We have and continue to endure most uncertain times in our industry. As I write this, we are in the middle of the longest federal government shut-down in history. I have no doubt that as housing professionals, we will weather this storm and any others that come at us in 2019. I want to thank all of you for your membership and your dedication to the affordable housing industry. It is because of your engagement that NCRC was able to accomplish goals and move forward as a relevant organization. I have loved my first 12 months as president and look forward to serving in partnership with all of you in 2019.

**TOP TEN 2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF NCRC NAHRO**

1. Provided access to leadership opportunities through National NAHRO committees and NCRC Board and Workgroups
2. Created a comprehensive Advocacy Plan that included these accomplishments
   - Publication of an inaugural Legislative Position Paper
   - Produced and launched the “Advocacy for the Busy Professional” training that is being replicated with National NAHRO
   - 115 members from the region attended Legislative Conference in DC to advocate for our programs
   - Sent 730 letters to our members of Congress
3. Hosted a successful annual conference
   - 43 Vendors and Sponsors participated
   - 5 speakers attended from HUD
   - Generated profit of over $2019

**2019 Calendar**

**NCRC Board Meeting**
- **April 16**
  - Omaha, Nebraska

**NCRC Conference**
- **April 16-18**
  - Hosted by NE NAHRO
  - Omaha, Nebraska

**NCRC Board Meeting**
- **October 10 or 11**
  - San Antonio, TX

**2019 National NAHRO Conference Dates**

**Washington Conference**
- **April 7-9**

**Summer Conference**
- **July 11-13**

**National Conference & Exhibition**
- **October 10-12**
4. Began oversight of membership dues collection that allows for streamlined income and engagement with members
5. Provided scholarship opportunities for member agency and for residents
6. Member agencies submitted 62 National Awards of Merit to National NAHRO.
7. Increased communication for Small Agencies
8. Hosted a website that is a resource to connect with peers
9. Produced quarterly newsletters that keep members informed of association news
10. Created awareness on housing issues through the use of social media on Twitter

During the Lame Duck Session, NAHRO held an Advocacy campaign. NAHRO set a lofty goal to send 3,400 letters during the session and crushed this goal by sending out 4,240 letters to Congress. NCRC sent 590 of these letters! Congratulations to Michigan NAHRO for leading NCRC by sending 159 letters to Congress.

The “Advocacy for the Busy Professional” presentation continues to travel to each state conference. We have presented in Iowa, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois. I presented the “Advocacy for the Busy Professional” with Tess Hembre and Mike Gerber on October 25 at the National NAHRO Conference in Atlanta. I am working with National NAHRO on a “Train the Trainer” program that will be launched in all 50 states. I am incredibly proud that this work was generated out of our great region.

Elections for officers will be held in April 2019. The positions that will be available on the ballot include: President, Senior Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President of Housing, Vice President of Community Revitalization and Development, Vice President of Member Services, Vice President of Commissioners, Vice President of International and Global Exchange and Vice President of Professional Development. If you are interested in filling one of these positions, please contact your State President as each of them are on the committee to help fill the ballot. You can also reach out to Past President, DeeAnna Peterson, chair of the Nomination and Ballot Committee.

Please save the date for April 16-18 to attend our Annual NCRC Conference in Omaha, Nebraska. The NCRC Conference Planning Committee has been busy working with Nebraska to bring an amazing lineup of sessions. The conference theme is “Health and Housing; A Homerun Collaboration”. We are excited about our time in Omaha and hope you will all plan to join us.

Future NCRC Conferences
2020 Conference will take place in Chicago, Illinois and 2021 will be in Minnesota

I continue to travel to each state, which provides me with the wonderful opportunity to engage with members and to take a deeper dive to learn about the issues impacting our members. I attended the Illinois NAHRO conference in August and the Ohio Housing Authorities Conference in September. At both conferences I had the opportunity to address the delegation to present information about NCRC and the importance of NAHRO for professional growth. I will be traveling to Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska and Wisconsin in 2019. I look forward to each of these opportunities in 2019.

It is a pleasure to serve the great eight states of NCRC. I hope to see you all at the NCRC Conference in April.
The NCRC Board met for its annual retreat and board meeting in Chicago, Illinois January 9-11.

