



PRESS RELEASE

Communities will Celebrate National Community Development Week – April 2-6, 2018 Celebrating the Impact of the CDBG and HOME Programs #CDWeek2018

Washington, DC – The U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Association of Counties, and the National Community Development Association recognize April 2-6, 2018 as National Community Development Week. Communities across the country will come together this week to celebrate the impact of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program.

The CDBG program provides grants to over 1,200 grantees and funds activities such as housing rehabilitation, business assistance, senior services, and infrastructure – to name a few. These activities are primarily targeted to low-income and moderate-income persons and households. Every \$1.00 of CDBG leverages another \$4.09 in other funding; bringing additional resources to communities that support jobs, businesses and, most importantly, the people who live there. The HOME program provides grants to over 600 participating jurisdictions to help fund safe, decent and affordable housing for low-income households. Every \$1.00 of HOME leverages another \$4.33 in other funding.

CDBG has been chronically underfunded. The program has been reduced by \$1.4 billion since FY 2001. As a result, local programs and services that assist low and moderate-income persons have been cut. We deeply appreciate Congress supporting \$3.3 billion for CDBG in FY18; however, this amount falls well short of the \$4.4 billion provided for the program in FY 2001.

The need for CDBG is absolute. Based on a CDBG Coalition survey, CDBG grantees annually receive far more local applications for funding than can be met with their current CDBG allocation, with most estimating that over half of the applications are not funded.

Restore CDBG Funding. With the increase in the FY19 budget caps, now is the time to continue to restore program funding. Given the continued stark underfunding of the program and the ongoing need, we call on Congress to provide at least \$3.5 billion for CDBG in FY19.

National Community Development Week provides the opportunity for Congressional Members and community members to see first-hand the results of the CDBG and HOME programs by touring projects, meeting with local staff and interacting directly with beneficiaries served by the program. For more information on local events, please contact Vicki Watson, Executive Director, National Community Development Association, vwatson@ncdaonline.org.