



MEMO MEMBERS

The Weekly Newsletter of the National Low Income Housing Coalition

NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST FUND

HUD Secretary Announces Funding for NHTF

HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan announced on Friday, February 13, that President Obama will “keep his pledge” to fund the National Housing Trust Fund at a “significant level.” Speaking at a conference on the housing crisis sponsored by the Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy at New York University, Secretary Donovan said that HUD must address the shortage of rental housing for extremely low income households and the “rising tide” of family homelessness.

His announcement was met with applause from the assembled audience of housing researchers, developers, and advocates. The details of the funding for the National Housing Trust Fund, including the source and amount, are expected to be laid out in President Obama’s FY2010 budget that will be released in the coming weeks.

See article elsewhere in Memo for more details on Mr. Donovan’s first major address since he was confirmed as HUD Secretary.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY PACKAGE

Economic Recovery Act Passes House, Senate

With House and Senate negotiators having reached an agreement on the giant economic recovery package, the House passed H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, by a vote of 246 - 183 on Friday, February 13. The Senate also voted on February 13, and passed the measure by a vote of 60 - 38. Republican Senators Susan Collins (ME), Olympia Snowe (ME), and Arlen Specter (PA) joined the Democrats in voting for the bill (Senator Ted Kennedy [D-MA] did not vote). The President is expected to sign the bill on February 17.

Housing advocates worked hard to urge policymakers to include resources in the bill to stimulate the economy that simultaneously provide communities with housing affordable

to the lowest income households and thwart the expected increase in homelessness due to the worsening economic crisis. In the end, the bill does not include resources for the National Housing Trust Fund or for new rental assistance vouchers.

Advocates were especially pleased that the Senate’s \$35 billion **homeownership tax credit**, an affront to low income households, (see Memo, 2/6) was significantly scaled back in the conference report. The conference agreement would amend the current \$7,500 first-time homebuyer tax credit. The bill increases it to be an \$8000 tax credit and repeals the current tax credit’s requirement that it be repaid to the federal government. The benefits of the current tax credit, available to people who have not owned a home during the last three years, phase out for higher income households. The credit will apply to eligible homes purchased before December 1, 2009.

NLIHC had sounded an alarm that the Senate’s \$35 billion, \$15,000-per-home-buyer tax credit was not balanced by similar resources for housing programs for the lowest income households. On February 10, NLIHC sent an open statement, signed onto by 547 national, state and local organizations to the White House and House and Senate conferees asking for balance in the recovery package’s resources for higher vs. lower income housing.

Access the letter here: www.nlihc.org/doc/What-We-Mean-By-Housing-2-10.pdf

H.R. 1 does include significant resources for housing programs:

\$1.5 billion for homeless prevention and rapid re-housing. The bill provides \$1.5 billion through HUD’s Emergency Shelter Grant program for the provision of short-term or medium-term rental assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services including housing search, mediation or outreach to property owners, credit repair, security or utility deposits, utility payments, rental assistance for a final month at a location, moving cost assistance, case management or other appropriate activities for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing of persons who have become homeless. Both the House and Senate versions of the bill contained this item from the beginning.

Beginning early in 2007, NLIHC worked with a broad coalition of groups to advocate for emergency funds to prevent homelessness due to foreclosure. This item in the economic recovery bill is the direct result of this campaign. The suggested amount from the campaign for the economic recovery bill was \$2 billion.

\$4 billion for the Public Housing Capital Fund. Of this, \$3 billion will be distributed by the capital fund formula within 30 days of enactment and \$1 billion will be distributed by competitive grants for 'priority investments' including those that leverage private sector funding or financing for renovations and energy conservation retrofit investments. This \$1 billion must be distributed by HUD by September 1, 2009. Public housing agencies must give priority consideration to the rehabilitation of vacant units and to those capital projects already underway or identified in the PHA's five-year capital plan. The funds cannot be used for operating or rental assistance. Until the House and Senate bills went to the conference committee, both contained \$5 billion for the Public Housing Capital Fund, but \$1 billion was cut to make room for either Senate or House priorities that the other chamber had not included.

