

## **Congressional Reception 2017 in Washington, D.C. “No Cuts to Housing” Date and Time TBA**

The 2017 New Jersey Congressional Reception will be held in July 2017. A location on Capitol Hill will be secured for the event.



The theme will be “No Cuts to Housing” that are hurting our communities that serve low-income families, the homeless and those with special needs.

The impact of sequestration and budget cuts has reduced the budget of the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as well as other domestic programs. The lack of affordable homes and the resources needed to maintain existing public housing has created an affordable homes state of emergency in NJ.

The goal of the event will be to bring 350 people to DC for the day. Both senators and all the members of the House representing NJ will be invited to attend and give brief remarks and it is hoped that they and their housing staff will attend the event.

The Reception’s program will include an overview of the state picture and welcome the two senators. This will be followed by an advocate from each Congressional district who will welcome the member of Congress and introduce two speakers – one who will speak about the impact of homelessness and a second who will talk about public policy issues in the district. The speakers will discuss the benefits of HUD funded housing and the impact HUD funding cuts are having in their communities. All members from the district will be included in a group photo.

Staff from key national partner organizations such as the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Enterprise Communities and the National Alliance to End Homelessness will be asked to give brief national perspectives on the HUD budget cuts.

Buses to transport attendees to and from DC will be provided. A boxed lunch and buttons will be provided.

The event will be promoted through main stream and social media.

Infographics showing the impact of the budget cuts to key HUD programs will be provided.

Monarch Housing Associates has taken the lead in planning the event and in recruiting new and existing partners.

An initial list of partners has been recruited and more will be solicited over the next few months.

Partners will be involved in planning the event, mobilize their constituents to attend, and share in the cost of the event. Attached is a list of 2016 partners, a save the date flyer and a draft budget.

**Posts, photos and videos from 2016 Congressional Reception <https://goo.gl/IQKKA2>**

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**2017 Sponsors as of December 27, 2016**

1. Bridges
2. Catholic Charities Diocese of Trenton
3. Catholic Charities Diocese of Camden
4. Mental Health Association in NJ (MHANJ)
5. Mental Health Association of Essex County
6. Monarch Housing Associates, Inc.
7. Mercer Alliance to End Homelessness
8. Newark Housing Authority
9. NewBridge
10. Project Live
11. Supportive Housing Association
12. Triple C Housing