

JULY 6, 2011

Call for Resident Stories to Support our Advocacy Campaigns

*Housing advocates across the country are shifting into high gear in anticipation of the FY 2012 Transportation, housing, and Related Agencies (T-HUD) Appropriations bill markup in the Appropriations T-HUD Subcommittee on July 14 and the subsequent full Appropriations Committee hearing on July 26. **Full funding for HUD programs is at serious risk.** We face across-the-board cuts of up to 14 percent or \$5.7 billion unless our collective efforts to move Congress, and particularly the Senate, are successful.*

Now is the time to take our story to Congress. Compelling stories about real people communicate our message much more effectively than columns of data. We know from experience that our elected representatives want to see real world examples of the relationship between funding and the people that benefit from them.

CHPC is working with the [National Housing Trust](#), the [National Low Income Housing Coalition](#), and [Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future](#) to create an affordable housing storybook for use in our ongoing federal advocacy activities. The California Affordable Housing Storybook will be available as a printed book for each state as well as a website version that will include traditional written stories with photos and videos. We are seeking resident stories from California to submit to this national storybook project and to post on CHPC's Federal Policy Project website. Our goal is to have at least one resident story for each of California's 53 Congressional Districts, preferably featuring seniors, veterans, and disabled residents. We are especially interested in presenting residents in buildings with project-based Section 8 or HOME funding sources.

Will you help us reach our goal of at least 53 stories? Your organization will receive credit for the story, along with the resident. Each story submitted should include the names of the individual or family that is featured, along with the name of the development, the city, and how you would like your organization to be credited.

Please send your stories to CHPC's Housing Policy Manager, Marilyn Wacks at: mwacks@chpc.net or call to discuss your individual questions: 415-433-6804 x313.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

The Federal Policy Project is a coalition of California housing authorities, nonprofit housing developers, local government housing agencies, and tenant advocates, working to increase understanding for the need for increased federal investment in the creation and preservation of affordable homes for lower income households. To learn more, please contact our Housing Policy Manager, Marilyn Wacks at mwacks@chpc.net or 415-433-6804 x313.

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