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#### **Our Homes, Our Votes**

## Tomorrow (Tuesday, November 5) Is Election Day!

TAG: OHOV Keywords: Our Homes Our Votes, nonpartisan campaign, voting, elections, Election Day

Tomorrow (Tuesday, November 5) is Election Day, and NLIHC encourages our members and partners to make their voices heard at the ballot box. Affordable homes are built with ballots, and elections at every level of government – from local City Halls to the Oval Office – will shape the future of our nation's housing policy. To make your voting plan and learn what to expect on your ballot, visit ourhomes.turbovote.org.

Many communities will weigh in directly on housing policy through state or local ballot measures. NLIHC is tracking more than 100 state and local <u>ballot measures</u> relating to housing and homelessness and will report the results in next week's *Memo* and in a comprehensive report to be published in December.

Voter turnout disparities between low-income renters and high-income homeowners are a persistent obstacle to achieving racially and socially equitable housing policies that serve renters with the lowest incomes. Low-income renters face disproportionate barriers to voting, including deliberate voter suppression tactics targeting communities of color, that make them less likely to vote than higher-income renters and homeowners. In the 2022 midterm elections, 58% of homeowners voted, compared with just 37% of renters. While 67% of people with incomes over \$100,000 voted in 2022, just 33% of people with incomes below \$20,000 voted. Because elected officials are incentivized to prioritize the concerns of constituents who vote at higher rates, these voter turnout disparities limit the political will for investments in deeply affordable homes and strong renter protections.

NLIHC's nonpartisan *Our Homes, Our Votes* campaign seeks to close the voter turnout gap, elevate housing as an election issue, and build the political will for housing justice. The campaign provides tools and resources for housing and homelessness advocates, tenant leaders, service providers, and other partners to register, educate, and mobilize voters. As Election Day approaches, *Our Homes, Our Votes* encourages you to use the following resources to cast your ballot with confidence and boost voter turnout in your community.

- Make a Plan: Visit <u>ourhomes.turbovote.org</u> to find your nearest polling location or ballot drop box, preview the candidates and measures on your ballot, and review state-specific voting rules.
- **Mobilize Others**: Once you've made your plan to vote, text or email <u>ourhomes.turbovote.org</u> to three friends, neighbors, or family members to ensure they have a plan to vote, too.
- **Protect the Vote**: If your right to vote is being challenged, or if you encounter voter intimidation or misinformation, call or text the <u>Election Protection Hotline</u> at 866-OUR-VOTE (English), 866-VE-Y-VOTA (Spanish), 888-API-VOTE (multiple Asian languages), or 844-YALLA-US (Arabic). The hotline is staffed by trained volunteers that are equipped to protect your right to vote.

- Get a Ride to the Polls: <u>Uber</u> and <u>Lyft</u> offer 50% discounts on Election Day (up to \$10) that can be used for a one-way ride to the polls. To access the discount, click the "Go Vote" icon in Uber or use the code "VOTE24" in Lyft. <u>Rideshare2Vote Aware</u>, a nonpartisan nonprofit, offers rides in regions of 17 states (AZ, CO, FL, GA, IL, KY, MI, NV, NH, NM, NC, OH, PA, TN, TX, VA, and WI). <u>Click here</u> to request a ride.
- **Spread the Word**: Use the *Our Homes, Our Votes* media toolkit to spread the word about voting and generate enthusiasm on Election Day. Be sure to use the hashtag #OurHomesOurVotes and tag @OurHomesVotes in your posts!
- Learn More: For resources on why voting matters for tenants, including tenant leaders' own perspectives on the democratic process, check out the latest edition of "Tenant Talk: Voting as Collective Action."
- **Get Out the Vote**: For comprehensive nonpartisan get-out-the-vote resources, including a nonpartisan voter mobilization phone call script, visit the *Our Homes, Our Votes* website.

Thank you for being a voter and for encouraging voter turnout in your communities! To connect with the *Our Homes, Our Votes* campaign, email <u>ourhomes@nlihc.org</u>.

## Our Homes, Our Votes Updates - November 4, 2024

TAG: OHOV Keywords: Our Homes Our Votes, nonpartisan campaign, voting, elections, voting rights, disaster recovery, Election Hero Day

## Today (Monday, November 4) is Election Hero Day!

<u>Election Hero Day</u> (Monday, November 4) is a nationwide, nonpartisan Civic Holiday to celebrate the essential role of election officials, staff, and poll workers in our democracy. The <u>Election Hero Day Partner Toolkit</u> contains sample social media content, creative assets, and other communications materials that you can use to honor election heroes.

To find an in-person Election Hero Day celebration in your community, visit: www.electionheroday.org/election-hero-day-celebrations

# Department of Justice and Election Assistance Commission Launch Webpages for Hurricane-Impacted Voters and Election Officials

The U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) Civil Rights Division launched a <u>webpage</u> that provides information on voting rights in six hurricane-impacted states (FL, GA, NC, SC, TN, and VA). For each state, the webpage addresses frequently asked questions about voting by mail and inperson, accessibility of polling locations, how to vote for those who have lost their identification, and how to request a mail-in ballot for those who have been displaced from their usual residence.

Hurricanes Helene and Milton have displaced thousands of people from their residences and affected vital components of the voting process, such as delayed postal services, lost or destroyed identification documents, and closed businesses and schools. The DOJ's webpage provides

guidance for voters to overcome these challenges and exercise their fundamental right to vote in the aftermath of disaster.

The DOJ webpage also reiterates its commitment to ensuring that every eligible voter can cast their vote free from discrimination, coercion, or accessibility barriers. The website provides a resource to <u>report</u> any civil rights violations observed at polling locations or during voter registration. The webpage also provides contact information so that voters can reach local voting officials who can provide up-to-date, state-specific guidance.

The Election Assistance Commission (EAC) launched a "Disaster Recovery and Response" webpage that links to official state resources for FL, GA, NC, SC, TN, and VA and addresses frequently asked questions for voters who have been displaced, have lost their ID, need to identify their voting location, or have questions about proving their residency. The page also outlines resources for election officials navigating a response to a disaster or emergency, including federal and state-specific guidance. The EAC lists grant resources available for post-disaster election recovery under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), as well as other federal funding sources that may be available to election officials.

The DOJ webpage can be found here and the EAC webpage can be found here.

#### **Movement Advancement Project Releases Post-Election Processes Report**

The Movement Advancement Project (MAP), a nonpartisan nonprofit think tank that seeks to advance equity and opportunity for all, released a <u>report</u> on post-election processes. The report aims to combat fears and misinformation about the ballot-counting and certification processes, boost confidence in elections, and increase public awareness of election security.