The NCRC Board of Directors secured Alison Bloodhart to facilitate a one-day “Leadership Development for Talent Mobility” training at our January Board Retreat in Chicago. The objectives of the retreat aligned with our principle of Developing Leaders. NCRC Board members spent the day exploring why a “growth mind-set culture” is critical in today’s work environment and learning about talent mobility and how it can help mitigate risk from unexpected vacancies or critical skill gaps by creating a safety net for the organization.

The NCRC Executive Board had an incredibly productive meeting on Friday, January 11. The Board reviewed 2018 accomplishments, reported out on goals for 2019 and spent over an hour discussing the impacts of the federal government shut down and creating an Agency Engagement Plan for NCRC members.

During our time in Chicago, a few NCRC board members met with Lisa Lee, Executive Director of the National Public Housing Museum and Eugene Jones, CEO of the Chicago Housing Authority to begin planning and identifying partnerships for the 2020 conference.
Greetings Officers and Members of NCRC of NAHRO,
I am proud of what NCRC has accomplished over the past year and I look forward to 2019.

The State Association of Indiana led the planning, coordination and hosting of the NCRC annual conference that was held in Fort Wayne, Indiana on April 30-May 2, 2018. NCRC 2018 was composed of 160 attendees, 45 vendors and 53 speakers. Our phenomenal speakers were Keynote Speaker Carl Ritchie, NAHRO President, Adrianne Todman, NAHRO CEO, Joseph Galvan, Housing Urban Development Region 5 Director, Unabyrd Wadhams, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Field Operations and Kimberley Toler, Assistant Regional Inspector for Region 5.

I took a field trip to attend the Texas Housing Agency conference to facilitate a session on Leadership: How to build a Team to Overcome Obstacles.

I met with the various Task Force Chairs to discuss their Agenda for 2018-2019. Each Task Force indicated that they are progressing and moving forward with the current leadership team. More details were presented in the past reports.

However, we continue with the challenge of active participation of the volunteers. At the same time, I am encouraging volunteers to support the task force efforts. We have continuously highlighted the importance of engagement of the volunteers. We have stressed the importance as a vital component of our organization.

There is ongoing conversations with Jim Dewey in a plan to assist states in our region, with the development of a state-by-state legislative plan. There are states in our region that do not have a Housing/Legislative representative. This makes it difficult to advocate. Therefore, we will combine our resources and will continue to pursue ways to assist those states in building the capacity to do so.

I also attended the Board of Governors Retreat in Austin, Texas.
I had the opportunity to attend the Summer NAHRO Conference in San Francisco.
• The conference held over 600 attendees. The documentary screen of 70 acres in Chicago: Cabrini Green was well attended.
• It received very good reviews from peers.
• I also had the opportunity to facilitate two sessions, Succession Planning: Talent Mobility, and Education: No Cost/Low Cost Education Strategies.

In addition, my schedule for 2019 includes my attendance at every state conference in 2019. I look forward to visiting each state and in some cases being available to present on topics of interest, if requested.

It is important for us to take notice that it appears that our voices was heard on the hill:

• HUD will be rescinding the Annual Contributions Contract (ACC) (Form HUD-53012, OMB Approval No. 2577-0075) that took effect in May of this year.
• HUD to Delay Implementation of the FSS Performance Measurement System
• I will be submitting to the membership information on a new the Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis Indiana Senator Todd Young has co-founded. He and others are attempting to build a coalition to engage and legislate. I introduced Tess to Senator Young’s staffers at the request of the Senator. The Task Force is seeking the support of agencies.

I will be wrapping up the final year of my role as NCRC Senior Vice President. However, I would like to pursue the opportunity to be a candidate for the office of President the ensuing year. Nevertheless, I am dedicated to and supportive of our president and our membership as we go forth in 2019. I will continue my commitment to continue developing and supporting agencies and others as needed.
As we are all well aware, the partial government shutdown that began on December 22nd has continued into the new year as Congressional leadership and the White House are at a standstill over funding border security. HUD payments for Public Housing and Section 8 were disbursed for the month of January and are expected to be available in February. As we anxiously await reopening of the federal government, please be on the lookout for additional information from NAHRO as they have been instrumental in keeping members updated via email, website and social media.

