



NACEDA News



100+ Community Development Organizations Present Local Solutions to Poverty, Disinvestment and Inequity - March 4-6 in DC

Community-based organizations from all over the country will convene for the most diverse and inclusive community development conference in more than a decade. U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Jay Williams and U.S. Deputy Secretary of Labor Chris Lu will address this peer learning conference of more than 450 people working to advance opportunity and prosperity in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color. [See who's coming](#) and view the [final agenda](#). Take advantage of [discounted room rates](#) at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. [Register now!](#)

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Learn How To Boost Your Grant-Seeking Capacity - March 20 GrantStation Webinar

NACEDA negotiated a highly-discounted rate for GrantStation in order to increase community developers' capacity to identify and secure grants. If your organization belongs to a [NACEDA member organization](#), you can get full GrantStation membership for \$75 per year. (The regular price is \$699 per year.) You'll get full access to GrantStation's database of thousands of grant makers and their online tools for grant writing, strategic planning tools, and scheduling.

[Sign up](#) for GrantStation at the \$75 rate.

Take a special GrantStation Tour for community developers on *Friday, March 20 at 2:00 pm Eastern Time*.

Register for the [free webinar](#).

Federal News

President Releases Budget Request; Congress Holds Budget Hearings

President Obama released his Budget Request for FY 2016 on February 2. The budget proposes \$49.3 billion for HUD, a \$4 billion or 8% increase over current levels. The proposed HUD budget shows strong support for rental assistance, homeless, and HOME programs. See the Enterprise [budget chart](#). However, the HOME and Community Development Block Grant programs are considered to be at particular risk in Congress.

Congress has been holding hearings on the President's Budget Request. Next month, the House and Senate are expected to consider their FY 2016 budget resolutions, which will set discretionary spending caps. These budget caps will likely be at least as low as those set by the 2011 Budget Control Act for non-defense discretionary programs.

HUD's Section Four Program Zeroed; Sign-On Letter Initiated

HUD's Section 4 program is in trouble in ways it has not been in past budget cycles. It was zeroed out in the President's budget proposal that came out recently. The below sign on letter is being passed around by the program's lead proponents: LISC, Enterprise, and Habitat for Humanity.

The letter urges members of the House and Senate to provide funding of at least \$35 million for the HUD Section 4 Capacity Building and Affordable Housing Program. Restoring Section 4 to at least \$35 million, its current level of funding, will have a sizable impact on the communities that the program supports.

[The sign-on deadline is TODAY, Friday, February 27.](#)

Bipartisan Legislation to Permanently Extend New Markets Tax Credit Introduced

Representatives Pat Tiberi (R-OH), Richard Neal (D-MA) and Tom Reed (R-NY) introduced the [New Markets Tax Credit Extension Act of 2015](#) to permanently extend the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) on February 10. The legislation already has 17 additional co-sponsors. Representatives Tiberi, Neal and Reed are circulating a "Dear Colleague" letter. Companion legislation is expected soon in the Senate. "Tax extenders" legislation passed in December 2014 extended NMTC program authority through 2014, providing one additional round of NMTCs. Congressional action is needed to continue the program.

Legislation Introduced To Prevent Funding For Housing Trust Fund

Rep. Edward Royce (R-CA) introduced the [Payback the Taxpayers Act of 2015](#) on January 27. The legislation would prevent Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac from allocating funds to the Housing Trust Fund and Capital Magnet Fund. Since January 1, 2015, Fannie and Freddie have been required to set aside a portion of each loan they purchase from lenders for these two funds, which will provide an estimated \$300 million to \$700 million a year to expand the housing supply for the lowest income and most vulnerable Americans. The proposed legislation would require that these funds instead be put toward deficit reduction.

HUD Releases Interim Rules for the Housing Trust Fund

HUD released new rules for implementation of the Housing Trust Fund on January 30. The interim rule lays out criteria to divide the funds between the states. The new rule strengthens the income-targeting restrictions on the funds and allows funds to be used for public housing rehabilitation through the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative and the Rental Assistance Demonstration. NLIHC charts show estimated [state-by-state allocations](#) and which [state agencies](#) have been selected receive funding so far.

Worst Case Housing Needs: 2015 Report to Congress

HUD released the [Executive Summary](#) of *Worst Case Housing Needs: 2015 Report to Congress* on February 3. The summary shows that the number of households with worst case housing needs fell to 7.7 million in 2013, after reaching a record high of 8.5 million in 2011. Despite this decrease, the number of households with worst case housing needs remained 9% higher than in 2009 and 49% higher than in 2003.

