

HOUSING AMERICA 2008

Resolution 08-01

WHEREAS for more than 70 years it has been the policy of this nation, under the US Housing Act to promote the general welfare of the nation by employing its funds and credit to assist the several states and their political subdivisions to remedy the unsafe and unsanitary housing conditions and the acute shortage of decent, safe and sanitary dwellings for families of lower income;

WHEREAS, according to the “State of the Nation’s Housing” report, 15.6 million households now pay more than half of their income for housing;

WHEREAS, according to current estimates, on any given night, there are nearly 750,000 homeless nationwide and up to 3.5 million persons who experience homelessness at some point throughout the year

WHEREAS, according to the National Low-Income Housing Coalition’s “Out of Reach” report, minimum wage earners are unable to afford even a one-bedroom home anywhere in the country, and 88% of renters in cities live in areas where the fair market rent for a two-bedroom rental is not affordable even with two minimum wage jobs;

WHEREAS, according to the National Housing Conference, health care workers and many other working professionals are priced out of homeownership in the majority of U.S. metropolitan areas nationwide;

WHEREAS, according to the Housing Assistance Council, 1.7 million (6.3 percent) of rural homes were considered substandard in 2005;

WHEREAS public housing is home to over 2 million people, more than 40 percent of whom are children, and currently receives federal funding at less than 82 percent of need for ongoing operations and faces an estimated \$18 billion - \$20 billion backlog in capital repairs;

WHEREAS, the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; Council of Large Public Housing Authorities; Enterprise Community Partners; Habitat for Humanity International, Housing Assistance Council; Local Initiatives Support Corporation; Manufactured Housing Institute; Mortgage Bankers Association; National Association of Counties; National Affordable Housing Management Association; National Association of Home Builders; National Association of Realtors; National Council of State Housing Agencies; National Housing Conference; National Housing Trust; National League of Cities; National Leased Housing Association; National Low-Income Housing Coalition; Public Housing Authorities Directors Association; and U.S. Conference of Mayors are united in an effort to raise public awareness of the importance of affordable housing and community development programs and resources;

WHEREAS, the aforementioned groups have declared 2008 a year-long, national campaign to inform the public and decision makers of the critical need to address the nation's housing and community development concerns;

WHEREAS, the State Chapter of New Mexico NAHRO instituted a campaign during its annual conference to educate its members about the Housing America Campaign;

WHEREAS, 59 active members signed a petition in support of the Housing America Campaign and will strive to advocate locally to raise public awareness of the importance of affordable housing and community development programs and resources;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the New Mexico NAHRO State Chapter Executive Board that we support the Housing America Campaign and will include information relating to the campaign for our members during our conferences and events, seek support from our members and advocate for the membership to hold local events that will raise public awareness of the importance of affordable housing and community development programs and resources.

Passed and adopted this 6th day of June, 2008.

Lori Gonzales

Lori Gonzales, Secretary
NM NAHRO

Robbie R. Levey

Robbie R. Levey, President
NM NAHRO