Despite the current status of government shutdown, NAHRO members should be commended for exceeding the goal of sending 3,400 advocacy letters to Congress during the lame duck session. Over 3,700 letters were sent to Congress urging them to finalize FY2019 and approve the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Improvement Act. Advocacy plays a huge role in our industry, and we look forward to taking this process a step further during the 2019 Washington Conference on April 7-9, 2019. Ongoing discussions have taken place amongst many NAHRO Committee members and State Chapters since the last conference in Washington regarding ways to effectively communicate to members of Congress. We are eager to put our plans into action during the upcoming legislative conference and see significant results in 2019!

NCRC NAHRO Annual Conference - April 16-18, 2019
The conference planning committee has selected ‘Health and Housing; a Homerun Collaboration’ as the theme for the 2019 Annual Conference to be held in Omaha, hosted by Nebraska NAHRO. Breakout sessions will include topics under ‘Healthy Homes’, ‘Capital’, ‘Commissioners’, ‘Section 8’, ‘Public Housing’ and ‘FEMA Training’, under which the role of housing will be highlighted in supporting overall community health.

The Professional Development committee looks forward to assisting with the 2020 and 2021 conferences, planned for Illinois and Minnesota respectively.

**VP PD Role-responsibilities**
As the region nears its annual election time again, those interested in serving may request job descriptions via the regional or national website, or by contacting Cheryl Anne Farmer, Regional Services Officer. The Vice-President for Professional Development serves on the regional board and is liaison to the national PD committee. The role provides an opportunity to lend a voice for training needs and to support housing professionals through the development and presentation of various curricula.

**2019 Training Calendar**
The national training calendar developed thus far for 2019 has been posted, and the link may be found here: [http://www.nahro.org/trainingcalendar](http://www.nahro.org/trainingcalendar). The page has a new look and has identified several new course offerings. The NCRC region
has trainings scheduled for the training center in Livonia, Michigan for the following dates, and additional trainings will be offered at other training centers as demand is identified:

- Public Housing Manager with Certification Exam 3/11 - 3/15/19
- HCV Occupancy, Eligibility, Income and Rent Calculation with Certification Exam 5/20 - 5/24/19
- RAD PBRA with Certification Exam 9/16 - 9/17/19

New topics and new tracks
NAHRO has developed curriculum for new topics on RAD Toolkits and Opportunity Zones and tracks for Human Resources. New tracks for Chief Financial Officers are scheduled to be announced in March, 2019.

John L. Carroll Memorial Scholarship for Small Agencies
Scholarship awards have yet to be selected for the Fall, 2018 application period. The 22 applicants represent several different regions, with the majority (12) coming from NCRC. National NAHRO has committed to announcing awardees soon! Please visit the scholarship page at [http://www.nahro.org/carroll-scholarship](http://www.nahro.org/carroll-scholarship) for further information about scholarship eligibility and the spring application period.

Happy New Year! Please reach out with any professional development questions or concerns and I will be happy to assist. scarlson@beldinghousing.org

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IRGE Committee
Randal Hemmerlin, Vice President of IRGE

The IRGE National Committee held a teleconference on December 14, 2018. IRGE continues to work on an International symposium for 2019 at Austin, Texas. It appears it will be mostly English speaking countries that will be attending but this is not entirely worked out. Attendance may be limited to 100 people or less.

In past reports, I have been emphasizing the 70th year of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and I have been suggesting that we review the document so we can begin to understand the “Right to Housing” clause. We are not alone in this endeavor and in my own community, Red Wing, Minnesota, through its Human Rights Commission, a video was created regarding the Declaration. Here is the link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1kRzaja7Bg&t=115s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1kRzaja7Bg&t=115s)

VP of IRGE Candidates Needed for the Upcoming NCRC Election
NCRC will be in need of candidates for VP of IRGE. I am unable to run again per the dictates of the by-Laws on length of time served. As VP, I felt the National IRGE Committee created a feeling of camaraderie with its new members. The opportunity to hear other people from around the world speak of their housing and human rights issues is rewarding in itself. I thoroughly enjoyed attending the CHRA 50th Congress in Ottawa and seeing their perspective on housing issues. If this is of any interest to you, I would highly encourage you to consider being a candidate for the VP of IRGE.

The 51st CHRA Congress is April 2-4, 2019 in Victoria, BC
The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) National Housing Conference 2019
Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin
27 – 30 August 2019
The Member Services Committee held a conference call before Christmas on December 12, 2018.