The report walks through (1) the vote counting process, (2) how vote counts are finalized and verified, (3) how election results are checked for accuracy and how post-election audits are conducted, and (4) how election results are finalized and certified. In its overview of vote counting, the report explains that some states' results may not be finalized on Election Night due to population size, state-specific election procedures, diverse voting methods, and counting of provisional and challenged ballots. The report also discusses the limitations of unofficial results reported in the media, how election disputes are resolved, and why certain states may take longer to report their results in 2024.

To ensure voters' confidence in election integrity, the report concludes by reiterating the policies that protect the accuracy, integrity, and security of the election process. The report assures voters that delays in finalizing results are due to state laws, rather than interference or tampering, and that all votes will be counted to ensure that all voices are heard.

Click here to download the full MAP report.

Register for Today's (11/4) *Our Homes, Our Votes* Webinar: "Overcoming Voter Suppression and Building Confidence in Elections"

The <u>Our Homes, Our Votes: 2024 webinar series</u> provides resources, guidance, and inspiration for organizations and individuals seeking to launch or strengthen their own nonpartisan voter and candidate engagement initiatives. The next webinar in the series, "Overcoming Voter Suppression and Building Confidence in Elections," will take place today (November 4) at 2:30 pm ET. Register for the webinar <u>here</u>.

Deliberate voter suppression tactics, including restrictive voter ID laws, tend to disenfranchise members of the same communities that are at disproportionate risk of housing insecurity and homelessness. Survivors of domestic violence also face a unique set of barriers to safely participating in elections. Misinformation about the voting process can also discourage voters from casting their ballots. This webinar will cover ways that housing and homelessness organizations can empower low-income renters to overcome these obstacles to the ballot box, understand the voting process, vote safely, and go into Election Day with confidence that their ballots will be counted. The panel will feature Kat Calvin, founder of Spread the Vote/Project ID; C. Jay Coles, deputy director of legislative affairs at Verified Voting; and Lyndsey Dearlove, global director of operations at the NO MORE project.

The upcoming webinar dates and topics are listed below. All webinars are held from 2:30 to 3:30 pm ET. For full descriptions of each session and archives of past webinars, visit: <a href="https://www.ourhomes-ourvotes.org/webinars-2024">www.ourhomes-ourvotes.org/webinars-2024</a>

- Overcoming Voter Suppression and Building Confidence in Elections (Monday, November 4)
- A Look Ahead: Next Steps for Civic Engagement and Housing Justice (Monday, November 18)

For more information about the *Our Homes, Our Votes* campaign, visit: <a href="https://www.ourhomes-ourvotes.org/">https://www.ourhomes-ourvotes.org/</a>

## **Budget and Appropriations**

Plans for Passing Disaster Aid Package and Continuing Resolution after Election Start Taking Shape in Congress – Take Action!

TAG: Budget and Appropriations Keywords: Appropriations, federal budget, continuing resolution, Mike Johnson

There is growing consensus among lawmakers that Congress will not have the capacity to negotiate both a disaster aid package and a final spending agreement for fiscal year (FY) 2025. Rather, when lawmakers return to their offices on Capitol Hill on November 12, it is likely they will immediately turn their attention to negotiating a disaster aid package to help communities impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

Exactly how much funding the disaster recovery package will provide remains to be seen, with some estimating the package could provide \$50 to \$100 billion to impacted communities. The

aid package is also expected to include another continuing resolution (CR) to extend funding for federal programs until February or March 2025, since the current CR will expire on December 20. CRs maintain level funding for federal programs for a specified period of time; however, because the costs of housing, homelessness, and community development programs rise every year, it is crucial that HUD's programs receive increased funding each year to maintain the number of people served by these vital programs.

#### Take Action!

#### Join an organizational sign-on letter supporting the "Reforming Disaster Recovery Act"

The disaster aid package represents an opportunity for Congress to enact the "Reforming Disaster Recovery Act" (RDRA) into law. The RDRA – a priority for NLIHC's Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition – is a bipartisan bill that would permanently authorize HUD's Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program, which provides states, tribes, and communities with flexible, long-term recovery resources needed to rebuild affordable housing and infrastructure after a disaster. The bill also provides important safeguards and tools to ensure federal disaster recovery efforts reach all impacted households, including the lowest-income and most marginalized survivors, who often hardest hit and have the fewest resources to recovery

Organizations can join over 500 other organizations from around the country on a sign-on letter from NLIHC, the National League of Cities, the National Association of Counties, and Enterprise calling on Congress to enact the RDRA

# Urge Congress to pass a final FY25 spending bill with increased funding for HUD's affordable housing and homelessness programs

Regardless of the timing of the disaster aid bill, Congress will need to enact a final FY25 spending bill to ensure federal programs – including HUD's vital affordable housing and homelessness programs – receive increased funding in the coming year. Because the cost of housing and homelessness assistance rises every year, it is <u>crucial</u> that HUD receive increased funding every year to maintain the number of people served. Advocates can use NLIHC's resources to take action today and push Congress to pass increased funding for affordable housing and homelessness in FY25, including for NLIHC's top priorities:

- Full funding to renew all existing contracts for the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program and expand assistance to 20,000 more households.
- \$6.2 billion for public housing operations and \$5.2 billion for public housing capital needs.
- \$4.7 billion for HUD's Homeless Assistance Grants (HAG) program.
- \$100 million for the Eviction Protection Grant Program.
- At least \$1.3 billion for Tribal housing programs, plus \$150 million for competitive funds targeted to tribes with the greatest needs.

Use NLIHC's toolkits and resources to take action on FY25 funding, including by:

- Emailing or calling members' offices to tell them about the importance of affordable housing, homelessness, and community development resources to you, your family, your community, or your work. You can <u>use NLIHC's Take Action page</u> to look up your member offices or call/send an email directly!
- Sharing stories of those directly impacted by homelessness and housing instability. Storytelling adds emotional weight to your message and can help lawmakers see how their policy decisions impact actual people. Learn about <a href="https://how.to.tell.compelling.new">how to tell.compelling.new tories</a> with this resource.
- <u>Using our "Oppose Dramatic Cuts to Federal Investments in Affordable Housing"</u> <u>toolkit:</u> This toolkit includes resources, talking points, advocacy ideas, and other helpful information on defending funding for affordable housing and homelessness resources in the FY25 federal budget. Meet with your members and urge them to provide the most possible funding for these vital programs in any final FY25 budget agreement!

National, state, local, tribal, and territorial organizations can <u>also join over 2,300 organizations</u> on <u>CHCDF's national letter</u> calling on Congress to support the highest level of funding possible for affordable housing, homelessness, and community development resources in FY25.

