

## FY 2021 Public Housing and Related Programs Funding Needs

The Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA) is a national non-profit organization that works to preserve and improve public and affordable housing through advocacy, research, policy analysis and public education. Our membership of more than seventy large public housing authorities (“PHAs”) own and manage nearly half of the nation’s public housing program, administer more than a quarter of the Housing Choice Voucher program, and operate a wide array of other housing programs. They collectively serve over one million low income households including families with children, seniors, and persons with disabilities.

CLPHA’s goal is to ensure the preservation and improvement of federally assisted housing through adequate funding for the Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Programs. These investments are critical to enable PHAs to keep up with necessary improvements to their housing stock that will benefit the families and seniors that live in public housing and to improve their education, employment, and health outcomes. The availability of affordable housing positively impacts life outcomes, and as a result, significantly reduces costs within other systems. We recommend the following funding levels for these key housing programs. When our calculations are not formula driven, they are principally based upon need.

Program	FY 2021 Funding Needs
Public Housing Operating Fund	\$4.659 billion
Public Housing Capital Fund	\$5.0 billion
Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI)	\$300 million
Resident Opportunity and Supportive Services (ROSS)	\$50 million
Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS)	\$150 million
Jobs Plus	\$100 million
Emergency Capital Needs	\$65 million
Rental Assistance Demonstration	\$100 million
Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Renewal Funding	\$22.779 billion
HCV Administrative Fees	\$2.55 billion
HUD-VASH Vouchers	\$40 million
Tenant Protection Vouchers	\$130 million
Contract Administrators for Project-Based Section 8	\$350 million
Section 8 Project Based Rental Assistance	Fully Fund
Homeless Assistance Grants	\$3.1 billion
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	\$3.8 billion
HOME Investment Partnerships Program	\$1.5 billion
Public Housing Infrastructure	\$70 billion

### Explanation of FY 2021 Funding Needs

**Public Housing Operating Fund: \$4.659** for FY 2021. The Public Housing Operating Fund is the only major source of federal funds available to housing authorities, aside from tenant rent, to support public housing operations. The requested \$4.659 billion would ensure that housing authorities can continue to adequately maintain operations and support the existing stock and the needs of residents who reside in public housing.

**Public Housing Capital Fund: \$5.0 billion** to be distributed by formula, for FY 2021. This amount would allow PHAs to address their newly accruing needs, estimated at \$3.4 billion annually, as well as make progress towards addressing critical repairs and pursuing much-needed programs for modernization. The total Capital Fund backlog today is estimated to be \$70 billion.

In the past, HUD has acknowledged: “Public Housing constitutes an economic and social asset that cannot be created or sustained by the private market. Replacing this inventory would be cost prohibitive. The Capital Fund preserves as many of these units as possible to mitigate the heightened costs of future replacement.” Public Housing receives the lowest funding per unit of any of HUD’s rental assistance programs, despite serving the same low-income populations. Public Housing is also unique because it is permanently affordable, with no threat of opt-outs. But as the public housing stock ages and its physical needs increase, chronic underfunding is threatening the future viability of this important component of our national infrastructure. The President’s budget would eliminate the Capital Fund in its entirety. Without sufficient funding, the Public Housing portfolio will continue to shrink. According to HUD, each year, roughly 10,000 units of public housing are lost due to disrepair

**Emergency Capital Needs: \$65 million** funding to address needs resulting from non-Presidentially declared disasters and emergencies, including safety and security measures related to crime and drug-related activity.

**Jobs-Plus Initiative: \$100 million** funding for an evidence-based strategy to increase the employment opportunities and earnings of Public Housing residents through employment services, rent-based work incentives, and community support for work.

**Resident Opportunities and Supportive Services (ROSS): \$35 million** for FY 2021, a level sufficient to renew all existing service coordinators. Through this important program, PHAs continue to link Public Housing residents with supportive services, resident empowerment activities, and assistance in becoming economically self-sufficient.

**Housing Assistance Payment Renewals: \$22.75 billion** for FY 2021 in order to ensure the renewal of assistance for all voucher-assisted low-income households served in 2020. No offset is assumed in this recommendation.

**Tenant Protection Vouchers (TPVs): \$130 million.** CLPHA supports sufficient funding to provide all eligible households with a Tenant Protection Voucher for FY 2021. Actual TPV needs are dependent on factors such as legislative actions and local agency decisions that cannot be predicted at this time. The final enacted number should be reflective of current TPV needs and all subsequent legislative actions and HUD initiatives.

**HCV Administrative Fees: \$2.55 billion** for FY 2021. At this time, CLPHA believes this figure would be sufficient to fund all PHAs at 100 percent of their eligibility based on the fee rates in effect immediately prior to the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (QHWRA).

**Choice Neighborhoods Initiative (CNI): \$300 million** for FY 2021. As has been the practice in previous years, CLPHA recommends that *two-thirds of these funds be reserved for applications in which a public housing authority is the lead applicant or a co-applicant.*

**Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program: \$150 million** for FY 2021, with \$125 million reserved for PHAs. This funding level is needed to maintain funding for all existing program coordinators in the consolidated Public Housing and Section 8 FSS program.

**Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance (PBRA): Fully fund PBRA programs** for FY 2021, which would allow for contract renewals based on 12-months of funding needs.

**Public Housing Infrastructure: \$70 billion** for FY 2021 to address the years of chronic underfunding and severe backlog of capital replacement needs in public housing.