



Action Alert

Join the Campaign for a Real Federal Budget Solution

The federal budget has been on a collision course with sequester spending caps since they were put in place in 2011. With the caps in place, the math just doesn't add up for HUD programs. A Congressional spending bill that lifts sequester spending caps is the most feasible way to avoid the severe cuts to HUD programs passed by the House and Senate before they went home for summer recess. We need to influence Members of Congress before they return to DC on September 8 to pass a budget deal.

Join the [Caps Hurt Communities Campaign](#). Watch for sign-on letters, call-in days and advocacy information during Congress's summer recess. Schedule office visits with your representatives while they are in their districts for summer recess. Tell Congress that families and communities should not suffer due to a budget gimmick that does not solve the federal deficit. [Join now!](#)

Federal News

House and Senate Appropriators Approve USDA FY 2016 Spending Bill

The House and Senate bills both reject proposed cuts in Section 523 Self-Help funding, prohibit early renewal of Rental Assistance contracts that run out of funds before the end of their one-year terms, and do not impose a minimum rent on tenants. The House and Senate have not yet scheduled floor votes on the bill. View the [funding chart](#) for USDA Rural Development programs in *HAC News*.

Senate Finance Committee Approves Tax Extenders Legislation

On July 21, the Senate Finance Committee advanced legislation to renew dozens of expiring tax provisions, showing strong support for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) and New Market Tax Credit (NMTC). The bill would:

- extend the minimum 9% LIHTC rate for new construction and substantial rehabilitation;
- establish a minimum 4% LIHTC rate for affordable housing acquisition;
- provide NMTC allocation authority for 2015 and 2016 at an increased allocation of 3.94 billion.

The bill received nearly unanimous bipartisan support; however, it is unclear when it will advance to the full Senate and be taken up by the House.

HUD Releases Final Rule on Fair Housing

On July 8, HUD released its [final rule](#) on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing, which equips communities that receive HUD funding with the data and tools to help them meet long-standing fair housing obligations. This long-awaited final rule aims to provide all HUD grantees with clear guidelines, data and technical assistance to help them to achieve those goals.

House Passes Bill To Leverage Private Funds for Energy Efficiency in HUD Properties

On July 14, the House passed the [Private Investment in Housing Act of 2015](#) to authorize a budget neutral demonstration program that leverages private funding to improve water and energy efficiency in HUD multifamily developments. The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs.

White House Expands Access to Solar Power

The Obama administration announced a [new initiative](#) to help low- and middle-income families gain broader access to solar generated power and save money on energy costs.

HUD Announces Finalists for National Disaster Resiliency Competition

On June 22, HUD announced [40 finalists](#) for the National Disaster Resiliency Competition, which is designed to help states and local communities recover from disasters and improve future resiliency through strategic community investments.

NACEDA News

NACEDA Awarded \$100,000 NEA Grant to Unite Arts & Community Development Fields

Connecting nonprofit community developers and artists to uplift low-income communities is the purpose of a \$100,000 Our Town grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to NACEDA on July 15. The mission of the NEA's Our Town grant program is to transform communities into lively, beautiful and resilient places with the arts at their core. NACEDA will use its Our Town grant to develop systematic approaches to

engaging nonprofit community developers in creative placemaking with arts-based associations.

NACEDA will provide approximately \$69,000 in technical assistance, resources, and training to facilitate at least three regional creative placemaking immersion programs among their members. NACEDA and Americans for the Arts will issue a request for proposals to NACEDA members in Summer 2016 that encourages strong participation with local and regional arts partners. The two national membership organizations will launch the program with a national scan of creative placemaking knowledge and relationships pertinent to community development practitioners and their arts-based partners. [Learn more.](#)

Agenda Released for the NACEDA Annual Meeting Event - October 5-6, Chicago IL

Engage in a dynamic peer-learning event for community development association professionals from across the country at NACEDA's [Annual Meeting Event](#). Sessions include:

- Philanthropy and Community Development: a Changing Relationship;
- Engaging People in Economic Justice: the Latest Messaging Research;
- The Interaction of Banks, Regulators and Community Development Associations;
- Addressing Organizational Challenges: a Design Think Exercise;
- Tour of Chicago's South Side.