## **Disaster Housing Recovery**

# DHRC Webinar Series Highlights Shifting Political Contexts and Opportunities for Fixing Broken Disaster Recovery System

TAG: Disaster Keywords: Disaster Housing Recovery, FEMA, HUD, Congress

NLIHC and members of the Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition (DHRC) launched a new webinar series, "National Call for Equitable Disaster Housing Recovery for Hurricanes Helene and Milton," on October 24. Moderated by NLIHC Manager of Disaster Housing Recovery Noah Patton, the series highlights critical information about Hurricanes Helene and Milton and brings together organizations from across the country to collaborate on methods for fixing the country's broken disaster recovery system.

The audience for the first webinar on October 24 comprised over 300 advocates and organizers who were invited to join the call to learn more about the immediate response to the disasters, hear directly from advocates and community-based organizations on the ground, and collaborate on real solutions to fix our disaster recovery system – like the "Reforming Disaster Recovery Act" – ahead of Congress reconvening in November.

During the first call, Noah was joined by Samuel Gunther from the NC Housing Coalition, Andy Shoenig from the NC Inclusive Disaster Recovery Network (NCIDR), CJ Reynolds and Lauren Thornberg from the FL Housing Coalition, and Chauncey O'Dell Arnold from Statewide Organizing for Community Empowerment (SOCM) in Tennessee. These advocates and organizers grounded participants in what it is like working in the aftermath of Hurricanes Helene and Milton. All speakers highlighted the extensive impacts both hurricanes have already had, particularly for those with low incomes and from marginalized groups. Representatives of

organizations also laid out their plans to fight for a fair and full recovery, whether by trying to enact eviction and foreclosure moratoriums, holding community workshops, or helping communities access the assistance to which they are entitled.

The DHRC hosted the second call of the webinar series on October 31. Holly Oner from <u>Legal Aid of North Carolina</u> and Kathy Grunewald from <u>Legal Services of North Florida</u> broke down the challenges they have already seen preventing people from being able to access the federal assistance they need. The second half of the call focused on national updates, with presentations by Katherine Galifianakis from the Red Cross and Frank Matranga from FEMA. Both speakers emphasized the far-reaching impacts of the storms.

During both calls, Noah explained how the disasters have shifted political contexts such that in their aftermath, there is a real chance of Congress passing a major disaster package after the election. The DHRC will continue to work to ensure that its long-term legislative solutions are attached to that package and invites all interested parties to join these advocacy efforts.

The next call will take place on Thursday, November 14, at 3 pm ET. Register for the call here!

## **Homelessness and Housing First**

## VA Housed Nearly 48,000 Veterans Experiencing Homelessness in Fiscal Year 2024

TAG: Homelessness Keywords: HUD, VA, veterans, homelessness, Housing First, Biden, veteran homelessness, HUD-VASH, permanent supportive housing, USICH

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) <u>announced</u> on October 24 that it had housed 47,925 veterans experiencing homelessness in fiscal year (FY) 2024, surpassing its <u>goal</u> to house 41,000 veterans by 16.9%. This marks the largest number of veterans housed in a single year since FY 2019. The VA also ensured that 96% of the veterans housed during this time did not return to homelessness. The announcement follows the VA's announcement last month that it had surpassed its FY 2024 housing goal one month ahead of schedule (see *Memo*, <u>10/07</u>).

Ending veteran homelessness is a top priority for VA and the Biden-Harris administration, who have directed efforts to address the issue. Through these efforts, VA has permanently housed nearly 134,000 homeless veterans since FY 2022, and the total number of veterans experiencing homelessness in the U.S. has fallen by over 4% since early 2020 and by more than 52% since 2010. Furthermore, VA permanently housed 1,854 homeless veterans in the Greater Los Angeles area, exceeding its FY 2024 goals for this region by 15.5%.

VA's efforts are grounded in a "Housing First" approach, which prioritizes getting veterans into housing, and then providing or connecting them with the wraparound services and supports they need to stay housed, including health care, job training, legal and education assistance, and more. Ultimately, these efforts are focused on reaching out to homeless veterans, understanding their unique needs, and addressing them through proven and evidence-based long-term solutions.

Read the VA announcement at: https://tinyurl.com/mua9em3w

## **Opportunity Starts at Home**

# New Campaign Podcast Episode Reflects on Six Years of Building Multi-Sector Partnerships Nationwide

Tag: Opportunity Starts at Home Keywords: Opportunity Starts at Home, multi-sector, podcast

The Opportunity Starts at Home (OSAH) campaign released a new podcast episode featuring a recording of the multi-sector panel discussion held during the campaign's October 1 Roundtable event, "Opportunity Starts at Home: Six Years of Building Effective and Robust Cross-Sector Partnerships." Listen to the new episode <a href="here">here</a>.

In the episode, Julie Walker, OSAH's campaign coordinator, moderates an insightful panel exploring the powerful partnerships at the heart of the OSAH campaign. Joining her are leaders from key areas including domestic violence prevention, early childhood development, food security, and education, including Dfox from the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), Patricia Cole from ZEROTOTHREE, Robert Campbell from Feeding America, and Barbara Duffield from Schoolhouse Connection. Together, they share why their organizations joined the OSAH Roundtable and reflect on six years of collaborative advocacy to address housing insecurity across America.

In total, the OSAH campaign has released 42 podcast episodes since its launch in 2018. The OSAH podcast takes a deep look at how housing shapes opportunity across the nation. Campaign staff interview research experts, advocates, and policymakers to explore the intersections between housing and other issue areas.

To listen to the OSAH podcast, click here.

#### **State and Local Innovation**

## Register for NLIHC's Upcoming Webinar on Rental Junk Fees

TAG State and Local Innovation Keywords: webinar, junk fees, tenant protections, state and local innovation

NLIHC's <u>State and Local Innovation (SLI) project</u> will soon launch the next component of its <u>State and Local Tenant Protection Series</u>: <u>A Primer on Renters' Rights</u> with a webinar series focused on state and local tenant protections. The first webinar, taking place on November 20, will give attendees the opportunity to learn more about efforts undertaken at the federal, state, and local levels to address excessive, hidden, and arbitrary rental fees, known commonly as rental "junk fees." Registrants will hear from a broad range of speakers, including tenant advocates, members of national housing organizations, and legal service providers, about

specific campaigns, resources, and efforts to advocate for laws limiting rental junk fees. The webinar will take place from 2 to 3:30 PM ET and will be co-hosted with the <u>National Consumer Law Center</u> (NCLC), the <u>Housing Policy Clinic at the University of Texas at Austin's Law School</u>, and <u>Building and Strengthening Tenant Action</u> (BASTA). Register for the webinar <u>here</u>.