The Committee was updated about a discussion had with NAHRO CEO and being involved in reclaiming members. If agreeable, staff would share a list, divided by region, then committee members can make contact to people in their area about rejoining NAHRO. Currently there is a list of 100 names/members.

The Marketing and Relationship Subcommittee is focusing on reclamation and retention of members. A survey was sent out as to why members drop their membership but not many surveys were completed.

Emerging Leaders Subcommittee is currently working to set up a conference call with the Fellows for mentoring.

The Awards Committee is focusing on making the Herman Award more visible to smaller agencies and possibly changing the name of the Award.

The Business Partners Councils (BPC) name change was approved by the Steering Committee. The BPC is working on the names and contact information of the vendors to list them by category for members.

The MS Committee will have further discussions about the 2022 National Conference location at a later date.

The next full committee call will be held on Wednesday, February 13, 2019.

The next meeting will be in conjunction with the Legislative Conference, April 7-9, 2019.

Commissioners Committee

Sandra Boutell, Vice President of Commissioners

Happy New Year!

Results from the Lame Duck Advocacy Campaign indicate that NCRC leads the way in letters. There were 4,240 letters sent to Congress. Hopefully you, as a Commissioner, sent your letter into your Congressmen. Keep on sending letters whenever a new Advocacy Campaign is posted.

As I write this, our government is in a partial shutdown. How this will impact our agencies depends on how long it is shutdown. For up to date information, follow NAHRO on Twitter at @NAHROnational and NAHRO’s Director of Congressional Relations Tess Hembree at @TCHhembree.

Work is still being done on the new Commissioners Handbook. It is scheduled to go to print early in 2019. The Commissioners Committee hopes to have it ready for release by the Legislative Conference in April.

Looking forward to our time in Chicago when we meet to plan for 2019.
Greetings NCRC Board Members,

Reflecting on 2018, I'm reminded of the importance of this small but mighty group at all levels of NAHRO. The value that is received from our National level is insurmountable 😊 With CEO Adrianne Todman at the helm, there is a high level of expectation from staff, committees and members of NAHRO to research, prepare, take action, learn and evaluate each step.

Right before Christmas break, NAHRO held a conference call for the NAHRO SATF committee in anticipation of the government shutdown and what to expect if/when it happens. The information was forwarded to all NCRC SATF committee members as well as I forwarded it at the State level. Even though the shutdown seemed imminent, it was somewhat a relief to know that our January 19’ funding would be available. Now to be concerned with ongoing funding is unknown…………

FAST-FORWARD to today…..25 days later and the government is still shutdown with no end in sight.

NAHRO staff have been working diligently to funnel information through every channel to keep housing authorities abreast of any information that would be indicative of the Congress’s position to open the government back up. NAHRO will be creating verbiage for housing authorities to utilize in communicating with our boards, landlords, media, etc.

NAHRO has created a survey to quantify the impact of the shutdown. Please click on this link NAHRO Shutdown Survey to complete the survey.

The following was received from HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) will allow access to your HHR funds in situations where the failure to act “would result in an imminent threat to the safety of human life or the protection of property.” PHAs may request their HAP reserves from HUD under the following circumstances:

1. To protect families that are at imminent risk of termination of assistance; and/or
2. PHAs that were eligible to receive a payment for January 2019 and did not receive it (e.g., first time RAD payments for a project) and need reserves to ensure that the property owner(s) receive(s) a HAP payment to continue assistance and protect the residents at the property.

Please note that these reserve funds may not be used for any other purpose than HAP funding.

In order to request an additional payment covered by the HHR, please contact Robert Boepple, Director of the Financial Management Center (FMC) at Robert.H.Boepple@hud.gov. The request should include the amount of additional payment, supporting monthly leasing projections, as well as a point of contact email and phone number. The PHA must also detail any cost savings measures that have been taken to date as outlined in PIH Notice 2011-28 to decrease the possibility of a shortfall.

PHAs should also review: PIH Notice 2013-28 Guidance on the Use of Outside Sources of Funds in the HCV Program, to ensure proper adherence to the requirements of this Notice.”

Here are attachments for easy access to areas of interest that are provided for our NAHRO SATF calls:


MTW Expansion Cohort #1 HUD Resources – https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public
Small Agency Task Force Committee Report
Continued....

