



PRESS RELEASE

CDBG Coalition Congressional Briefing on Capitol Hill – April 17th, 2024 #CDBG50 #CDBGWorks

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Washington, DC –

2024 marks the 50th anniversary of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Enacted by Congress in 1974, CDBG provides funding to communities across the country to address infrastructure, economic development, housing, disaster recovery, and other community needs. It remains the most important and impactful federal resource for state and local governments and their program partners to use in devising flexible solutions to meet community needs.

In honor of this special anniversary, the CDBG Coalition hosted a briefing on April 17 for Congressional offices to learn from state and local officials and local partners about the program's impact.

The CDBG Coalition consists of 34 national organizations which recognize the importance of the CDBG program in empowering and transforming people and places. NCDA co-chairs the Coalition. The organizations represent elected officials, state and local government agencies, non-profit organizations, and advocates. The briefing acted as a platform for CDBG program advocates to urge congressional offices to fund the CDBG program with at least \$4.2 billion in formula grants in FY25. The briefing included four speakers, each of whom told stories of CDBG successes and described the program's significance in their own community.

From FY2005 to FY2023, CDBG facilitated the creation and retention of 563,236 economic development related jobs, contributed to infrastructure developments benefitting approximately 57 million persons, assisted over 189 million persons through public service activities, and met the housing needs of over 1.9 million households. Over 1250 state and local governments receive CDBG allocations annually. All speakers agreed that CDBG is a critical national resource which is currently underfunded and under-advertised to both Congress and the public.



U.S. Representative Jim McGovern (MA-02). Representative McGovern noted that CDBG funding is visible all throughout his district.



Jake Day, Maryland Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Secretary Day described the benefits of CDBG for a variety of development projects across Maryland.



Leila Kohler-Frueh, Director of Community Engagement, Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake spoke of the way that CDBG has funded critical housing rehabilitation projects for dilapidated homes in and around Baltimore. Habitat for Humanity relies on CDBG funding to continue its life changing work across the country.



Tom Fleetwood, Director, Fairfax County, VA Department of Housing & Community Development provided an anecdote of the leveraging power of CDBG. In the early 80s, the County purchased and rehabilitated a dilapidated mobile home park using \$4 million in CDBG. Forty years later, that initial CDBG investment was transformed into the Residences at North Hill, a mix of affordable rental units and market-rate townhomes. The mobile home park was kept intact.

CDBG Coalition

American Library Association
American Planning Association
Boys and Girls Clubs of America
Coalition for Home Repair
Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
Council of State Community Development Agencies
Enterprise Community Partners
Feeding America
Habitat for Humanity International
Heartland Alliance
Housing Assistance Council
International Code Council
International Economic Development Council
KABOOM!
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
National Association for County Community and Economic Development
National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
National Association of Counties
National Association of Development Organizations
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies
National Association of Regional Councils
National Community Development Association
National League of Cities
Main Street America

National NeighborWorks Association
National Recreation and Park Association
National Rural Water Association
National Urban League
Rebuilding Together
Rural Community Assistance Partnership
The Trust for Public Land
U.S. Conference of Mayors
YWCA USA

National Community Development Association (NCDA)

NCDA is a national association that represents local government departments across the country that administer federally supported community development and affordable housing programs. 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. NCDA is an association of people committed to assisting local governments achieve high quality, locally responsive programs for making communities better places in which to live and work, particularly for low- and moderate-income people.

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