#### Agenda:

- Welcome
- **Setting the Foundation:** Sarah Gallagher and Nada Hussein, National Low Income Housing Coalition
- Texas Snapshot: Tackling Junk Fees in Austin, Heather K. Way, University of Texas at Austin Law School, Housing Policy Clinic; and Shoshana Krieger, Building and Strengthening Tenant Action
- Local Spotlight: Efforts to Enact Limits on Junk Fees in the State of Connecticut: Sarah White, Connecticut Fair Housing Center
- Federal Efforts to Protect Renters against Junk Fees: Steve Sharpe and Ariel Nelson, National Consumer Law Center
- Q&A

The new webinar series is designed to complement a slate of resources released by NLIHC's SLI initiative on the same topics. In August 2024, NLIHC's SLI initiative released a toolkit on protections against excessive rental fees, which includes an overview of such protections, the common components of laws that limit junk fees, information about state and local jurisdictions that have adopted such protections for renters, and suggestions about provisions that should be considered when enacting or advocating for such protections. The toolkit was the first toolkit released as part of the *State and Local Innovation Tenant Protection Series*, which also includes additional toolkits on "just cause" eviction standards, rent stabilization laws, and laws that strengthen code enforcement procedures and habitability standards. The toolkits are meant to provide foundational information about the core components of select policy interventions that can keep tenants stably housed – and free from the threat of eviction – and to help spark dialogue around the critical importance of state and local tenant protections. Alongside the toolkits, the SLI team has also released a series of tenant case studies focused on state and local campaigns to enact the same four tenant protections, with NLIHC highlighting state-level efforts to enact junk fees laws in the State of Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Learn more about laws limiting excessive rental fees <u>here</u>.

Register for the webinar here.

Learn more about NLIHC's SLI project at: https://nlihc.org/state-and-local-innovation

#### Join NLIHC's State and Local Tenant Protections Network!

TAG: State and Local Innovation *Keywords: State and Local Innovation, SLI, Tenant Protection Network, tenant protections* 

NLIHC's State and Local Innovation (SLI) project launched in April a new State and Local Tenant Protections Network (Network), a virtual convening involving a broad-based coalition of state and local organizations focused on introducing, passing, implementing, and enforcing laws, policies, and programs that strengthen renters' rights; rectifying the power imbalance between landlords and tenants; and diverting the threat of eviction. Every month, the Network convenes to troubleshoot and workshop challenges, highlight tenant protection wins, and inquire about technical assistance support. Interested advocates can sign up for the Network <a href="https://example.com/here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-Network-here-challenges-can-sign-up-for-the-he

Formally launched in April, NLIHC's SLI project works to promote several critical initiatives, including by (1) supporting state and local partners in advancing, implementing, and enforcing state and local tenant protections; (2) creating and sustaining emergency rental assistance programs; (3) preventing the criminalization of homelessness; and (4) providing technical assistance around state housing trust funds. By supporting the advancement of a broad range of housing innovations, the campaign works to keep eviction rates down and strengthen renters' rights.

NLIHC's State and Local Innovation project builds upon the success of the Coalition's former End Rental Arrears to Stop Evictions (ERASE) project, which ran from January 2021 to December 2023. Through ERASE, NLIHC worked with state and local partners across the country to ensure that the historic \$46.5 billion in emergency rental assistance funds appropriated by the federal government to support tenants during the pandemic was visible, preventative, and accessible and that funds reached the lowest-income and most marginalized tenants. It was through the ERASE project that NLIHC began tracking the passage of renter protections across the country, especially those enacted during the pandemic. As of 2024, the NLIHC's <u>State and Local Tenant Protections Database</u> has compiled information on more than 350 pieces of legislation that have been passed since January 2021, while also including information on more than 650 total renter protections, such as rent stabilization ordinances; right to counsel policies and programs; and "just cause" eviction standards as well. More information on NLIHC's ERASE campaign can be found here.

As noted, one the ways in which the SLI campaign supports state and local partners is through the monthly Network platform. The Network meets every fourth Thursday of the month from 3 to 4 pm ET, with the next Network call to take place on November 21, 2024. Registration for the calls can be found here.

Please contact Nada Hussein, SLI project coordinator, at <a href="mailto:nhussein@nlihc.org">nhussein@nlihc.org</a> with any questions related to the State and Local Tenant Protections Network.

#### Research

Marginalized Communities More Likely to Be Displaced and Negatively Impacted by Disasters

TAG: Disaster Recovery, Research Keywords: Natural Disasters, Social Determinants of Health, Displacement

A recent article in the *American Journal of Public Health*, "Prevalence, Correlates, and Impacts of Displacement Because of Natural Disasters in the United States From 2022 to 2023," investigates the patterns of displacement following natural disasters like hurricanes, floods, wildfires, and tornadoes and the characteristics of displaced households. The authors estimate that more than 3 million adults were displaced by such disasters between 2022 and 2023. Individuals who identified as people of color, sexual minorities, or gender minorities, as well as those with lower incomes, disabilities, or who were experiencing socioeconomic disadvantages like food insecurity, were more likely to be displaced because of disasters. The findings align with and expand upon prior research that was solely focused on examining the relationship between disasters and more commonly examined demographic characteristics, including age, sex, race/ethnicity, and household income.

The authors utilized data from 10 data collection periods of the U.S. Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey (HPS), a recurring survey taken online by adults in select households who are contacted via text message and email. The survey includes questions about displacement due to natural disasters that have occurred in the past year, specifically asking affected households about the duration of their displacement, the level of damage to their residence, the types of disasters they faced, and whether they faced multiple disasters within the past year. Households were also asked about any immediate impacts experienced within one month after the disaster, such as food and water shortages, loss of electricity, unsanitary living conditions, feelings of isolation, fear of crime, and potential scams related to disaster relief. The 10 data collection periods were carried out between December 2022 and September 2023 and, after deduplication, resulted in a sample of more than 213 million surveys to analyze. Because these kinds of disasters tend to occur in specific regions of the country, the data was weighted to account for geographic clustering and to create nationally representative estimates.

The authors first constructed statistical models to analyze the relationship between displacement by disasters and sociodemographic characteristics that may serve as predictors of increased risk of displacement. They examined both predictors that have been previously studied – such as sexual orientation, race/ethnicity, education, and household income – as well as less-studied characteristics such as household size and type, homeowner/renter status, functional disability status, and pre-existing socioeconomic disadvantages like food insecurity or being behind on rent/mortgage payments. Next, the authors examined the relationship between disaster-related impacts, demographic characteristics, and the specific type of disaster that was faced.

