



NAHC Legislative Priorities

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)

HOPWA was cut by \$13 million to \$282 million in the FY2005 budget despite the reality that only a fraction of those living with debilitating and impoverishing HIV/AIDS and eligible for housing assistance receive it. Housing is a proven method of improving health for PLWHA and for decreasing infection rates.

*NAHC recommends funding HOPWA at **\$385 million** for FY 2006.*

Section 8 Housing Vouchers

NAHC supports an appropriation that fully funds the current levels of Section 8 Vouchers in use and allows for expansion to serve more of the millions of low-income Americans in need of housing assistance. This appropriation must be made without sacrificing other critical programs for low-income citizens. The pending Senate Appropriations bill (H.R. 3058) proposes a better formula for future funding than the House bill.

McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Programs

Homeless Assistance Grants help end homelessness for tens of thousands of people each year. Congress should increase funds for Homeless Assistance Grants by \$200 million to \$1.44 billion, as requested in the Administration's FY2006 budget proposal.

National Housing Trust Fund/Affordable Housing Fund

NAHC endorses the creation of a National Housing Trust Fund which would establish a dedicated source of funding to produce, rehabilitate or preserve as primarily rental housing affordable to extremely low income families. NAHC supports an important first step towards this goal, the recently introduced "Affordable Housing Fund." In May 2005, the House Committee on Financial Services approved H.R. 1461 designed to regulate the Government-Sponsored Entities, (GSEs) including a manager's amendment which requires that a percentage of GSE profits are to be used for low income housing production. NAHC asserts that the legislation pending in the Senate to regulate the GSEs (S. 190) should also contain an Affordable Housing Fund.

If you would like to endorse the establishment of a National Housing Trust Fund, please visit www.nhtf.org.

Ryan White CARE Act

NAHC endorses the reauthorization of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act. NAHC also strongly supports the continued ability of CARE Act grantees to use CARE resources to provide housing referrals and transitional and emergency housing.

The Second Chance Act

NAHC endorses re-entry supportive services legislation which would fund a range of comprehensive services to assist persons returning from jails and prisons (including housing services and an examination of barriers to use of the federal housing programs by returning citizen). The Second Chance Act was introduced as H.R. 1704 in the 109th Congress by Representative Rob Portman (R-OH) and will be introduced soon in the Senate.

Services to End Long-term Homelessness Act (SELHA)

NAHC endorses the authorization of SELHA (S. 709 / H.R. 1471). The legislation would provide an instrument to deliver the services that are needed by people who have been homeless for long periods of time. Congress should appropriate \$55 million in FY2006 for HHS to use to fund services linked to supportive housing that would help move chronically homeless people move into permanent housing.

Visit www.nationalaidshousing.org to learn more.

September 2005