\$2.25 billion for Project-based Housing. Of this amount, \$2 billion is for full-year renewals of Project-based Section 8 rental assistance contracts. This action corrects a longstanding problem of underfunding in the project-based Section 8 account that caused HUD to have to enter into contracts for less than a year with property owners creating great instability in the program. The remaining \$250 million is for HUD to provide grants and loans to upgrade its Section 202 elderly, Section 811 disabled and Section 8 project-based stock to increase energy efficiency. Owners participating in this \$250 million grant or loan program must commit to at least an additional 15 years of affordability. The House bill originally had \$2.5 billion for the green retrofitting of the assisted stock, but did not address the funding shortfall. The original Senate bill had \$1.37 billion for greening and \$2.132 billion for the shortfall.

\$2 billion to fund the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. These funds can be used to redevelop foreclosed and abandoned homes. Unlike the existing NSP program, the new NSP funds will all be distributed by a competitive process. States, units of general local government and nonprofit entities or consortia of nonprofit entities are eligible to submit proposals. Eligible applicants can partner with for-profit entities to submit proposals. The Secretary must publish grant competition criteria within 75 days of enactment and applications will be due to HUD no later than 150 days after enactment. The House bill had \$4.19 billion for NSP and \$2.25 billion was in the Senate bill.

None of the NSP funds can be used to demolish public housing and, overall, demolition activities are limited to 10% of a grantee's funds.

NLIHC and a coalition of other organizations worked successfully to include a number of renter protections in the NSP program. These include provisions that no housing assisted with NSP funds can refuse to rent to someone with a Section 8 housing choice voucher. For any home purchased after the date

of enactment, any tenant in that home must be provided at least 90 days' notice to vacate and, for tenants with leases entered into before the notice of foreclosure, their right to occupy their home through the term of their lease (this provision can be waived if the home will be the primary residence of the new owner, after the 90 days' notice is provided). Homes purchased with NSP funds will not instigate the termination of assistance for units that have state- or federally-subsidized tenants in them.

Funds and Fixes for Low Income Housing Tax Credits. The bill provides \$2.25 billion for capital investments in low income housing tax credit projects. The funds will be distributed to state housing tax credit allocating agencies based on the formula of HUD's HOME program. The state agencies will then distribute them competitively to owners of projects who have received or receive simultaneously an award of low income housing tax credits. Projects awarded housing tax credits in 2007, 2008 and 2009 will be eligible for these funds.

In addition, the bill includes the House bill's provision to allow state housing credit allocating agencies to elect to use a portion of its housing tax credits as grants instead of credits. The maximum low income housing grant amount for a state may not exceed 85% of 40% of the state's 2009 allocation.

Other HUD provisions in the bill include:

- \$1 billion for the Community Development Block Grant program. These funds will be distributed using the normal CDBG formula.
- \$100 million for HUD's lead hazard control and healthy homes program for applicants that were eligible for a grant from HUD's lead hazard reduction program in FY08 but were not awarded because of insufficient funds.
- \$510 million in Native American Housing Block Grants (had been \$500 million in the House; \$510 million in the Senate). Of this amount, \$255 million will be distributed by the current block grant formula and \$255 million will be distributed by a grant competition.
- \$15 million for HUD's Inspector General to ensure that the bill's funds are used in an effective and efficient manner.
- The bill raises the Federal Housing Administration Loan limits for calendar year 2009 at the 2008 level. The bill also raises the Government Sponsored Enterprise (GSE) and Home Equity Conversion Mortgage conforming loan limits for calendar year 2009.

The bill does not include funds for the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity (SHOP) program; the House bill included \$10 million for this program.

Rural Housing Programs. The bill provides \$200 million

in funding to support \$1 billion in section 502 direct rural homeownership loans and \$10.4 billion for RHS' section 502 guaranteed homeownership loans. The bill also provides funds to support \$1.2 billion in loans and grants from the rural community facilities program. No funds were included for rural multifamily projects.

Other Programs. The Emergency Food and Shelter Program within the Federal Emergency Management Agency receives \$100 million in the conference agreement; the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program receives nothing (the House had funded it, the Senate did not); the Social Services Block Grant program will receive no funds (the Senate had funded it, the House did not); and the Census Bureau will receive \$1 billion. The bill provides \$100 million for Community Development Financial Institutions and \$3 billion in New Markets Tax Credits.

MORE CAPITOL HILL

Congress Adjourns for Presidents' Day Recess

Following the final passage votes on H.R. 1 in the House and Senate, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Congress is expected to adjourn for recess from February 17-20. Both chambers will return on February 23.

Chairman Frank Offers Financial Services Committee Oversight Plan

The House Committee on Financial Services on February 12 approved its Oversight Plan for the 111th session of Congress, which had been submitted by Committee Chair Barney Frank (D-MA). This agenda outlines the Chairman's priorities for the committee, and includes a number of important affordable housing provisions.

