-Hammond, IN
Northwest Pilot Project-Portland, OR
NSP Consultants-Hammond, IN
Open Doors Homeless Coalition-Gulfport, MS
Outside In-Portland, OR
Partnership for Strong Communities-Hartford, CT
Portland Housing Bureau-Portland, OR
Project for Pride in Living-Minneapolis, MN
Resources for Community Development-Berkeley, CA
reStart-Kansas City, MO
Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless-Pawtucket, RI
Rosecrance Health Network-Rockford, IL
RUPCO-Kingston, NY
Safe Horizon-New York, NY
Safe-T Crisis Center-Mount Pleasant, TX
Save Our Veterans-Indianapolis, IN
SEIU Healthcare Illinois & Indiana-Statewide in both states
Seven Counties Services-Louisville, KY
Skid Row Housing Trust-Los Angeles, CA
Sojourner Truth House-Gary, IN
Southern Illinois Coalition for the Homeless-Marion, IL
Spindletop Center PATH program-Beaumont, TX
Supportive Housing Providers Association-Springfield, IL
Supportive Housing Network of New York (SHNNY)
Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation-San Francisco, CA

Testa Companies-Cuyahoga Falls, OH
Texas Homeless Network-Austin, TX
Texas Panhandle Centers, Behavioral & Developmental Health-Amarillo, TX
Thresholds-Chicago, IL
Trilogy Behavioral Healthcare-Chicago, IL
Trusted Mentors-Indianapolis, IN
United Caring Services-Evansville, IN
United Way of Greater Houston-Houston, TX
United Ways of Texas-Austin, TX
Urban Pathways-New York, NY
Victoria Area Homeless Coalition-Victoria, TX
Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness-Richmond, VA
Virginia Supportive Housing-Richmond, VA
Westhab-Westchester County, NY