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Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II (D-MO) Receives “Congressional Champion” Award from National Community Development Association

Award was presented at the National Community Development Association’s Winter Meeting for Congressman Cleaver’s unwavering support for community development programs.

Washington, D.C. – Today, the [National Community Development Association \(NCDA\)](#) recognized Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II (D-MO) with their “Congressional Champion” award for his commitment to community development programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

“I am so grateful to receive this award from the National Community Development Association, especially on the 50-year anniversary of the Community Development Block Grant program,” said **Congressman Cleaver**. “Whether it’s improving infrastructure, preserving affordable housing, or providing community service needs for children and the elderly, the CDBG program is a vital lifeline for communities across the country. I look forward to continuing to work with the NCDA to ensure that we can increase funding for the CDBG program and empower communities in my congressional district and across the country.”

Enacted by Congress in 1974 under the Housing and Community Development Act, the CDBG program provides necessary funding to communities across the country to address infrastructure, economic development, housing, disaster recovery, and other community needs. Over 1,250 state and local governments receive CDBG allocations to support housing rehabilitation programs, public infrastructure projects, small business assistance, emergency housing assistance, and a broad range of public service programming.

While meaningful to communities nationwide, CDBG has experienced [major cuts over](#)

[time](#). Annual funding has declined in recent decades, with the program's latest appropriated level – \$3.3 billion – \$150 million less than FY21 and far less than its highest mark of \$4.5 billion in FY95. As a result, fewer funds are available to drive local solutions to various community challenges.

“On behalf of the NCDA, we extend our sincere appreciation to Congressman Cleaver for his tireless leadership and unwavering commitment to federal community development programs like the Community Development Block Grant program,” said **Vicki Watson, Executive Director of NCDA**. “Leaders like Congressman Cleaver are ensuring that every community can have affordable housing, effective public services, and economic opportunities. We couldn't be more grateful for his unwavering support.”

About the National Community Development Association

The National Community Development Association (NCDA) is a non-partisan national nonprofit association comprised of more than 500 local governments across the country that administer federally – supported community development, affordable housing, and economic development programs through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). NCDA members administer HUD Office of Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs – CDBG, HOME, Homeless Assistance Grants, and HOPWA. Since 1969, NCDA has been at the forefront in securing federal resources and designing effective and responsive housing and community development programs for local governments.

About Congressman Emanuel Cleaver, II

Emanuel Cleaver, II is the U.S. Representative for Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, which includes Kansas City, Independence, Lee's Summit, Raytown, Grandview, Sugar Creek, Greenwood, Blue Springs, North Kansas City, Gladstone, and Claycomo. He is a member of the exclusive House Financial Services Committee and Ranking Member of the House Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance.