People & Places COLLABORATIVE

COMMUNITY POWER | FAIR FUNDING DISTRIBUTION & DATA | ACCOUNTABILITY

We represent community development organizations across the nation that are committed to creating conditions where residents can shape the destiny of their neighborhoods, securing their long-term stability, health, and prosperity.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Home Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)

Ask: **Secure sustained HOME funding and implement HUD's January 6, 2025 Final Rule reforms.**

- Secure $1.5B in FY27 HOME funding to bolster nonprofit capacity in addressing housing needs.
- Protect the Set-Aside for Community Development Housing Organizations (CHDOs).
- Streamline CHDO eligibility guidelines to reduce administrative burden.
- Educate community-based organizations about the HOME program Final Rule.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Economic Development (CED) Program

Ask: **Ensure continued funding for the CED program to cultivate local economic growth and stability.**

- Secure FY27 CED program funding to strengthen local economic initiatives.
- Maintain stable funding and predictable grant cycles to support multi-year local economic initiatives.
- Ensure NOFO timelines allow meaningful participation by community-based organizations and reflect the complexity of CED projects.

SMALL BUSINESS

Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs)

Ask: **Secure stable funding for the CDFI Fund and streamline processes to increase accessibility.**

- Appropriate $324 million for the CDFI Fund for FY27 to carry out its statutory mission and authorized activities.
- Maintain stable, predictable funding to support long-term capital planning.
- Streamline application and reporting requirements, and increase funding flexibility across eligible activities for the CDFI Fund.
- Reduce overly prescriptive use-of-funds rules that limit responsiveness to local market conditions.
- Ensure statutory clarity and program design that support timely and efficient deployment of appropriated CDFI funds.

Support the U.S. Small Business Administration's SBA Microloan, Community Advantage Small Business Lending Company (SBLC) Programs, AND the U.S. Department of the Treasury's SSBCI Programs

Ask: **Reauthorize and strengthen the SBA to protect the SBA Microloan and Community Advantage SBLC programs, and Department of Treasury's SSBCI funding to ensure small businesses maintain access to essential capital.**

- Codify the Community Advantage SBLC program into federal statute.
- Provide up to $35 billion in guarantees for 7(a) loans, including Community Advantage, to help small businesses access capital and grow jobs.

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Small Business continued

- Provide $110 million or more for the Microloan program.
- Leverage CDFIs to support the implementation and distribution of these programs.
- Expand lender eligibility for intermediaries offering in-language and culturally-responsive services to reach entrepreneurs across geographic areas.
- Allow immigrant community members with legal status, including green card holders, refugees, and asylees, access to SBA small business lending programs.
- Protect SSBCI fund deployment to maximize small business impact, ensuring responsible oversight of remaining unobligated funds.

Stabilize Funding for Multi-Year Technical Assistance Contracts for Micro-Entrepreneurs

Ask: **Fund SBA's technical assistance programs including: the SBA Microloan Technical Assistance Program, SBA Women's Business Centers (WBCs), Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) Business Centers, and SBA Program for Investment in Micro-Entrepreneurs (PRIME) to help socially and economically disadvantaged entrepreneurs launch and grow businesses.**

- The technical assistance contract period for these programs should extend beyond 12 months to give service providers the necessary time to help business owners prepare for capital access and sustainable operations.
- Provide level funding in FY27, consistent with FY26 enacted amounts for vital small business support programs, including:
    - $41 million for the SBA Microloan Technical Assistance Program.
    - $26 million for SBA Women's Business Centers.
    - $68.25 million for the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA).
    - $7 million for the SBA Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs (PRIME).

ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE

Preserve & Protect Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program

Ask: **Provide the highest possible funding for the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program and other federal rental assistance tools to support socially and economically distressed renters, prevent evictions, and reduce homelessness including full funding to renew all existing voucher contracts.**

- Fully fund the Housing Choice Voucher program Administrative Fee Account, which enables public housing agencies to provide effective assistance to families and ensures that federal funds are used efficiently.
- Ensure the voucher program receives adequate funding to protect existing housing developments that rely on HCV subsidies to remain viable.
    - Examples include permanent supportive housing for unhoused individuals and Single Room Occupancy (SRO) units that house seniors.
- Fully fund Project-Based Rental Assistance, which serves seniors, families with children, and people with disabilities.
- Maintain eligibility of mixed-status households for pro-rated HCV subsidies.

Insurance Solutions / Weather & Disaster Resilience

Ask: **Address insurance barriers impacting affordable housing development and promote federal solutions.**

- Codify the CDBG-DR program.
- Educate federal stakeholders on insurance barriers affecting affordable housing projects.
- Explore and implement legislation and programs to help communities deal with the impacts of weather change and disasters.
- Highlight opportunities where the federal government can support innovative insurance solutions.

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