

Dear Partners,



I am immensely grateful for having the opportunity to work in partnership with each of you. Together over the past two years, we have achieved much to preserve and expand housing opportunities, improving the lives of millions of people across our country. This is challenging work, and it happens because of you. Collaboration among Public Housing Agencies, Tribally Designated Housing Entities, community stakeholders, and HUD staff is essential to our success. Thank you all for the work that you do every day to create strong, sustainable, and inclusive communities and provide families with quality, affordable homes.

—Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Lourdes Castro Ramírez

## 2015–2016 Highlights

When President Lyndon B. Johnson established the **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development** in 1965, he expressed its mission to ensure that “every family in America lives in a home of dignity and a neighborhood of pride, a community of opportunity and a city of promise and hope.”

We have continued to embrace these principles under the leadership of Secretary Julián Castro, who has called HUD the “**Department of Opportunity.**” In doing so, the Secretary has promoted housing as a platform for expanding education, health, and economic opportunities.

**The Office of Public and Indian Housing** partners with Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) and Tribally Designated Housing Entities to make this vision a reality. We responsibly invest over \$26 billion annually to preserve and expand quality, affordable housing and provide opportunities for over 3.2 million households and 567 federally recognized Tribes. Over the past two years, we have built on this strong foundation with collective achievements in four priority areas:

### 1. Strengthened Public Housing and Voucher programs to serve more families

- Housed over 100,000 new families through increased PHA leasing activity, with a 102% **Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)** budget utilization rate
- Financed new **Public Housing** units while achieving a 96% nationwide occupancy rate
- Contributed to a 47% decrease in veteran homelessness since 2010 by housing over 120,000 veterans through **HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)**
- Awarded \$1.8 billion in **Capital Fund** formula grants to 3,052 PHAs and published two new Capital Fund resources: **Guidebook** and **Standard Operating Procedures**
- Extended **Moving to Work (MTW)** flexibilities and laid the groundwork for expansion
- Enacted a final **Streamlining Rule** to reduce administrative requirements for PHAs
- Proposed a revised **HCV administrative fee formula** that better reflects the resources PHAs need to administer high-performing and efficient voucher programs
- Enhanced governance at nearly 1,000 PHAs with a new **Lead the Way** training curriculum
- Improved public housing and HCV programs by expediting notices to implement the bipartisan and unanimously passed **Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act**

## 2. Supported Tribal sovereignty and housing innovation

- Distributed over \$660 million in **Indian Housing Block Grants (IHBG)** to 567 federally recognized Tribes, representing the single largest federal investment in Indian housing
- Awarded \$56.5 million to 77 Tribal communities through **Indian Community Development Block Grants (ICDBG)** and \$12.4 million in **ICDBG Mold Remediation Grants** to communities in 13 states
- Bolstered HUD's recognition of Tribal self-determination by revising our **Tribal Consultation Policy** and establishing **Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee**
- Completed Negotiated Rulemaking for the Indian Housing Block Grant formula allocation
- Launched **Tribal HUD-VASH** in 26 Tribal communities, housing 500 homeless veterans
- Cultivated community leaders at HUD's **National Native Youth Leadership Summit**

## 3. Empowered residents with economic and educational opportunities

- Increased resident job opportunities through **Jobs Plus** by investing \$63 million in 24 communities to build local partnerships that foster supports and incentives for work
- Served more than 71,000 families through **the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS)** program, whose Program Coordinators help residents achieve their financial goals
- Enabled families to increase their earnings and achieve economic stability through **Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS)**, which provided healthcare, financial literacy, education and employment services to 11,000 residents
- Developed **Project SOAR (Students + Opportunities + Achievements = Results)**, awarding \$2.5 million to 9 communities for Education Navigators to assist students
- Narrowed the digital divide through **ConnectHome**, a public-private partnership to connect K-12 families with Internet, devices, and digital training in 28 pilot communities
- Reduced barriers to housing, employment, and education through the **Juvenile Reentry Assistance Program**, providing \$2 million to assist youth involved with the justice system

## 4. Catalyzed community-driven investments and partnerships

- Advanced neighborhood revitalization with \$661 million in cumulative funding through **Choice Neighborhoods**, with each dollar generating \$7 in public and private investments
- Preserved and rehabilitated more than 42,000 affordable units through the **Rental Assistance Demonstration**, leveraging \$3.3 billion in public and private debt and equity
- Supported PHA efforts to improve health and air quality with the **Smoke Free** final rule