The housing section of the plan highlights the need for preserving affordable housing. "The first thing...is to prevent the diminution of housing," Mr. Frank said when discussing the plan. The committee will do this by reviewing HUD's preservation policies and its proposed FY10 budget. The committee will explore adding money to the National Housing Trust Fund and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, and it will take another look at the HOPE VI program.

Possible reforms listed in the plan for the HOPE VI program are "a prohibition on demolition-only grants, a one-for-one replacement requirement, tenant eligibility standards on the availability of decent and affordable housing and the benefits of

mixed-use communities." Such provisions were included in the House-passed HOPE VI bill in 2008.

In looking to pass legislation that had fallen idle in previous sessions, the Committee will resume its work on the Section 8 Voucher Reform Act (SERVA) and legislation related to the McKinney-Vento homeless assistance program, the Section 202 supportive housing for the elderly and the Section 811 housing for persons with disabilities programs. Rural and Native American Housing will be reviewed, and hearings will be conducted on the efficiency and effectiveness of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and the Community Development Block Grant program, according to the plan. The Committee also hopes to address the Project-based Section 8 Program, housing counseling, and green housing development.

Attention will be given to housing affected by natural disasters through oversight of HUD and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and through the National Flood Insurance Program.

In addition to reviewing all federal housing programs, the Committee also intends to "review the overall mission, organization, human resources and information technology capabilities of [HUD]."

Finally, the plan includes greater oversight of the Troubled Assets Recovery Program and a reexamination of the charters for Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae.

The Committee accepted five amendments to the Oversight Plan, though none was directly related to its housing policy agenda.

Access the Plan here www.house.gov/apps/list/speech/financialsvcs_dem/mu021109.shtml

Bill Introduced to Redevelop Abandoned and Vacant Properties

Representative Tim Ryan (D-OH) introduced H.R. 932, the Community Regeneration, Sustainability, and Innovation Act of 2009, on February 10.

The bill would create a demonstration project allowing city governments, or metropolitan areas, to apply for funding on a competitive basis that would be used to deconstruct and demolish vacant or abandoned properties, or for relocation or rehabilitation costs. Recipients would be allowed to be used to demolish public housing units.

Program applicants would have had to experienced at least a 20% loss in population since 1970 or have experienced prolonged population, income, or employment losses resulting

in higher levels of abandoned buildings or housing vacancies. While the grants would mostly be funded by HUD's Community Development Block Grant program, there will be additional funding from the Economic Development Administration and Environmental Protection Agency.

Upon introduction, H.R. 932 was referred to the House Committee on Financial Services for further review. Representative Brian Higgins (D-NY) is a cosponsor.

HUD

Secretary Donovan's Agenda

In a wide-ranging speech to the assembled participants at the New York University's Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan laid out an ambitious agenda for federal housing policy and challenged the housing community to make the most of the opportunity that the housing crisis and the new Administration offer to make lasting change. Referring to people experiencing homelessness and others suffering from the housing crisis, Mr. Donovan said the "invisible have begun to be visible," and we must act now before they become invisible again. He urged us not to waste this moment said that and if we do, we will have no one to blame but ourselves.

Secretary Donovan said the current economic crisis that began as a mortgage crisis, now is causing job losses nationwide. The economic recovery bill that just passed is intended to prevent further job cuts and to put people back to work. The next task to prevent further foreclosures, which he characterized as the "immediate crisis" that is expected to be "short-term."

Secretary Donovan then framed his agenda for HUD as five areas of emphasis. The first is remaking the mortgage system. The second is addressing the "persistent rental housing crisis," including funding for the NHTF. Next is to make HUD a "force for sustainability." Four is to reinvigorate HUD's fair housing responsibilities, and finally, he wants HUD to be leader for research and evaluation. He promised that the FY2010 budget will work towards each of these.

On HUD programs, the Secretary said that HUD's inability to provide Congress with accurate reports on what funds have been spent and how they have been spent has damaged the agency's relationship with Congress. He said HUD must be more accurate and transparent for Congress and the public at large.

He said while everyone knows what HUD's mission is, no one knows what success at HUD means. He said we must overcome

the "skepticism" that the average person that federal housing programs make a difference. He wants to invest in research and evaluation at "unprecedented levels" and institute high standards for accountability.