[Register Now](#)



Nominate a Community Development Association Leader for the Diane Sterner Award

The Diane Sterner Award recognizes exceptional association leaders in the community development field. Awardees are selected based on a body of work and commitment over time, resulting in benefit not only to the organization but to the community development industry. The award is named for NACEDA founder Diane Sterner, who headed the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey. If a winner is selected, the award will be presented at the NACEDA Annual Meeting Event on October 6 in Chicago, IL. [Nominations](#) must be received by close of business on August 19.

Job Opportunity: NACEDA Seeks Membership Director

The Membership Director will oversee and implement services NACEDA provides to its 42 members. [This position](#) reports to the executive director. NACEDA places tremendous importance on the organization's relationships with its members and the services it provides to them. This is a full-time position with benefits.

Dog Days of Summer Reading List - Take a Look!

Looking for some reading material during the hot August days? We asked NACEDA members and partners to let us know what they're reading for work -- and just for fun. Get the hot [summer reading list](#) from the NACEDA network.

Member News

American Electric Power Legal Settlement Brings Solar Power to Indiana Communities

Communities in northern Indiana will soon see new solar energy installations in parks, organizations and businesses as the result of a grant program administered by the Indiana Association for Community Economic Development (IACED). A total of \$328,000 was granted to organizations in the 13 communities for solar energy projects through the [Solar Uniting Neighbors \(SUN\) program](#). Funding for the SUN program was the result of a legal settlement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, eight states, 13 citizen groups and American Electric Power. IACED [press releases](#) provide information about the settlement.

Center for Community Progress Leadership Institute - Apply by Tomorrow

The Center for Community Progress is accepting [Letters of Interest](#) from cities interested in attending the [2016 Community Progress Leadership Institute](#). The competitive, four-day Leadership Institute brings together diverse statewide delegations for technical training, leadership development, and action planning that can take your city's efforts to reclaim its vacant properties to the next level. The deadline is August 6.

Seattle Issues Action Plan to Address Affordability Crisis

The City of Seattle issued [Housing Seattle: A Roadmap to an Affordable and Livable City](#) on July 13. Mayor Edward Murray set the goal of 50,000 units build or preserved over the next 10 years with 20,000 designated as affordable. The plan sets 15 key policies and programs including: doubling the Seattle housing levy, enacting a real estate excise tax for affordable housing, maximizing surplus and underutilized public property for affordable housing, and directing \$42 million to rental housing production and preservation. The [Housing Development Consortium](#) of Seattle and King County played an integral role in crafting the plan.

Member Conferences:

- [Opportunity SC: Build, Grow, Own](#) - South Carolina Association for Community Economic Development, August 26-28
- [SCANPH 30th Anniversary Housing Conference: There's No Place Like Home](#) - Southern California Association of NonProfit Housing, September 17-18.
- [Igniting Collaborative Innovation](#) - Ohio CDC Association Conference, October 1-2.
- [Planning Prosperity for Indiana's Next 200 Years](#) - Indiana Association for Community Economic Development, October 7-9.

Partner News

LISC Awarded \$11.3 Million Grant To Boost Build Job Skills

As part of a vigorous new effort to help jobless Americans upgrade their reading and math skills to better prepare for employment, the Social Innovation Fund awarded LISC an \$11.3 million grant. LISC will leverage the grant to expand a successful program that offers job training and financial coaching to low-income people whose skills deficit has kept them trapped in poverty.

New Videos Explain National Housing Trust Fund Allocation Plan

The NLIHC is producing a video series, [Getting to Know the National Housing Trust Fund Law and Regulations](#). The five-part series will explain why the National Housing Trust Fund is necessary, why it focuses on extremely low-income renters, how funds will be used, how funds will be distributed to the states, and opportunities for advocates to influence how their state allocates the funds.

ArtPlace America Calls for Field Scan Researchers - Applications Due Tomorrow

ArtPlace seeks to commission three [field scans](#) that document and explore the relationship between arts and culture and the following community development sectors: Housing, Public Health, and Public Safety. Applications are due August 6.

Events and Educational Opportunities

NeighborWorks Inclusionary Housing Course - August 19 in Philadelphia. Cornerstone Partnership will present [Inclusionary Housing: Making It Work In Your Community](#), an introductory course that provides a solid understanding of inclusionary housing policies and programs, teaching best practices through case studies.