Member News

\$12 Billion Impact of Community Development Documented in New Jersey

On their 25th anniversary, the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey issued the [Stronger Together](#) report, documenting the \$12 billion impact that community development corporations have had on the New Jersey economy over the past 25 years. The work and investments of 150 community

development corporations created 82,000 jobs and 10,000 permanent staff positions over the 25 year period. The economic impact from the direct and indirect revenue created by development work totaled to \$12 billion, while tax revenues totalled \$320 million.

Partner News

CFED Resleases 2015 Asset & Opportunity Scorecard

CFED published the [2015 Assets & Opportunity Scorecard](#) and the accompanying report [Excluded from the Financial Mainstream: How the Economic Recovery is Bypassing Millions of Americans](#). The publications provide the latest data in financial security and household economic recovery in America. State-by-state analysis of low-wage jobs, income inequality and disconnected youth are powerful advocacy tools. Findings include disparities in economic recovery between wealthy and low-income households as well as white households and households of color.

Events and Educational Opportunities

Community Development Venture Capital Alliance 20th Annual Conference 2015 -

March 18-20 in Washington, DC. Get the latest training and networking in the development venture capital industry for fund managers. [Register](#).

NeighborWorks NFMC Multi-Course Training Event - *Mar 16-20 in Dallas, TX.* [Register](#).

National Community Action Foundation 2015 Legislative Conference: Poverty, the Parties and the Presidency - *March 24- 27 in Washington, DC.* Find out how to engage community action in presidential politics. [Register](#).

2015 NCRC Annual Conference: Creating a Just Economy - *March 25-28 in Washington, DC.* Learn the newest developments in community organizing and advocacy, housing, access to capital and credit, community development and fair lending. [Register](#).

Funding Opportunities & Resources

ArtPlace America Community Development Investments - Up to \$3 million available in funding for place-based non-governmental organizations with a primary mission of community planning and development. March 12 deadline. ArtPlace America is specifically interested in applications from the NACEDA network.

[Announcement](#).

Community Economic Development Healthy Food Financing Initiative Projects -

Department of Health and Human Services has up to \$800,000 per CDC to address food and economic needs of people in low-income situations. April 24 deadline. [Learn more.](#)

Kresge Foundation Grants for Multi-Service Organizations -

Operating and project support for organizations providing assistance to individuals and families living in poverty. [Learn more.](#)

EDA FY 2015 Economic Development Assistance Programs -

Support construction, non-construction, technical assistance and revolving loan fund projects in economically distressed communities. March 12 deadline. [Announcement.](#)

National Community Land Trust Network Catalyzing Impact Grants -

Two \$20,000 grants are available to organizations working on permanently-affordable housing public policies or programs at local, regional and state level. March 6 deadline. [RFP.](#)

Wells Fargo Next Awards for Opportunity Finance -

Grants are open to CDFI's to expand consumer financial services for people in low-income or disadvantaged situations. March 11 deadline. [Learn more.](#)

USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grants -

Rolling deadline. [Announcement.](#)

Walmart Foundation State Giving Program -

Grants for organizations serving low-income needs. Focused giving areas: Career Opportunity, Hunger Relief and Healthy Eating. Deadlines: May 1, July 17 and September 18. [Announcement.](#)

HUD National Disaster Resilience Competition -

March 16 deadline. [Announcement.](#)

Publications & Resources

Creating an Anchored Local Economy in Newark: Recommendations for Implementing a

Comprehensive Local Procurement Strategy - Initiative for a Competitive Inner City. [Study](#) finds Newark has

strong potential and places of growth in the revitalization and local procurement initiatives in the city.

Community Development Data Guidebook - Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

[Report](#) offers CRA bankers and community development practitioners updated data on demographics, bank presence, labor markets, housing, small business and community development.

Sequestration and Its Impacts on Non-Defense Appropriations - Center for Budget and Policy

Priorities. Spending reductions required by the 2011 Budget Control Act (BCA) are now achieved through

spending caps, not across-the-board cuts as in FY13. [Paper](#) notes that under

the BCA "in inflation-adjusted terms, the 2016 cap would be 17 percent below the 2010 level."

Ending Child Poverty Now - [Report](#) prepared by the Urban Institute for the Children's Defense Fund finds changes in housing and other policies could reduce child poverty by 60 percent nationwide.

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