

2019-2020 FEDERAL POLICY PRIORITIES

PRESERVE & ENHANCE KEY FEDERAL INVESTMENTS IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING

New Strategic Plan Systems: Affordable Housing, Families, Children, Youth, Aging

- **Suspend Federal Budget Caps/Sequestration Mandates on Domestic Programs**
- **Preserve & Expand Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher**
- **Expand Investments in Special Purpose Vouchers** through the Section 8 program, targeting Family Unification Program (FUP) for families and youth, HUD-VASH, Section 202 funding for Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program, and Non-Elderly Mainstream Vouchers
- **Preserve the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund**
- **Preserve the National Housing Trust Fund**
- **Preserve the HOME Investment Partnership Program**
- **Preserve, Expand and Enhance the Low Income Housing Tax Credit**
- **Make Permanent the New Markets Tax Credit**
- **Ensure Any Omnibus Federal Infrastructure Investment Initiative** includes robust resources to create additional units of affordable and supportive housing.
- **Effective Implementation of the Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act (SIPRA), a Pay for Success/Social Impact Bond mechanism** that includes opportunities for developing supportive housing.
- **Passage of The Ending Homelessness Act of 2019**
- **Passage of the Fighting Homelessness through Services and Housing Act of 2019**
- **Passage of Legislation Creating a National Affordable Housing Task Force**

New Strategic Plan System: Affordable Housing. New Strategic Plan Priority Driver: Equity

- **Support the American Housing and Economic Mobility Act**

ENCOURAGE FEDERAL ACTIONS TO EXPAND STATE MEDICAID SERVICES AND SUBSTANCE USE INVESTMENTS

New Strategic Plan System: Healthcare

- **Ensure Federal Laws Encourage Medicaid Expansion** at the state level. Discourage unrealistic work requirements and other onerous rules that unduly burden the neediest people eligible for Medicaid.
- **Continue to Increase Federal Resources to Combat Opioid Crisis** and other substance use disorders.
- **Encourage and Increase Actions Facilitating Healthcare-Housing Partnerships, Local Systems Change and Integration of Systems.**

SUPPORT FEDERAL EFFORTS ON JUSTICE REFORM

New Strategic Plan Systems: Justice, Affordable Housing

- **Support the Effective Implementation of Sentencing Reform and Corrections “First Step” Act** and further adjustments that will make housing an important aspect of diversion and justice reform.
- **Increase Funding for Second Chance Act**, with a special emphasis on using additional funds to target dollars for affordable and supportive housing, especially Frequent Users System Engagement (FUSE) supportive housing replication at the state and local levels.
- **Ensure More Federal Funding for the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act (MIOTCRA)**

FEDERAL REGULATORY REFORM

New Strategic Plan Systems: Healthcare, Families, Children, Affordable Housing

- **Support Options to Provide Public Housing Agencies with Flexibility** to contract with non-profits to manage Section 8 vouchers, and ensure alignment and connection to healthcare and other community services.
- **Extend RAD Statutory Waiver Authority to PBVs Used in RAD Transactions** in order to streamline the inclusion of non-RAD PVBs into RAD transactions; Elimination of the RAD cap (currently at 455,000 units), which will accelerate recapitalization of the public housing inventory; Ensure “PHA-owned” provisions requiring third-party rent setting and inspections would not apply to RAD deals.

2019-2020 STATE POLICY PRIORITIES

PRESERVE & ENHANCE KEY LOCAL INVESTMENTS IN QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING

New Strategic Plan System: Affordable Housing

- **Encourage More States and Local Policymakers to Initiate Additional Financing Streams** to develop and sustain quality affordable and supportive housing pipelines through their Qualified Action Plans (QAP), legislative appropriations or local bond funding referenda like Proposition HHH in Los Angeles, Propositions 1 & 2 in California, and Measure 102 in Oregon.

ENCOURAGE AND WORK WITH STATES TO EXPAND STATE MEDICAID SERVICES

New Strategic Plan System: Healthcare

- **Work with Governors, State Legislators and State Medicaid Agencies to Expand Medicaid Coverage in at Least Four States Where Expansion Has Not Taken Place as of January 1, 2019**, and work with federal and state policymakers to ensure state waiver requests do not burden recipients with onerous rules that unduly constrain Medicaid eligibility.

ENCOURAGE STATES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO REPLICATE FAMILY SUPPORTIVE HOUSING MODELS AND HOUSING-CHILD WELFARE SYSTEMS PARTNERSHIPS

New Strategic Plan System: Families, Children, Youth

- **Work with Governors, State Legislators and State Child Welfare Agencies to Help Replicate One Roof-Keeping Families Together Supportive Housing** with the goal of replication programs in ten more states by the end of 2020. This would include supporting states/agencies to develop the needed infrastructure and partnerships to connect housing and child welfare agencies and services. In the absence of dynamics conducive to actual replication of the One Roof-Keeping Families Together, work with states and local governments to lay the groundwork by encouraging the institutionalization housing components into their Family First plans.

ADOPT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING INITIATIVES TO ENHANCE JUSTICE REFORM

New Strategic Plan Systems: Justice, Affordable Housing

- **Work with Governors, State Legislators and State Corrections and Justice Systems** to replicate the law adopted in Illinois to advance Frequent Users Systems Engagement (FUSE) supportive housing as an approved, statewide initiative with the goal of replicating similar legislation in five more states by the end of 2020.
- **Work with Governors, State Legislators and State Corrections and Justice Systems** to increase funding to create supportive housing for people exiting prisons and align discharge policies to identify individuals at greatest need of supportive housing upon discharge.

ENCOURAGE STATES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO IMPROVE EXPAND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING RESOURCES AND HOUSING OPTIONS FOR AGING SENIORS

New Strategic Plan System: Affordable Housing, Aging

- **Work with Governors, State Legislators and State Departments of/on Aging** to expand supportive housing resources and enhances services for aging seniors to improve quality of life and provide best-fit housing options and barrier-free construction.

REDUCE BARRIERS TO FAIR HOUSING

New Strategic Plan System: Affordable Housing. New Strategic Plan Driver: Equity

- **Work with Governors, State Legislators and Local Governments** to remove barriers to the development of affordable housing and promote fair housing in all neighborhoods by replicating the bill passed in California in 2018 to reduce regulatory hurdles on the local and state levels, and also help introduce state and city risk-mitigation strategies (e.g., repealing bans on prohibiting housing for people with histories of incarceration, landlord flex funds, etc.), all aimed at enhancing the use of local housing assistance vouchers.