The authors estimated that more than 3 million adults were displaced because of disasters in the year prior to the data collection period. Those displaced were more likely to be people of color, members of sexual and gender minorities, have lower incomes, have disabilities, and report experiencing socioeconomic disadvantages. The negative effects of disasters – such as shortages of food and water, loss of electricity, unsanitary

conditions, feelings of isolation, and vulnerability to scams – were reported to have occurred more frequently among people of color and those with lower educational or income levels. They also found that these negative impacts were more prevalent among those who experienced multiple disasters in the prior year relative to those who experienced only one disaster. Additionally, their results indicated that long-term displacement, defined as being displaced for six months or more, was more prevalent after fires than after other types of disasters. Although these findings are drawn from a large, nationally representative sample, the authors acknowledged that the web-based and self-reported nature of the HPS may exclude those who are most socially vulnerable, particularly those with limited access to internet, email, computers, or smart devices, as well as those with visual limitations or limited proficiency in English or Spanish (the two languages in which the HPS is conducted).

The authors suggest that their findings provide important insights for policymakers on how to better allocate resources for disaster preparedness and response efforts to target communities at greatest risk of prolonged or severe negative impacts following disasters. Additionally, they recommend that further research focus future pre- and post-disaster studies on higher-risk population subgroups to better understand how pre-existing structural inequities and racism impact disaster resilience and recovery.

The article can be found at: https://bit.ly/4f3R4Uv

#### From the Field

## Ohio Advocates Push for Housing Solutions at Statehouse Advocacy Day

TAG: From the Field, State and Local Innovations *Keywords: Ohio, homelessness, affordable housing, tenant protections* 

The Coalition on Housing and Homelessness in Ohio (COHHIO), an NLIHC state partner, hosted on October 9 its first post-pandemic Advocacy Day at the Ohio Statehouse. More than 60 advocates – from service providers to people with lived experience of housing injustice – participated in 50 meetings with members of Ohio's House of Representatives and Senate. Collectively, they strove to paint an accurate picture of homelessness in their local communities, highlighted the crucial work they are carrying out to prevent and end homelessness, and discussed ways the state can help advance their aims. The Advocacy Day was one of several events held in Ohio's capital region recently to draw attention to the depending housing crisis and compel action from elected officials.

The Advocacy Day legislative priorities included funding for the Ohio Housing Trust Fund (OHTF), supporting Ohio Senate Bill 245 to allow eviction record sealing and expand access to counsel, and preventing the criminalization of people experiencing homelessness. With regard to the OHTF, advocates focused on the human and economic impacts of the funds and the housing needs across Ohio that require consistent and expanded funding. Meanwhile, SB 245 would seal

eviction records at the point of filing or give a tenant the opportunity to file for sealing after five years. Additionally, SB 245 would expand free legal access to counsel for lower income tenants with at least one child. Finally, SB 245 would require real estate buyers to disclose certain information, such as who would be responsible for overseeing the property, as a measure to prevent predatory practices by corporate landlords. In terms of preventing the criminalization of people experiencing homelessness, advocates <u>referenced</u> the recent Supreme Court ruling in *Johnson v. Grants Pass* and raised <u>awareness</u> about how to reduce homelessness using the Housing First approach.

Most of the legislative meetings included people with direct experience of homelessness and housing injustice who shared how the housing crisis has affected them personally. Multi-sector partners from the healthcare, legal aid, and disability justice sectors also participated to underscore how housing affordability intersects with other social issues and is foundational to living a healthy, productive life. The Advocacy Day wrapped up with a meeting with the Chair of the Senate Select Committee on Housing, who is a primary sponsor for SB 245. The committee held hearings on housing across the state in 2023, in which COHIIO and its partners actively participated. In 2024 the committee issued a report encapsulating insights from the hearings and offering 23 recommendations to address Ohio's complex housing challenges. Advocates are pleased to see the state legislature focusing on the issue of housing and moving forward with bipartisan policy solutions.

In addition to the Statehouse Advocacy Day, several other events took place across the Columbus area over the fall to draw attention to the growing homelessness and housing crisis and create opportunities for the public to weigh in with decision makers about solutions. COHHIO hosted a screening of the documentary Beyond the Bridge: A Solution to Homelessness at the Lincoln Theatre, followed by a panel discussion and Q&A with the filmmakers. The filmmakers traveled across the country to answer the question: How can the U.S. solve homelessness in a comprehensive way? Through these events, they hope to change the national discourse about solutions to homelessness and address the upstream causes and the downstream needs to end homelessness. The Community Shelter Board held the "I AM.." Community Summit to bring together advocates, community leaders, and elected officials to drive real change and disrupt the systems that perpetuate homelessness. In September, the Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio hosted The Big "Kitchen-Table" Talk on Affordable Housing, which invited the public to discuss what they wish candidates understood about housing in the Heartland. As camping bans are introduced across Ohio, advocates hope that these community discussions and legislative advocacy conducted in Central Ohio can help show other parts of the state that there is a more effective and humane approach to ending homelessness than through criminalization.

"Advocacy Day at the Ohio Statehouse was more than just a way to encourage lawmakers to take action on issues of homelessness and the need for affordable housing," said Amy Riegel, executive director of the <u>Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio</u>. "It was also a way to demystify advocacy and show our members and allies that elected officials are really just people they can talk to about issues in their community. We're working to democratize our advocacy and mobilize local networks to advocate for solutions to homelessness and the cycle of eviction."

# Join Today's (11/4) "Tenant Talk Live" Meeting on Organizing for Just Housing Recovery!

TAG: Tenant Talk Live Keywords: Tenant Talk Live, disaster recovery, organizing, Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition

Join NLIHC's next "Tenant Talk Live," a meeting geared toward tenant and resident leaders, today, November 4, at 6 pm ET (5 pm CT, 4 pm MT, and 3 pm PT). This month's guests will host a discussion about the impacts of natural disasters on renters and how tenants can effectively organize to achieve a just disaster recovery. Attendees will learn more about NLIHC's Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition, what to do when there is a disaster in their area, and how to organize for a just disaster recovery. Register for the webinar here.

Joining "Tenant Talk Live" this month is NLIHC's Noah Patton, manager of NLIHC's Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition, and Meghan Mertyris, NLIHC's disaster housing recovery analyst. Noah is the manager of the Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition, leading NLIHC's efforts to connect over 850 national, state, and local organizations, including many working directly with disaster-impacted communities and with first-hand experience recovering after disasters. Prior to joining NLIHC, Noah worked at the Homeless Persons Representation Project, Inc. (HPRP) in Baltimore, helping to advocate for policies to expand public benefit programs and protecting Housing Choice Voucher holders. Noah was also deeply involved in coordinating Legal Observers of the National Lawyers Guild to protect the legal rights of Baltimore-area political protestors and served as a Kellogg's Law Fellow at the NAACP Office of the General Counsel working on transit equity and educational policy.