National CAPACD 15th Annual Convention - September 28-30 in Washington, DC. This year's summit is titled [Moving Forward, Rising Together: Uniting For Thriving Communities](#).

National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders Conference - October 6-8 in Chicago, IL. NACEDA members get the "national discount rate" to [NALCAB's 10th Annual Conference](#).

National Community Land Trust Network National Conference - October 19-22 in Lexington, KY. Register for [Intersections 2015](#).

Rail~Volution - October 25-28 in Dallas, TX. Share your dedication to transit, livability and communities. [Scholarship application](#) deadline August 20 for this year's conference: [Building Livable Communities With Transit](#).

Equity Summit 2015 - October 27 in Los Angeles, CA. Titled [All In for Inclusion, Justice & Prosperity](#), the summit brings together thousands of diverse and passionate leaders.

CFED 2015 Platforms for Prosperity Summit - November 3 in Arlington, VA. RSVP for [Building a Financially Secure Workforce](#)

2016 National Development Council Training Schedule - Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Philadelphia. View the [full schedule](#).

Funding Opportunities & Resources

Here are just a few of the funding opportunities you'll find on the NACEDA website.

Go to the [full list of funding opportunities](#).

Summer of Creativity - Youth Service America. Youth-led projects highlighting the creativity and commitment of young people to service. August 10 deadline. [Application](#).

50 States for Good - Tom's of Maine. Support for grassroots organizations nationwide. August 26 deadline. [Participate](#).

Hope VI Main Street Program - HUD. Renovating traditional "Main Street" areas. August 27 deadline. [Announcement](#).

Community Grants - Lowes. Monetary assistance for high-need projects for nonprofits and municipalities. August 28 deadline. [Application](#).

Housing for Everyone - TD Charitable Foundation. The 2015 Housing for Everyone grant competition focuses on Affordable Housing for Seniors. [Announcement](#).

[Click here](#) for the full list of funding opportunities on the NACEDA website.

Publications & Resources

USDA Study Show Impact of Foundation Grants on Rural America

[Foundation Grants to Rural Areas from 2005 to 2010: Trends and Patterns](#) estimates the value of U.S. foundation grants to benefit rural areas was 6% to 7% of total domestic grants in 2010.

HUD Posts Bridge to Family Self-Sufficiency Paper

[The Bridge to Family Self-Sufficiency Demonstration](#) describes this innovative program and how it will be tested to determine if low-income families receiving government housing subsidies can, with the right supports, make large economic strides, reduce their reliance on a range of government transfer benefits, and improve their overall financial security and well-being.

Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics Publishes 2015 Report

[Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2015](#) provides statistics on children and families in the U.S. The report finds that 40% of U.S. households with children had one or more of three housing problems in 2013: physically inadequate housing, crowded housing, or housing cost burden greater than 30 percent of household income.

Kids Count Data Book Suggests Children Left Behind In Economic Recovery

The [Kids Count Data Book](#) finds that that more U.S. children are living in poverty than before the Great Recession. This report by the Annie E. Casey Foundation assesses child well-being nationally, ranking states on overall child well-being, economic well-being, education, health, and family and community. View the [Washington Post article](#).

Urban Institute Map Shows How Zoning Policies Lead to Concentration of Wealth

The new [interactive map](#) shows how income inequality has shaped neighborhoods across the nation since 1990. Read the [Citylab article](#).

NHC Releases Health and Housing Studies

The National Housing Conference has released [three new case studies](#) that highlight promising examples of housing and health collaborations.

Employment Opportunities

Membership Director, NACEDA - Washington, DC. Oversees and implements services to NACEDA's 42 member. [Announcement](#).

CEO, Urban Edge - Boston, MA. One of the oldest and largest CDCs in Massachusetts seeks a dynamic new CEO. [Announcement](#).

Senior Manager, NeighborWorks America Stable Communities - Washington, DC. NeighborWorks is looking to hire a Community Stabilization leader. [Announcement](#).

Want to post a job opening? Contact Suzanne Gunther at sgunther@naceda.org. A \$25 donation for each job posting is requested.

National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations

email: info@naceda.org

phone: (202) 518-2660

web: <http://www.naceda.org>