- [Indian Housing Programs/MTW Expansion Cohort1](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/mtw/expansion/cohort1)
- [DHS Public Charge Rule](https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=USCIS-2010-0012-0001)
- [HUD Questions on S. 2155 Implementation](http://www.nahro.org/sites/default/files/searchable/S. 2155-HUD Questions.pdf)
- [MTW Expansion Cohort #1 HUD Resources](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/mtw/expansion/cohort1)
- [NAHRO DHS Public Charge Rule Comments](http://www.nahro.org/sites/default/files/searchable/NAHRO-Public-Charge-Comments-Final_0.pdf)

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- [HUD Questions on S. 2155 Implementation](http://www.nahro.org/sites/default/files/searchable/S. 2155-HUD Questions.pdf)
- [NAHRO Advocacy Center](http://www.nahro.org/nahro-advocacy)

NAHRO offers multiple John L. Carroll Scholarships for small agencies. Here is the link for all of the information: [http://www.nahro.org/carroll-scholarship](http://www.nahro.org/carroll-scholarship)

If you have any questions or recommendations for this task force, please contact me at albiahousing@iowatelecom.net or 641-777-6203.
Legislative Report
Jim Dewey, NCRC Legislative Chair

All we got for Christmas was a government shutdown! No that’s not how the song is supposed to go, but on December 21st, the government did have a partial shutdown and HUD was included in that shutdown. In total, 9 of the 15 government departments were shut down. As of the writing of this report the shutdown continues with no end in sight. On the bright side, January and February HAP and Operating Fund payments were put in the system before the shutdown, so they will be available for drawdown.

For minute-by-minute information on what is going on, follow NAHRO on Twitter at @NAHROnational and NAHRO’s Director of Congressional Relations Tess Hembree at @TCHembree. Also, NAHRO is continuing to supply information through e-mails. They have provided a short survey that you all should consider filling out on the impact that the shutdown has on your agency. National also has a new advocacy letter asking congress to resolve the issues and to get a budget passed immediately, if you have not sent one, please do so immediately.

How did this happen? On Monday, December 17th, we had hopes that a CR budget deal would be done. By Wednesday evening it was looking more like a CR was going to be the answer to keep the government open, but by Thursday the situation dissolved quickly when the President made it clear he was not signing a CR unless he got his 5 Billion for the wall. On Friday, the initial CR expired without a budget deal or another CR in place. Congress is back, but a deal is not in sight yet.

For the good news, NAHRO members stood up and took the December advocacy to heart by smashing our enthusiastic goal of 3,400 letters by sending over 4,200 letters to members of Congress. Thank you to all who participated, it was a challenge, but we did it and surpassed the goal! Congrats to you all, but we need to keep the pressure up to make sure that the decision-makers in Washington know that a functional government is needed to properly run our programs and provide safe, decent, and affordable housing.

Remember, there is still time to encourage your legislators to join the Public Housing Caucus. NAHRO has a pre-canned letter for you to send, if you so choose, in the advocacy center. You can also find out more about what a congressional caucus is and how it works and why it’s important for public housing to have strong support by visiting the NAHRO Advocacy Action Center.

Our NCRC Legislative Task force has drafted this year’s Legislative Position Paper for our region. It was discussed further in Chicago and the final will be available for distribution by January 31st.

Advocate- If we are not heard, others will be!
Happy New Year! With this new year comes renewed opportunities for our residents, and their children, to showcase their artistic skills and pursue their educational goals.

“What Home Means to Me” Poster Contest

It is time to start planning your poster contests and getting the word out! As mentioned previously, we changed the due date for regional submissions to April 1st to ensure entries are submitted on time for the regional conference, and that the winners are sent on to NAHRO for national judging.

Rules and entry applications can be found on NCRC’s website. *Please note in the rules, that all entries must be submitted in LANDSCAPE form.*

State Chapters should send their top 9 winning posters (top 3 from each age category) to me no later than April 1, 2019. Please remember to mail them flat to the following address:

Dakota County CDA  
Anna Judge, NCRC HATF Chair  
1228 Town Centre Drive  
Eagan, MN  55123

At the regional level we will award the top poster from each age category and then send those 3 on to national competition. At the national level, the top twelve winners will receive a $100 VISA gift card, and their artwork will be showcased in the following year’s calendar. The grand prize winner will receive an iPad, as well as transportation and lodging for NAHRO’s Washington conference in DC, their artwork framed, and a tour of Capitol Hill for them and a family member.