On fair housing, the Secretary called the subprime crisis a "targeted scourge on minority communities" and vowed that it will never be allowed to happen again. He said HUD's mission was also to "affirmatively further fair housing," to assure that there are opportunities for low income people to live in neighborhoods of their choice. He also said he would not engage in the debate between "supply vs. demand, mobility vs. rebuilding," asserting that both were necessary.

Secretary Donovan promised more cross-agency collaboration, citing the need to work with HHS on linking housing plus services, with Energy and EPA on sustainability, and Treasury on mortgage finance.

The audience of about 300 gave the new Secretary a prolonged standing ovation.

HUD Delays Effective Date of Final Income Verification Rule

HUD issued on February 11 a notice of a proposed temporary delay in implementing a final rule that would have required public housing residents to provide a valid social security number in order to qualify for the program (see Memo 1/30). HUD is requesting public comments regarding the possible delay, which are due by March 13.

A memorandum issued by President Obama's Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel on January 20 said that such administrative delays would occur if a department found reason to slow down a new rule's implementation.

Advocates, including NLIHC, sent a letter on February 3 organized by the National Housing Law Project requesting that HUD delay the final rule in compliance with Mr. Emanuel's memorandum. The letter also clarified that the social security number requirement was not consistent with current law and that, "until now, seniors 62 and older, and children under 6 years of age, could declare their citizenship or eligible immigrant status under penalty of perjury and were not required to verify or have SSNs."

The February 11 notice also clarifies that the social security number requirement would not apply to individuals in families who do not claim eligible immigration status under HUD's noncitizen regulations.

Readers can submit public comments either online at www.regulations.gov (search Enterprise Income Verification) or by

mail to the Regulations Division, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW., Room 10276, Washington, DC 20410-0500.

A copy of the letter sent by NHLP is posted at <http://www.nlihc.org/doc/KZ-SSN-2-3-9.pdf>.

The HUD notice can be found at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-3004.pdf>

HURRICANE RECOVERY

Disaster Program Deadline is Extended

Advocates applauded the decision of HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan on February 11 to extend the Disaster Housing Assistance Program (see Memo, 4/27/07). The program had been scheduled to expire on February 28, 2009. The length of the extension has not been announced.

There are approximately 31,000 families enrolled in DHAP. Upon the expiration of the DHAP program, the Bush Administration had intended on transitioning only elderly, disabled and extremely low income households to the Section 8 housing choice voucher program. Mr. Donovan has announced he will expand the scope of recipients who can transfer to the voucher program when the DHAP program does expire. "There's a whole group of other families that are eligible for the permanent voucher program that they were not planning to cover," Mr. Donovan told the New Orleans Times-Picayune. "I made a decision to make vouchers available to every eligible family."

"We want to help families transition out of the DHAP program in a way that does not harm them during these difficult economic times," he added.

Members of the Katrina Housing Group were ecstatic about the extension. "Thank you, Jesus," Laura Tuggle, an attorney at the New Orleans Legal Assistance and KHG member said in the Times-Picayune. "The time was too tight to transition thousands and thousands of families," she said.

While advocates are relieved that the program has been temporarily extended, there is a concern that some families that had been enrolled in the program have already been evicted by landlords not aware of the extension.

FROM THE FIELD

RI Tenants Organize To Stay In Foreclosed Apartments

The Housing Action Coalition of Rhode Island (Housing Action) and the Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless (RICH), both NLIHC state partners, recently began organizing tenants in buildings likely to face foreclosure (see Memo, 10/3). RICH reports that between April and December, 100 families became homeless due to apartment foreclosures.

Tenant organizers Rosalina Collazo (RICH) and Tom Judd (Housing Action) began by identifying buildings listed as beginning the foreclosure process in the local newspaper. Many tenants did not know their buildings were in jeopardy of foreclosure. Others received frightening letters telling them that they had only 48 hours to leave their apartments. At least one household told organizers that they had been evicted from two apartments within eight months.

The issue is so important to residents that 30 people showed up for an initial meeting, and after only a couple of months of door knocking, they formed the Rhode Island Bank Tenant and Homeowner Association. During their frequent meetings, residents pose questions to Legal Services attorneys, learn about community resources, and make decisions about possible solutions to no-cause evictions. Residents created a six-point "tenants' bill of rights," available in English and Spanish <http://www.nlihc.org/doc/Bill-of-Rights-RI-Tenants.pdf>

One of the Association's first organizing actions was a rally on a cold, rainy December afternoon in front of a typical New England "triple-decker" house that, after foreclosure, was owned by a bank. The three families living in the triple-decker did not want to leave their homes; they had been paying rent and utilities, and it was expensive to find another affordable place to live. In a strong show of support, the Association members rallying outside and in full view of print and electronic media, pledged to blockade any foreclosure eviction. So far the bank has not evicted anyone, but it is still engaged in the foreclosure process.

