UTAH NAHRO'S PRIORITIES

2015

Public Housing:
♦ Restore full funding for the operating costs and annual capital accrual needs of public housing.
♦ Introduce real estate tools to the public housing program, including the creation of replacement reserve accounts. NAHRO will also seek additional tools to allow PHAs to leverage the value of their real estate assets.
♦ Promote measures to streamline the regulatory environment in which PHAs operate.

There are currently 1,837 Public Housing units in Utah. The average household income is $12,205. 29% of these households income are from wages; the majority at 64% receives Social Security, Social Security Disability, or Pensions. 75% of these households are considered extremely low income. 63% of these households have been in housing for less than 5 years. 69% are disabled and 47% are Elderly.

Housing Choice Voucher:
♦ Restore the vouchers lost due to sequestration.
♦ Insist upon the restoration of a responsible level of administrative fee funding for voucher programs.
♦ Promote measures to streamline the operating environment in which PHAs operate.

There are currently 11,388 Section 8 Vouchers in Utah. The average household income is $12,535. 35% of these households income are from wages; the majority at 60% receives Social Security, Social Security Disability, or Pensions. 62% of these households are considered extremely low income. 52% of these households have been in housing for less than 5 years. The average household size is 2.4. 41% are disabled and 19% are Elderly.

Project-Based Rental Assistance:
♦ Continue to advocate a responsible level of funding for the renewal of Section 8 multi-family project-based rental assistance (PBRA) contracts.
♦ In order for HUD to ensure cost-effective and high quality services, NAHRO strongly supports maintaining a level playing field in the competition for contracts under the Section 8 Performance-Based Contract Administrators initiative.
CDBG:

- Work with a broad national coalition to measure CDBG’s impact on local communities and demonstrate the importance of maintaining our national investment in the program.
- Continue to oppose any efforts to change program eligibility thresholds and reduce communities’ ability to access these critical resources.

Utah was awarded 25.7 million in Community Development Block Grant Funding in 2014. Utah focused on creating safer, higher quality communities. The Primary objective of the CDBG Program is to develop communities by providing to principally low or moderate income person: Decent Housing; Suitable Living Environment; Expanded Economic Opportunities.

HOME:

- Seek to reverse the devastating funding reductions that have occurred in recent years, restoring funding levels to their former baseline levels
- Continue to oppose any efforts to change program eligibility thresholds and reduce communities’ ability to access these critical resources.

Housing Trust Fund:

- Seek to protect the HTF and ensure that funding distributions begin in a timely fashion.
- Ensure that PHAs have meaningful access to HTF resources to preserve and develop public housing.

Solving Homelessness

With the Continued Federal, State, and Local Support, we are on track to end homelessness.

We have seen through a 10-year initiative:

- 72% Decrease in Chronic Homelessness

Economic Impact:

One year estimated economic impacts of building and rehabilitation 538 subsidized home in Utah include the creation of over 1,200 Utah Jobs.

Low Income Housing Tax Credit:

- Advocate a permanent extension to the minimum 9 percent credit rate enacted under the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 while also creating a minimum 4 percent credit rate for allocated acquisition credits.
- For FY 2016, the President’s budget proposes allowing states to trade in 18 percent of their volume cap for additional credit allocation authority. NAHRO is deeply supportive of this effort to augment the availability of credits.

Utah NAHRO is committed to help create a state in which all people have decent, affordable housing, and economic opportunity in viable, sustainable communities by working with elected officials to inform public policy that will enrich the lives of Utahns and educate NAHRO members.