Meghan Mertyris is a disaster housing recovery analyst supporting NLIHC's Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition in all communications, outreach, and advocacy. Before joining NLIHC, Meghan worked as a community organizer at the New Jersey Organizing Project (NJOP) and the New Jersey Resource Project (NJRP), where she built and mobilized a base of more than 1,000 people impacted by Hurricane Ida from across the state to advocate for the passage of legislative and administrative solutions addressing damage caused by the hurricane.

Register for this week's "Tenant Talk Live" to learn more from these speakers.

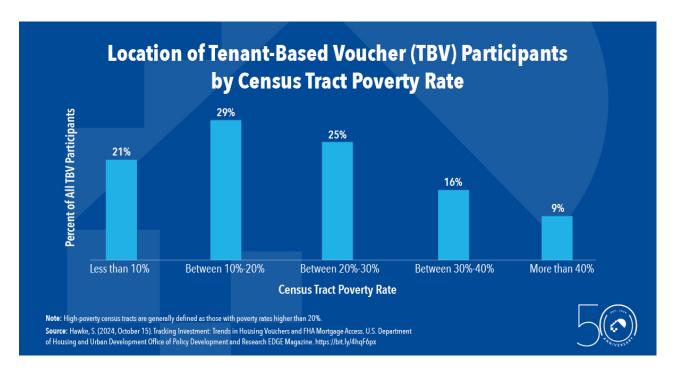
Remember: Tenant Talk Live would not be possible without tenants like you! We strive to connect and engage with tenants and tenant leaders through our webinars. If you are a low-income tenant and have a topic you would like to propose for an upcoming Tenant Talk Live, or if you would like to participate as a speaker on an upcoming call or webinar, please email: <a href="mailto:sbetancourt@nlihc.org">sbetancourt@nlihc.org</a>

Stay up to date on Tenant Talk Live events via the Facebook group

#### Fact of the Week

## Approximately Half of Households with Tenant-Based Vouchers Live in High-Poverty Areas

TAG: Fact of the Week Keywords: tenant-based vouchers, poverty, economic well-being, housing-related data



**Note:** High-poverty census tracts are generally defined as those with poverty rates higher than 20%.

**Source:** Hawke, S. (2024, October 15). *Tracking Investment: Trends in Housing Vouchers and FHA Mortgage Access*. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Policy Development and Research EDGE Magazine. <a href="https://bit.ly/4hqF6px">https://bit.ly/4hqF6px</a>

#### **NLIHC Careers**

## **NLIHC Seeks Research Analyst**

NLIHC seeks a research analyst to further the coalition's research on the housing needs of renters with extremely low incomes and policy responses to the shortage of affordable housing. The analyst will work with other members of the NLIHC research team to initiate and carry-out research, including data collection, analysis, and dissemination. This is a two-year full-time position.

The position has a salary range of \$87,000 to \$93,000, contingent upon experience, and requires a hybrid (or in-office) work schedule in NLIHC's offices in Washington, D.C.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Implement quantitative and/or qualitative research, including data collection and analysis.
- Maintain and expand NLIHC holdings of and access to major datasets that inform NLIHC campaigns and partners.
- Assist other NLIHC staff and interns with data usage.
- Write reports that communicate NLIHC research to the general public.
- Disseminate NLIHC research to the general public, members, and partners through written reports and blogs, visualizations, and other means.
- Participate in other research, as assigned.
- Contribute to NLIHC's weekly e-newsletter *Memo to Members & Partners* by identifying and summarizing new research relevant to NLIHC members.
- Prepare information and position papers as required to meet NLIHC's goals and objectives.
- Represent NLIHC with other partners through participation in working groups and advisory committees.
- Public speaking at meetings and conferences in DC and around the country, with a priority for NLIHC member organizations.
- Respond to requests for information from NLIHC members, members of the media, and the public.
- Participate in NLIHC staff meetings, staff training, working groups, and other events.
- Other duties as assigned.

#### **Qualifications:**

A bachelor's degree is required (master's degree preferred). Applicants should have at least one year of experience in research and/or public policy. Applicants should have a commitment to social justice and knowledge of affordable housing, homelessness, or disaster recovery policy. Candidates should have strong analytical, writing, and oral and interpersonal communication skills. Applicants should be proficient in the Microsoft Office suite and in either a programming language like Python or statistical package like SPSS. GIS experience a plus.

This is a two-year full-time position. An equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, NLIHC offers a competitive salary and benefits package. Interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter with salary requirement, and two writing samples to Andrew Aurand, senior vice president for research, at: <a href="mailto:aurand@nlihc.org">aurand@nlihc.org</a>

## **NLIHC Seeks Fund Development Director**

NLIHC seeks a fund development director to work closely with the NLIHC vice president of external affairs to support NLIHC's development and fundraising endeavors. The fund development director will develop and execute multi-year fundraising plans to include major

gifts, annual appeal, planned giving, event sponsorship, and campaigns. The fund development director will supervise two staff (fund development coordinators) and will report to the vice president of external affairs.

## **Responsibilities/Duties:**

- Lead organizational fundraising strategy and implementation plan to grow current annual fundraising.
- Expand NLIHC planned giving initiatives.
- Manage NLIHC's donors and prospects base, developing and implementing tailored cultivation, solicitation and stewardship plans.
- Manage major donor engagement to include effective solicitations and other fundraising activities.
- Manage research and apply to foundations for grant awards for various programs as needed; manage all aspects of post-award grants including reporting requirements.
- Evaluate progress toward organizational goals/budgets and provide regular reporting to NLIHC CEO and vice president of external affairs.
- Manage systems, processes, and tools to maximize fundraising capacity including overseeing donor management database.
- Work closely across NLIHC's external affairs and other teams to ensure brand representation in all communication outreach and efforts.
- Lead and collaborate with staff on the management and planning of fundraising events and donor receptions.
- Work with communications team to develop print, digital, and social media marketing collateral related to fundraising.
- Plan and manage e-communications, to deliver NLIHC updates across donor base.
- Plan and lead fundraising special events and drives.
- Manage and maintain gift recognition policies.
- Work closely with NLIHC's finance team to manage financial reporting and tracking of donor contributions.
- Manage development and execution of reports and proposals oversee writing and archiving of all proposals with a long-term relationship-management approach.
- Oversee monitoring of all donor information and use of Salesforce for donor contact management.
- Monitor and report regularly on the progress of the development program, including NLIHC board reports
- Work closely with the fund development committee of NLIHC's board of directors on planning for annual fundraiser.
- Lead planning and implementation of securing event sponsorships.
- Other duties as assigned.