A second organizing action took place in January under the rotunda of the state capitol. With props such as big bags of fake bank bailout money, tenant leaders called for a moratorium on foreclosure evictions. Carrying large, colorful cardboard "houses" with "foreclosed" written across them, tenants also advocated for "just cause" legislation which would allow tenants to stay in their apartments while paying rent to the new bank owner of the foreclosed property. A variety of supporters, including some state senators and representatives, plus a Providence city counselor, were also present to endorse the Association's proposals.

This is the second year of legislative efforts to protect tenants on the part of Housing Action and RICH. Last year foreclosure notice bills were introduced in both chambers, but did not pass. And although a foreclosure property upkeep bill was approved by both chambers, the governor vetoed it. This year, in response to the Association's efforts, bills are being introduced in the State Assembly and State Senate, and the Providence Mayor introduced an ordinance. Each bill introduced so far would prevent the eviction of tenants in foreclosed properties as long as they were paying rent. Senate and Assembly bills would allow tenants to remain in their apartments for 60 days if the bank sells to a new owner. A Senate bill and Providence ordinance would require tenant notification of any foreclosure sale, referral to Legal Services and a HUD-approved counseling agency, and continued provision of essential services such as heat and water.

"Many tenants across Rhode Island are being forced out of their homes as a result of post-foreclosure evictions," said Pedro Rodriguez, a tenant leader. "We do not want this to happen to us. We are paying tenants and have no intention of moving."

To view a CNN video about the Association and apartment foreclosures, click on a

CNN link <http://money.cnn.com/news/specials/rhodeisland/2009/index.html> To view a Providence Journal video about the Rotunda action, click on <http://www.projo.com/video/news-index.html?nvid=321823>

For more information, contact Rosalina Collazo, Rhode Island Coalition for the Homeless, rosalina@rihomeless.com, or Tom Judd, Housing Action Coalition of Rhode Island, tjudd@housingnetworkri.org.

RESOURCES

Utilizing the LIHTC as a Desegregation Tool in Affordable Housing

Poverty & Race Research Action Council and the Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law have published a joint report calling for the use of low income housing tax credits (LIHTC) as a tool to desegregate concentrated poverty and provide low income minority families housing opportunities in neighborhoods with richer educational and economic prospects.

The study finds that some Housing Finance Agencies (HFAs) are utilizing restrictions in order to prevent placing affordable housing in areas that would exacerbate segregation. These HFAs approach desegregation in multiple ways such as restricting areas for LIHTC developments, prohibiting the

number of concentrated LIHTC developments in a specific neighborhood, and utilizing scoring to promote affordable housing in high opportunity areas. However, HFAs did not provide specific models to protect LIHTC developments in gentrifying neighborhoods.

Currently many local jurisdictions require additional approvals of LIHTC projects, which creates barriers to placing affordable family developments outside of economically or racially concentrated areas. The authors argue that allowing municipalities to opt out of LIHTC housing in this way contributes to concentrated poverty in central cities. In order to combat this, some HFAs are limiting local approvals and participation to statutory minimums.

In addition to avoiding segregation, some HFAs have required affirmative marketing targeted at the racial and ethnic groups least likely to apply for the units. The authors conclude such measures to promote "affirmative housing" are also necessary in order to use LIHTC as a desegregation tool.

The report, Building Opportunity: Civil Rights Best Practices in the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program can be found here: <http://www.prrac.org/pdf/2008-Best-Practices-final.pdf>

MDRC Publishes How-To Guide for Helping Public Housing Residents Find Jobs

The public policy research group MDRC published in December 2008 a how-to guide titled Helping Public Housing Residents Find and Keep Jobs. This publication is part of the Jobs-Plus Community Revitalization Initiative for Public Housing Families and is meant as a guide for practitioners. Jobs-Plus is a welfare-to-work demonstration project run by MDRC that started in 1998 with the aim of helping public housing residents find and keep jobs through a three-pronged approach of employment services, financial incentives, and community support.

