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Nearly 400 Elected Officials Across the U.S. Urge Congress to Fully Fund HUD's CDBG and Home Programs for Fiscal Year 2026 Budget

(Washington, D.C. -- May 28, 2025) — The **National Association of Counties (NACo)**, the **National League of Cities (NLC)**, and the **U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM)** today called on congressional leadership to fully fund the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs in Fiscal Year 2026.

In a joint letter co-signed by nearly 400 elected government officials and addressed to key members of the **Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (T-HUD)**—including **Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS)**, **Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)**, **Representative Steve Womack (R-AR)**, and **Representative James E. Clyburn (D-SC)**—the three organizations emphasized the critical role the CDBG and HOME programs play in addressing housing and community development needs across urban, suburban, and rural communities.

The **National Community Development Association (NCDCA)** is the non-partisan nonprofit association comprised of more than 500 local governments that administer federally supported community development, affordable housing, and economic development programs through HUD.

Vicki Watson, executive director for NCDCA, said:

“For more than five decades, CDBG and HOME have been lifelines for U.S. communities—creating jobs, improving public infrastructure, and expanding affordable housing. And hundreds of U.S., state, and local elected leaders across the nation agree that these programs work. The idea that cities, counties, and municipalities should shoulder the burden of funding them ignores both the scale of the need and the federal

government's responsibility to invest in equitable growth. Eliminating CDBG and HOME would devastate local economies and erase hard-won progress, especially in rural and underserved areas. T-HUD leadership and Congress must uphold these essential commitments, because thriving local economies and strong communities lay the foundation for a brighter, more prosperous future for us all."

The joint letter urges lawmakers to reject proposals that would eliminate federal support for these programs and to maintain at least level funding with Fiscal Year 2025 levels. It reads, in part:

"For over 50 years, the CDBG program has provided flexible funding to urban, suburban, and rural communities to address housing and community development needs in ways tailored to each community. Every state has benefited from CDBG funds, and over 1,200 state and local governments currently receive annual CDBG funding directly.

"The HOME program is also one of the most effective and flexible tools available to states and localities to address housing supply shortages and improve housing affordability. Through HOME, local governments are building, buying, and rehabilitating housing for rent or homeownership, as well as funding direct rental assistance to low-income individuals.

"We understand the subcommittee must make difficult decisions. However, we urge you to reject proposals to eliminate federal support of these programs and instead maintain at least level funding with FY25. CDBG and HOME are proven programs that are critical to meeting the needs of local communities."

About the National Association of Counties (NACo):

NACo represents the nation's 3,069 counties, serving more than 300 million Americans. NACo advocates for sound public policies and provides essential services to the nation's counties.

About the National League of Cities (NLC):

NLC is the voice of 19,000 cities, towns, and villages across the United States. NLC advocates for effective leadership and policies that strengthen communities and improve the quality of life for all residents.

About the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM):

USCM is the official nonpartisan organization representing cities with populations of 30,000 or more. USCM provides a forum for mayors to discuss and act on national policy issues and to share best practices in urban governance.

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