#### **Oualifications**

This is a full-time position, and candidates must be physically located in the metropolitan Washington, DC area. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree. Applicants must have a strong commitment to social justice and NLIHC's mission. This position would be ideal for someone with eight or more years of directly relevant fund development experience, and five or more

years of management experience. Proficiency with Salesforce is required. Proficiency in grant writing is required.

The salary range for this position is contingent upon experience and is from \$92,000 - \$138,000. This position requires physical time in the office and the candidate must be located in the metropolitan Washington, DC area or be able to commute to our office located in DC for a hybrid work schedule.

A person will be most successful in this role if you have knowledge and experience in all aspects of philanthropy, giving trends, benchmarks, and best practices; research; fundraising techniques and strategies; data analytics; and development operations such as gift processing, prospect and donor research, and fundraising reporting.

An equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, NLIHC offers a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

Interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter with salary requirement, and one writing sample to Jen Butler, NLIHC VP of External Affairs, via email at jbutler@nlihc.org.

## **NLIHC Seeks Development Coordinator**

NLIHC seeks a development coordinator who will have prime responsibility for a portfolio of development/fundraising activities for the Coalition. The activities, along with those of another development coordinator with a separate portfolio, will ensure the Coalition secures the necessary resources to support its mission of advancing racially and socially just public policy to ensure that the lowest-income people in America have decent, accessible, and affordable homes. The individual will also support NLIHC with other key operational and event-management needs. The coordinator will report to the NLIHC vice president of external affairs. The salary range for this position is contingent upon experience and is from \$75,000 to \$78,000. This position requires physical time in the office, and the candidate must be located in the metropolitan Washington D.C. area or be able to commute to our office in Washington D.C. for a hybrid work schedule. The Development Coordinator role is a two-year position.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Coordinate/manage reports, proposals, relationship management, and research/prospect development for corporate and non-corporate foundations.
- Track progress on current grants and reports due, as well as other requirements for each funder, and draft reports and proposals. Coordinate calls and meetings with current and new funders.
- Coordinate/manage NLIHC's end-of-year fundraising campaign, drafting language (postcards, emails, etc.), creating outreach list, mailing them out, etc.
- Handle inquiries about individual giving, particularly end-of-year requests to contribute stocks or other donations, and cultivate individual donors as needed.

- Coordinate/manage NLIHC special members renewals, invoicing, provision of benefits, procurement of ads and complimentary event registrations, and efforts to recruit additional special members. Track progress on special member benefits (ads needed for the annual Leadership Awards Celebration, publications to be mailed, etc.)
- Along with the other Development Coordinator produce a list of previous year donors and their giving levels for *Annual Report*.
- Coordinate with contracted agency (currently Cogency Global) on state charitable registrations, ensuring annual registrations for all states in which registrations are required.
- Produce list of previous year donors and their giving levels for *Annual Report*.
- Monitor NLIHC's various webpages that recognize donors for any missing logos, ensure updates are made.
- Maintain files of copies of all acknowledgment/grant letters.
- Assist in the coordination of other events and activities for which fundraising is involved, such as NLIHC's anniversary events.
- Attend all meetings of the NLIHC Board of Directors and Board committees, as needed.

#### **CRM**

- Be an expert administrator of, and make ongoing improvements to, Salesforce infrastructure for all aspects of the development team.
- Coordinate uploading of new lists secured from partners into Salesforce/Mailchimp.
- Monitor incoming data to Salesforce for any irregularities.
- Ensure all grant agreement and follow-up information for foundation and corporate funders is up-to-date and accurate in Salesforce database.

#### **Organizational/Operations Support**

- Support VP of External Affairs with various operations activities.
- Ensure successful NLIHC business licenses and Good Standing reports with DC government.
- Attend all meetings of the NLIHC Board of Directors and Board committees, as needed. Participate in staff meetings, retreats, trainings, and all Coalition events.
- Other duties as assigned.

#### **Qualifications:**

To receive serious consideration for this position, an applicant should have the following attributes and background:

- A bachelor's degree.
- A strong commitment to the alleviation of poverty and social justice (affordable housing knowledge/experience a plus).
- Demonstrated strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Excellent communications skills, both orally and in writing.

- Experience successfully building and maintaining professional partnerships and relationships.
- Experience in funder/donor research and cultivation, proposal- and report-writing, and fundraising appeals.
- Experience in event coordination.
- Experience using Salesforce CRM a plus.
- An ability to work in a diverse, fast-paced environment.

This is a full-time position, and candidates must be physically located in the metropolitan Washington, DC area. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree. Applicants must have a strong commitment to social justice and NLIHC's mission. The Development Coordinator role is a two-year position.

An equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, NLIHC offers a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

Interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter with salary requirement, and one writing sample to Jen Butler, NLIHC VP of External Affairs, via email at jbutler@nlihc.org.

#### **NLIHC** in the News

#### NLIHC in the News for the Week of October 27

The following are some of the news stories to which NLIHC contributed during the week of October 27:

- "Could the 2024 election finally ease rent prices? Here's what each candidate proposes" *Forbes Advisor*, October 31, at: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/4z82d6kd">https://tinyurl.com/4z82d6kd</a>
- "Maui Considers New Law to Regulate Homeless Sweeps" *Associated Press*, October 29, at: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/25taanwf">https://tinyurl.com/25taanwf</a>
- "Las Vegas' shortage of affordable housing now a top issue in valley" *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, October 29, at: https://tinyurl.com/3mdhxspk

#### **NLIHC News**

## Nominate an NLIHC Board Member Today!

Tag: NLIHC News Keywords: news, Board of Directors, nominations

NLIHC members and partners are encouraged to submit nominations (or self-nominate!) to fill upcoming vacancies on the NLIHC Board of Directors. Nominees for board membership must be current dues-paying NLIHC members or be employed by a current dues-paying NLIHC member

organization. Please send nominations – and in the case of self-nomination, a brief biographical description or resume and a statement of interest – to NLIHC President and CEO Diane Yentel at <a href="https://dventel@nlihc.org">dventel@nlihc.org</a> by close of business on December 31.

NLIHC's board consists of six impacted persons (defined as individuals with lived experience of homelessness and/or housing instability), six representatives of allied national organizations, six representatives of <a href="NLIHC">NLIHC</a> state partners, and up to seven unrestricted or at-large NLIHC members. NLIHC is seeking nominations for the following positions: one tenant or resident leader representative and two at-large NLIHC member representatives. The new board members will assume their duties in March 2025.

At least 90% of NLIHC board members must be people with low incomes or individuals who are or have been engaged directly in working on meeting the housing needs of low-income people. In selecting board members, NLIHC strives to achieve a broad diversity in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, and geography, including representation from both urban and rural communities. We seek to have as many different states represented as possible.