It is not too late to order your 2019 “What Home Means to Me” calendar at www.nahro.org! Please consider purchasing this calendar (it is only $9.99, including shipping) to support our youth and our regional winner, Tazjiana, from Ypsilanti Housing Authority in Michigan, who is showcased in the month of January.

Scholarship Opportunities

The Ernest J. Bohn scholarship is NCRC’s scholarship opportunity for our region’s students. This scholarship application can be found on the NCRC’s website as well. All regional applications are due to Felicia Davis by April 1, 2019.

In addition to our regional scholarships, in 2017 NAHRO started its own scholarship program known as the “National Merit College Scholarship Program”. This scholarship opportunity gives out $15,000 annually to 8 winners from across the country (one to each of the 8 regions). In 2018, Sofia Abdullah, from Clay County HRA, was the winner and received a $1,000 scholarship from NAHRO on top of her scholarship awards from NCRC and Minnesota NAHRO.

Please take the time to promote these opportunities to your residents and once again, Happy New Year!
Your unique portfolio carries unique risks.
We understand them, so we can help you cover them.

Insurance for the public housing and affordable housing industries:
Affiliated entities, property managers, and partnerships
Potential loss of tax credits
Public housing authorities

Ready to work with a company that really gets you?
Contact Ken Merrifield today at 800-873-0242, x 291
or at kmerrifield@housingcenter.com.
Happy New Year! First and foremost, thanks for electing me as your CR&D representative during the Atlanta NAHRO conference. While this role is still new to me, I am no stranger to community and real estate initiatives. For the purposes of reporting out the NCRC Officers, this report is being prepared in the following structure:

1. Update on HUD and related redevelopment initiatives
2. Training/Announcements
3. Committee work

HUD Initiatives – Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) Program
By now many PHAs are engaged in new development or redevelopment with either RAD, LIHTC, PBV or a combination of same. The most recent updates from HUD on the RAD side were provided via the HUD RAD Resource Desk. The update allows users to more easily manage their RAD transactions and more efficient processing of RAD transactions through improved site navigation, and easier access to information. Key features of the refreshed site include quicker navigation to various aspects of the RAD transaction, web-based application for all RAD transactions, single logon ids for users that now require multiple accounts and landing pages that have been broken into sub-categories, allowing users to close and/or relocate cards on their page to customize their home page. Also, some documents and information that previously required logins are now available from the public screens. HUD now has Resource Desk training available to sub-groups. This update was provided during the last quarter of 2018.

Opportunity Zone
The National Council of State Housing Agencies published an online “Opportunity Zone Fund Directory,” which is a compilation of Opportunity Zone fund opportunities. These resources provide descriptions and contact information for public-announced funds that have been formed for the purpose of attracting investment in Opportunity Zones. NCDHS is tracking only multi-project opportunity funds at this time. NCSHA will update the directly regularly and invites funds to submit deals for inclusion. Jim Tassos is the point of contact for more information. His email is jtassos@ncsha.org. 

Training/Announcements
HUD offers self-paced online trainings on various programs, including the RAD program. In the past twelve months, HUD has offered the following trainings:

- RAD: Conversion of Moderate Rehabilitation Contracts Webinar
- Q &A on Implementing HUD’s CAN e-Tool for Non-FHA RAD Transactions

These webinars can be accessed at any time at www.hudexchange.info then click on Trainings.

The HUD Office of Policy Development and Research will be hosting a seminar at the HUD headquarters on the subject of “Housing Assistance, Employment, and Self Sufficiency.” While this is resident services in nature, it will cover valuable information that will assist your residents in the long-term in transitioning from assistance to self-sufficiency, a component that HOPE VI and Choice Neighborhood addressed to some degree, but RAD does not.

The seminar is being held January 17, 2019 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in the Brooke-Mondal Auditorium located at the HUD headquarters in DC.

Committee Work
As of the date of this report, I have not had the opportunity to do any committee work with CR&D. However, without an overview of what has been done to date, I do have a few ideas how to ensure the CR&D work is value-added to the NCRC board. A few suggestions include:

- Highlighting best practices at PHAs in our states;
Regional Service Officer Report
Cheryl Anne Farmer, RSO

Ernest J. Bohn Education Scholarship
NCRC NAHRO is pleased to announce the availability of its annual Ernest J. Bohn Education Scholarship. Two successful candidates are eligible for scholarships in the amount of $1000 or $500.00 respectively. Scholarship funds may be used for any expenses directly related to post-secondary education (tuition, room/board, books, etc.). Application must be submitted to NCRC NAHRO by April 1, 2019. Click here to download the Ernest J. Bohn Scholarship Application From.