The guide covers four major topics. First, it provides an introduction to Jobs-Plus and the program's core components. Second, it details first steps including costs and funding, understanding the relationship between residents and resources, and constructing a strong Jobs-Plus framework with regional authorities and designating a lead agency. Third, it describes the building blocks of Jobs-Plus such as employment-related services, financial incentives for work, and creating community support. Finally, it addresses implementation issues such as marketing the program and educating residents, operating the partnership, and dealing with cultural challenges.

The report, Helping Public Housing Residents Find and Keep Jobs, can be found here: <http://www.mdrc.org/publications/506/overview.html>

NLIHC NEWS

Conference Brochure Available

NLIHC's April 19–22 Annual Housing Policy Conference and Lobby Day will be packed with great speakers, workshops and networking opportunities. The conference brochure has been posted at www.nlihc.org/doc/conference/brochure.pdf. Find the conference schedule and more information on invited speakers, receptions, the screening of the Oscar-nominated *Trouble the Water* and more in the brochure. Registration and hotel information can be found at <https://www2398.sslldomain.com/nlihc/conference/index.cfm>.

Sessions at this year's conference will cover topics including the National Housing Trust Fund, renters and foreclosures, low income housing tax credits, the future of Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and federal housing finance, homelessness prevention and the reauthorization of the McKinney-Vento Act, the federal budget and appropriations, and many more.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

NLIHC Seeks Spring and Summer Interns

Resumes are being accepted for Spring 2009 research internships (see description below). In addition, the following positions for Summer 2009 interns are open:

Communications Intern. Assists planning of press events and media awards, the preparation and distribution of press materials, maintenance of the media list and tracking press hits, and website updates.

Legislative Intern. Tracks new legislation, attends and summarizes Congressional hearings for weekly newsletter, participates in visits to Congressional offices and develops materials for use in lobbying the House and Senate to accomplish NLIHC's mission. The legislative intern will also update the Congressional database.

Outreach Intern. Works in activating the grassroots for federal legislative campaigns, as well as on membership recruitment/retention efforts and internal database upkeep.

Research Intern. Assists in ongoing quantitative and qualitative research projects, write weekly articles on current research for NLIHC newsletter, attend briefings, and help staff respond to research inquiries.

All interns will contribute articles to our weekly newsletter, *Memo to Members*, and other duties as assigned.

The National Low Income Housing Coalition is the foremost national advocacy organization for low income housing. Interns are highly valued and fully integrated into the staff work of the Coalition. We seek students passionate about social justice issues, with excellent writing and interpersonal skills. Internships are unpaid. In your cover letter, please specify which position/s you would prefer and that you are interested in a Spring 2009 research internship. Interested students should send a resume and cover letter to:

Internship Coordinator

National Low Income Housing Coalition

727 15th Street NW, 6th Floor

Washington DC 20005

or via email to linda@nlihc.org, via fax at 202-393-1973.

Please call 202-662-1530 x 228 with any questions.

MEDIA AWARDS DUE NOW

Attention advocates and reporters: The deadline to submit articles for the 2008 Cushing Niles Dolbeare Media Awards is here! The deadline to submit articles is February 16, 2009.

The awards recognize print journalists who do an exemplary job of illuminating the affordable housing crisis in the United States. First-place winners receive a \$2,500 prize. Winners will be recognized during a reception on April 20, 2009, in Washington, DC.

Entries must have been published between January 1 and December 31, 2008. Reporters may nominate their own work, or readers may submit articles directly. Entries are limited to articles and editorials published in a publication intended for the general public. Housing industry publications including real estate, construction, resident and other housing-related publications are not eligible for consideration.

More information, including rules and an entry form, can be found at: www.nlihc.org/CNDMA . For more information, contact Communications Associate Taylor Materio at taylor@nlihc.org or 202-662-1530 x227.

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ABOUT NLIHC

The National Low Income Housing Coalition is dedicated solely to ending America's affordable housing crisis. Established in 1974 by Cushing N. Dolbeare, NLIHC educates, organizes, and advocates to ensure decent, affordable housing within healthy neighborhoods for everyone. NLIHC provides up-to-date information, formulates policy, and educates the public on housing needs and the strategies for solutions.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS!

NLIHC membership is the best way to stay informed about affordable housing issues, keep in touch with advocates around the country, and support NLIHC's work.

NLIHC membership information is available on our website, at www.nlihc.org, or by fax, mail, or e-mail. Just e-mail us at membership@nlihc.org or call 202-662-1530 to request membership materials to distribute at meetings and conferences.