Board members are elected for three-year terms and can serve up to three terms. The board meets in person twice a year in Washington, D.C. – once in conjunction with our annual forum in the spring and once in the fall. The board also meets by conference call in the summer. Attendance at board meetings is required, with exceptions for illness or emergencies. Generally, new board members are elected by existing board members at the annual board meeting held in the spring. All board members serve on at least one standing committee of the board and all board members are members of the NLIHC Policy Advisory Committee. Committees meet by conference call. All new board members must attend an in-person orientation in Washington D.C. soon after their election.

NLIHC subsidizes travel and lodging expenses of low-income board members to attend board meetings. All others are expected to cover their own travel and lodging expenses, unless doing so would prevent an otherwise qualified person from serving on the board. In addition to paying NLIHC membership dues, all board members are asked to make financial contributions to NLIHC at the level they are able. We strive for 100% board giving.

The best way to be considered for board membership is to get involved in the activities of NLIHC, particularly by serving on the Policy Advisory Committee and attending NLIHC's annual Housing Policy Forum in the spring. The NLIHC Nominating Committee will review the level of a potential board member's involvement in his or her own community or state/national housing advocacy activities and accountability to a constituent base.

To make a nomination or self-nominate, send the required materials (statement of interest and bio or resume) to Diane Yentel at <a href="mailto:dyentel@nlihc.org">dyentel@nlihc.org</a> by December 31.

## **NLIHC Accepting Nominations for 2025 Organizing Awards**

TAG: NLIHC News Keywords: organizing awards, housing policy forum, organizer

NLIHC is now accepting nominations for the 2025 Organizing Awards! The Organizing Awards recognize outstanding achievements in statewide, regional, citywide, neighborhood, or resident organizing that further NLIHC's mission of ensuring that people with the lowest incomes have quality homes that are accessible and affordable in communities of their choice. The 2025 awards will be presented at NLIHC's Housing Policy Forum, taking place on March 24-27, 2025, in Washington, D.C. Special consideration will be given to nominations involving tenantor resident-centered organizing. Nominations are due by December 20, 2024, at 5 pm ET and can be submitted here.

Nominations will be reviewed by an Organizing Awards Committee composed of NLIHC board members and previous award winners. NLIHC will provide two representatives of each honored organization with complimentary Forum registrations and cover the costs for one hotel room for the next in-person convening.

To be eligible, nominated organizations must be current NLIHC members. Organizations may self-nominate. NLIHC board members and Award Committee members may not nominate an organization with which they are employed or affiliated.

For more information, please contact NLIHC Housing Advocacy Organizer Billy Cerullo at wcerullo@nlihc.org

#### NLIHC Welcomes Tiara Wood as External Affairs Coordinator

NLIHC is excited to welcome Tiara Wood as our new external affairs coordinator! Tiara will provide essential support to NLIHC's Development, Events, and Communications teams, focusing on the areas of visual storytelling, content creation, event planning, media relations, marketing, web management, and fund development. Before joining NLIHC, Tiara was senior program associate of communications for the National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA), where she played a vital role in increasing the national impact of the organization by deploying a strategic communications plan, boosting social media engagement, and managing onsite teams in support of national events. She also worked for Star Eyed Events, where she designed and developed a brand identity for the organization's fan conventions and improved its communications strategy via social media channels. Tiara earned her bachelor of arts degree in political science from Furman University, while also playing on the university's Division I basketball team.

#### Where to Find Us – November 4

- Educare DC Washington, D.C., November 6 (Billy Cerullo)
- HUD Data Knowledge Collaborative Washington, D.C., November 6 (Dan Emmanuel)
- South Carolina Association of Community Action Partnerships Conference Myrtle Beach, SC, November 19 (Julie Walker)

National Housing Conference <u>Solutions for Affordable Housing</u> Convening – Washington, D.C., December 4 (Sarah Saadian)

#### **NLIHC Staff**

Sarah Abdelhadi, Senior Research Analyst

Millen Asfaha, Operations Coordinator

Andrew Aurand, Senior Vice President for Research, x245

Sidney Betancourt, Project Manager, Inclusive Community Engagement, x200

Victoria Bourret, Project Manager, State and Local Innovation, x244

Jen Butler, Vice President, External Affairs, x239

Alayna Calabro, Senior Policy Analyst, x252

Billy Cerullo, Housing Advocacy Organizer

Adelle Chenier, Director of Events

Matthew Clarke, Director, Communications, x207

Courtney Cooperman, Project Manager, Our Homes Our Votes, x263

Lakesha Dawson, Director of Operations

Lindsay Duvall, Senior Organizer for Housing Advocacy, x206

Thaddaeus Elliot, Housing Advocacy Coordinator

Dan Emmanuel, Manager, Research, x316

Sarah Gallagher, Vice President, State and Local Policy Innovation, x220

Jamaal Gilani, Director of People and Culture

Ed Gramlich, Senior Advisor, x314

Raquel Harati, Research Analyst

Danita Humphries, Senior Executive Assistant, x226

Nada Hussein, ERASE Project Coordinator, x264

Kenza Idrissi Janati, Tenant Leader Intern

Kim Johnson, Public Policy Manager, x243

Nara Kim, Policy Intern

Kayla Laywell, Housing Policy Analyst, x231

Sasha Legagneur, Field Intern

Mayerline Louis-Juste, Senior Communications Specialist, x201

Meghan Mertyris, Disaster Housing Recovery Analyst

Khara Norris, Vice President of Operations and Finance, x242

Libby O'Neill, Senior Policy Analyst

Noah Patton, Manager, Disaster Recovery, x227

Mackenzie Pish, Research Analyst

Benja Reilly, Development Coordinator, x234

Denisse Rodriguez, Research Intern

Dee Ross, Tenant Leader Fellow

Gabrielle Ross, Project Manager, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, x208

Sarah Saadian, Senior Vice President for Public Policy and Field Organizing, x228

Craig Schaar, Data Systems Coordinator

Brooke Schipporeit, Director, Field Organizing, x233

Hillary Poudeu Tchokothe, Our Homes, Our Votes Intern

Carlton Taylor, Jr., Senior Graphic Communications Coordinator
Tejas Telkar, Homelessness and Housing First Policy Intern
Tia Turner, Housing Advocacy Organizer
Julie Walker, OSAH Campaign Coordinator
Brandon Weil, Graphic Communications Manager
Chantelle Wilkinson, OSAH Campaign Director, x230
Renee Willis, Senior Vice President for Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, x247
Tiara Wood, External Affairs Coordinator
Diane Yentel, President and CEO, x225
Carly Zhou, Research Intern