



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



**McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants:** Support a \$414 million increase to \$2.644B for HUD’s McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants program as well as:

- 25,500 more units of permanent supportive housing to finally end chronic homelessness.
- 8,000 more rapid re-housing interventions for families with children.
- \$25 million which would expand HUD’s project to demonstrate how a comprehensive approach to serving homeless youth, age 24 and under, can dramatically reduce youth homelessness.
- And cosponsor Congresswoman Waters bill "The Ending Homelessness Act of 2016" (H.R. 4888).

**HOME Investment Partnerships:** Restore funding for the HOME Investment Partnerships program (HOME) to \$1.2 billion

**Housing Choice Vouchers (Tenant-Based Rental Assistance):** Support \$20.9 billion for Housing Choice Vouchers to help reduce family homelessness. This funding would:

- Renew assistance for all families currently using vouchers.
- Provide \$88 million for 10,000 new vouchers for homeless families with children.
- Provide \$2.08 billion for housing agencies to effectively administer the program.

**Ensure Funding for the National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF):** Oppose any attempts to add language to appropriations bills or any other bills that would prevent Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac from providing funding or implementing the NHTF.

- In the House, co-sponsor the “Common Sense Housing Investment Act of 2015” (H.R. 1662) and the “Pathways Out of Poverty Act of 2015” (H.R. 2721) making modest changes to the mortgage interest deduction while raising \$230B in ten years for the NHTF and providing new tax breaks for millions of homeowners with incomes under \$100,000.

**Expand the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC):**

- In the Senate, co-sponsor the bipartisan Cantwell-Hatch Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act of 2016 (S. 2962) to expand LIHTC, create a minimum 4% LIHTC rate, and permit “income averaging” within LIHTC properties to allow a project to serve households with incomes that *average* 60% AMI. Advocate for a 50% basis boost for properties that serve extremely low-income and homeless families, which will be included in a forthcoming bill from Sen. Cantwell.
- In the House, urge that LIHTC be expanded and strengthened in any tax reform proposals. Emphasize the importance of the minimum 4% LIHTC rate and income averaging.
- Co-sponsor the National Disaster Tax Relief Act (H.R. 3110 in the House and S. 1795 in the Senate)

**Push for Stricter Lead Standards:** Support legislation requiring HUD regulations of lead contaminated dust levels in children be consistent with the CDC standards. In the Senate, co-sponsor Senators Richard Durbin and Bob Menendez’s legislation (S. 2631) and in the House, co-sponsor Representatives Keith Ellison and Mike Quigley legislation (H.R. 4694.)

For more information:

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