



# Community Opportunity News

► INFORMING THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FIELD

December 15, 2025

## National Voice

### HUD Temporarily Pauses Continuum of Care Overhaul

HUD withdrew the Continuum of Care notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) on December 8. The program provides money to local organizations and agencies to connect people experiencing homelessness to housing and resources. HUD's overhaul of the program would move most of the funds to temporary transitional housing assistance with some work or service requirements.

The NOFO was withdrawn just before a court hearing on two lawsuits — one by 21 attorneys general and governors and the other by a coalition of local governments and nonprofit organizations. The lawsuits challenged the HUD mandate that only 30 percent of Continuum of Care funding can be used for permanent housing, down from roughly 90 percent. There is deep concern that the Trump Administration is shifting funding away from proven solutions to homelessness, threatening to push as many as 170,000 people into homelessness as cold winter months arrive.

### House Unveils *Housing for the 21st Century Act* — Seen as House Counterpart to Senate's *ROAD to Housing Proposal*

Last week, bipartisan leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives introduced the [Housing for the 21st Century Act](#) — a comprehensive legislative package aimed at tackling the nation's housing affordability and supply challenges. The bill (H.R. 6644), sponsored by Financial Services Committee Chairman French Hill (R-Ark.) alongside Ranking Member Maxine Waters (D-Calif.) and other bipartisan cosponsors, seeks to modernize outdated housing programs, reduce regulatory barriers, and expand local flexibility to increase housing production nationwide.

### Hill Day Supports the Neighborhood Homes Investment Act

The [Neighborhood Homes Coalition](#) held a Capitol Hill Day on December 11 to support the Neighborhood Homes Investment Act (NHIA). This bipartisan legislation would support the construction and rehabilitation of affordable, owner-occupied homes by addressing the “value gap” when the cost of building or rehabilitating a home exceeds its final value.

As a member of the Coalition, we work to ensure that NHIA legislation will provide real resources for communities suffering disinvestment. During the Congressional meetings, Policy Director Dawne Troupe shared on-the-ground insights from our network of community development organizations. NHIA

can advance through a year-end tax extenders bill, a bipartisan tax package, or other congressional vehicles.

## Convening

### Our Annual Membership Meeting Plans for the Field's Future

[Community Opportunity Alliance members](#) participated in a scenario-planning exercise at our Annual Membership Meeting on December 2. The exercise was designed to imagine what the community development field could look like in 2029. Through facilitated discussions, members explored futures shaped by service inequities, financial innovation, and organizational consolidation, identifying both the risks and opportunities each scenario presents.

The conversations surfaced common concerns, including instability in funding and the vulnerability of smaller organizations. Members expressed a shared commitment to strengthening collaboration and storytelling across the field. The insights generated will help guide the Alliance's 2026 strategy and deepen our ability to support a more resilient, connected, and community-rooted national movement. Learn how to [become a member](#).

## Identity

### Introducing Our New Board Members



**Heidi Schoonover**  
Truist



**Madhavi Reddy**  
Community Development  
Advocates of Detroit



**Kari Johnson**  
Minnesota Consortium of  
Community Developers

Alliance members approved three new board members at our Annual Membership Meeting: Heidi Schoonover, Managing Director of CRA Strategic Program & Initiatives for Truist; Madhavi Reddy, Executive Director of Community Development Advocates of Detroit; and Kari Johnson, Director of State Policy and Field Building for the Minnesota Consortium of Community Developers. [Read their bios](#). Thank you to our outgoing board members John Fitterer of the Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation and Maybelyn Rodríguez Laureano, formerly of the South Florida Community Development Coalition.

### Field Calendar Provides Professional Development Opportunities

Our Community Development Field Calendar is a one-stop hub for trainings, conferences, and events across the field. Check out these events and more:

- Prosperity Indiana’s [Advocacy Webinar Series](#) empowers nonprofit organizations to be effective legislative advocates. January 23, January 30, and February 6 from 1-2 pm (Eastern Time.)
- The Mel King Institute’s [Affordable Housing Finance Webinar](#) is on January 13 from 1-4 pm (Eastern Time).

[Explore the Calendar](#)

[Add Your Own Events](#)

## Funding

### EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs

Economic Development Administration (EDA) | Rolling Deadline

The EDA at the U.S. Department of Commerce provides flexible funding to support the economic development needs of communities and regions. Awards may cover activities ranging from early-stage planning and technical assistance to full-scale infrastructure construction. Funding is intended to help communities create jobs, strengthen economic resiliency, and catalyze private-sector investment.

### Funds Address Social Needs in Underserved Communities

Looking Out Foundation | January 15 Deadline

Grants of \$5000 – \$25,000 support projects that create meaningful and lasting impact for underserved communities, particularly initiatives that strengthen community well-being and expand access to opportunity. Program interests include underserved youth, public health initiatives, women, LGBTQIA2S+ communities, environmental efforts, the arts, individuals experiencing hunger and people who are unhoused.

Funding Opportunities	Job Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Community development</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Affordable housing</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Creative places</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Healthy places</a></li></ul>	<p>View current <a href="#">job postings</a>.</p> <p>To post a job opportunity on our website, contact Cierra Jones at <a href="mailto:Cjones@CommunityOpportunityAlliance.org">Cjones@CommunityOpportunityAlliance.org</a>. We request a \$25 donation from non-members.</p>



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