NCRC NAHRO Conference Scholarship
The NCRC Board of Directors has approved a scholarship opportunity for eight attendees for the upcoming 2019 Annual NCRC NAHRO Conference hosted by NE NAHRO which will take place in Omaha, NE on April 16-18, 2019.

Each scholarship will include full conference fees plus two nights free lodging at the Convention Hotel. Eight Conference Scholarships will be awarded—one per state of the Region. Click here to download the Conference Scholarship Application

Visit the NCRC website for find out more details on how to qualify.

Applications are due by Friday, February 25th, 2019. Submit by email to: Felicia Davis, Vice President of Member Services, email: FeliciaDavis@wchaauthority.com

All applicants selected to receive the awards will be notified no later than Friday, March 10th, 2019.

Charles A. Thompson Memorial Award for Distinguished Service
The Charles A. Thompson Memorial Award for Distinguished Service recognizes an individual who has exhibited outstanding leadership qualities, involvement in his/her community and sincere interest in the citizens served. Application must be received by April 1, 2019.

Alvira B. Long Memorial Award
The Alvira B. Long Memorial Award honors a current commissioner, or one who has served within the past 12 months, who has demonstrated excellence in advocating for and developing the financial, political, and community support necessary to ensure the continuation and expansion of housing or community development programs. The award was established in the name of Alvira B. Long to provide a living acknowledgment of the outstanding contributions she made to the housing field. Each nominee must be an individual or associate member of NCRC and National NAHRO and have contributed in the areas of community leadership, advocacy, and public relations as well as to the activities of NAHRO. Application must be received by April 1, 2019.

Rising Star Award
The Rising Star Award recognizes an individual at the regional level, who has been involved at the NCRC or National NAHRO level for 4 years or less and has distinguished themselves as an emerging leader. Nominations must be submitted by someone other than themselves and award winners can only receive the award one time in their career. Application must be received by April 1, 2019.

• Providing “Lessons Learned” to the NCRC group;
• Sharing of resources (i.e. development team, consultants, lenders, etc.);
• How to share/market PHA CR&D work to the broader community/region; and
• Establishing and preparing a standing panel to present at each conference.

I look forward to working with the NCRC board in the year 2019 as we move forward with the common goal of providing and preserving quality affordable housing.
Our committee consists of the following members: Diane Larson (MN), Marcy Conner (IA), Jackie Newman (IL), Jim Dewey (MI), Jeanne Leick (NE), Sarah Boss (WI), Ben Jones (OH), Rick Moore (IN) and DeeAnna Peterson as chair, recognizing that each state is represented. Our committee members have met via conference call and emails have been sent to the membership of each state requesting anyone who may be interested to let each of their state representatives know of their interest, so we can work with them to answer questions and move their name forward.

The ten officer positions that are up for election are as follows: President, Senior Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President of Housing, Vice President of Commissioners, Vice President of Member Services, Vice President of Professional Development, Vice President of Community Revitalization and Development and Vice President of International Research & Global Exchange.

We will be working with our RSO, Cheryl Anne, and the approximate time-line is as follows:

- Thursday, February 28th, the NCRC Executive Board will approve the ballot for distribution to the membership.
- Friday, March 1st notice will go out to all voting members identifying the members that have been identified by the committed to be on the ballot and will also explain that they are welcome to be added to the ballot and the layout of the process used to do so.
- Monday, March 18th the board will approve the final the ballot and determine when it will go out to the NCRC voting members via email.
- Ballots must be received not less than 24 hours prior to the announcement which will be made at the Annual Meeting at the Annual Conference in Omaha, NE on Wednesday April 17th, 2019.

If you are interested in being on the ballot for any of the elected positions, please don’t hesitate to contact your State Representative or our committee chair of your intent. We will help you through the process and answer questions you may have.
NCRC is a Relevant and Timely Resource for Members

At the NCRC Board meeting in Chicago, we discussed our 2018 accomplishments, 2019 goals and had a lengthy and productive conversation about the federal government shutdown. NCRC NAHRO is striving to be relevant and timely for our members. How are we doing that?

