## **Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)**

For over 40 years, CDBG has provided annual formula grants to over 1,200 state and local governments (and an additional 7,250 local governments that could have access to the funding) to rebuild local economies, strengthen public infrastructure, recover from disasters, and improve the quality of life for millions of low- and moderate-income Americans. This flexible program emphasizes local decision-making, the prioritization of needs, and ensures accountability through citizen participation and performance measurements.



CDBG funding is critical to every state and to the many localities that use these resources to revitalize their neighborhoods, assist small businesses, and support vulnerable populations, such as the elderly, homeless persons, victims of domestic violence, persons with disabilities, youth, and veterans. Despite the program's proven track record and growing need, CDBG formula funding has declined by 25 percent since FY 2010.

## **NAHRO's CDBG Priorities:**

- NAHRO is committed to protect funding for CDBG so that states and localities are successful in their efforts to spur job creation, provide public services, and expand affordable housing opportunities.
- NAHRO will advocate legislative or regulatory changes that support the flexible and effective program administration by grantees.
- NAHRO will oppose any legislation that would withhold federal housing and community development (HCD) dollars from grantees by linking those funds to unrelated issues outside the realm of HCD programs.



# Strengthen AMERICA'S NEIGHBORHOODS



#### **Homeless Assistance Grants**

Congress enacted the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (HEARTH) in 2009, resulting in a major overhaul of HUD's McKinney-Vento homeless assistance programs. NAHRO strongly supported many of HEARTH's important reforms, including new flexibility to prevent at-risk families from falling into homelessness and an expanded HUD definition of homelessness that is better aligned with other agency definitions. HEARTH-mandated programmatic reforms have been previously hamstrung by inadequate funding, and the not-too-distant economic crisis has revealed the importance of adequate program funding as HUD continues to work to implement changes to its homeless assistance programs, as well as those new initiatives created by HEARTH.





 113,000 permanent supportive housing beds have been developed through HUD's homelessness programs since 2001.

- Between 2010 and 2016, Homeless Assistance Grants
  - programs have contributed to a:
  - 22% reduction in chronic homelessness,
  - 36% reduction in veteran homelessness,
  - 19% reduction in family homelessness.
- For FY 2016, over 7,600 local homeless housing and service providers received funding through the competitive Continuum of Care Program.

Source: HUD, Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress

### **NAHRO's Homeless Assistance Grants Priorities:**

- NAHRO supports full funding of the homeless assistance programs so that funding keeps pace with the rising costs associated with renewing expiring contracts for projects.
- NAHRO will continue to monitor the implementation of the HEARTH Act to ensure regulations are sensitive to the needs and abilities of local communities.
- NAHRO is committed to improving access to homeless assistance programs to better position housing and community development agencies as full partners.

