

CHCDF Call-In Script for FY24 National Day of Action

The Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF) urges Congress to approve and the President to sign fullyear Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 spending bills that provide increased funding for the Departments of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Agriculture (USDA). With the country continuing to navigate the economic fallout from the pandemic – including steeply increased rental costs and delays in the construction of affordable housing – the importance of enacting comprehensive spending bills that provide increased funding for vital affordable housing, homelessness, and community development programs cannot be overstated.

<u>Call, email, and Tweet</u> your members of Congress on Friday, June 16 and tell them to provide the highest possible funding in FY24 for HUD and USDA affordable housing, community development, and homelessness assistance programs!

Use the script below to help create your message to Congress:

My name is [First Name, Last Name], and I'm a constituent of [member of Congress].

As your constituent, I'm [writing/calling] to urge you not to impose spending cuts that will reduce the number of people served by vital federal affordable housing and homelessness assistance programs, and to instead work to ensure affordable housing, homelessness, and community development programs receive the highest allocation of discretionary funds possible in fiscal year (FY) 2024. Specifically, I ask that you:

[List your FY24 priorities here.]

Federal investments are critical to creating more equitable communities and enabling families to thrive. [If you're writing/calling on behalf of an organization, talk about how your priorities impact communities, families, households, and individuals locally. If you're writing/calling for yourself, talk about how these funds benefit you, your neighbors, and your communities].

Given the very real impacts of inflation, flat funding for housing, community development, and homelessness programs would act as a cut and reduce the number of people served, and any attempts to cut funding to these critical programs must be rejected. Proposals to slash federal housing programs would leave even more people with low incomes without a stable home, undermining housing stability, increasing evictions, and in worst cases, leading to increased homelessness.

I ask that you work with your colleagues to enact a FY24 spending bill that funds [list your priorities here] at the numbers outlined above or higher. Thank you for your time.

More ways to take action with CHCDF:

- National, state, tribal, territorial, and local organizations can join over 2,000 other organizations on <u>CHCDF's</u> <u>annual 302(b) letter</u>, calling on Congress to provide the highest possible funding for HUD and USDA affordable housing, homelessness, and community development programs.
- Check out <u>CHCDF's resources</u> on federal funding for affordable housing, community development, and homelessness assistance programs.

Thank you for your advocacy!