1) The NCRC Website main landing page has been transitioned to a Shutdown HUB
   a. NCRC will continue to host resource information
   b. The website will not be locked down for members only. We want to make sure all PHA’s in our region has access to the information.

2) Created Agency Engagement Plan and distributed to members in a variety of ways
   a. The NCRC Board created the elements of the plan at the January 10 Board meeting.
   b. The Engagement Plan is hosted on our website, was emailed to members and on Twitter

3) Hosting a Federal Government Shutdown Call on February 1 at 1 PM CST/2 PM CST—POSTPONED UNTIL CLOSER TO FEBRUARY 15
   a. Invitations will go out to members
   b. Presenters will be Jim Dewey NCRC Legislative Task Force Chair, Tess Hembre, NAHRO Director of Congressional Relations and Jennifer Keogh, NCRC President. Shannon Guernsey, MN NAHRO Executive Director, will be our moderator. (THANK YOU MN NAHRO!!)
   c. Callers will be able to get timely information about the shutdown and submit their questions electronically. This call will require advance registration

4) Emails to members regarding shutdown with resources
   a. Emails sent to member with information and resources.
   b. NAHRO’s landlord template letter was provided in email and on our website

5) Advocacy Efforts/Social Media
   a. Please go to NAHRO Action Center and send letters to encourage Congress to pass a full year THUD bill
   b. I have talked with Tess and we are looking into the possibility to create a specific advocacy letter for landlords to send to Congress. Stay tuned.
   c. Continue to be a presence on Twitter

Should you have any ideas of how NCRC NAHRO can continue to be a timely and relevant resource, please direct your ideas to me.
Save the Date! April 16-18, 2019

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For questions, call: Hilton Omaha 402.998.3400

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A National Imperative: Joining Forces to Strengthen Human Services in America
Ron Clewer, COO of the Alliance for Strong Families

Partnerships and outcomes are the buzzwords and “currency of the day.” Now more than ever, understanding the opportunities at the intersection of systems (health, education, housing). Through insights and “North Stars” from this ground-breaking report, we will vision what is possible as we all work to build foundational supports that contribute to the health, well-being, and success of individuals, families, and communities. If it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a well-functioning human services ecosystem to achieve a healthy and equitable community.
in 2020. Stay tuned for more information!! You will definitely not want to miss it!!

In 2019, ILNAHRO is partnering with IN-NAHRO to host a joint conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. Our theme for this conference is “Creating Connections” and is scheduled for Sunday, July 28 – Wednesday, July 31, 2019. Again, please stay tuned for more information. We hope that if your schedule permits – some of our friends and colleagues of NCRC will join us in Indianapolis!!

The last quarter of 2018 ILNAHRO hosted three training sessions in Peoria, IL; the NAHRO HCV trainings with certification, Public Housing Occupancy with Certification and Nan McKay’s Family Self Sufficiency training and certification. Each session was well attended and ILNAHRO looks forward to additional trainings that add value to both members and non-members. ILNAHRO will continue to host trainings and workshops throughout 2019.

Finally, in 2018 ILNAHRO welcomed David Northern, CEO of Champaign Housing Authority back to the ILNAHRO Board. David serves as the Senior VP of Member Services. ILNAHRO is still seeking willing workers for two vacant positions on the Board: VP—Commissioners and Secretary.

The Indiana Chapter of NAHRO is pleased to provide its report.

Local HUD Partnership -Support -Engagement
2018 IN NAHRO Executive Directors (17) met with newly appointed local HUD Director and Team to discuss 2018 Budget, Small Housing Authorities and HUD semi-annual trainings to prepare and prevent OIG and QAD Reviews.

IN NAHRO Hosted 2018 NCRC NAHRO Conference The State Association of Indiana led the planning, coordination and hosting of the NCRC annual conference that was held in Fort Wayne, Indiana on April 30-May 2, 2018. NCRC 2018 was composed of 160 attendees, 45 vendors and 53 speakers. Our phenomenal speakers were Keynote Speaker Carl Ritchie, NAHRO President, Adrienne Todman, NAHRO CEO, Joseph Galvan, Housing Urban Development Region 5 Director, Unabyrd Wadhams, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Field Operations and Kimberley Toler, Assistant Regional Inspector for Region 5.
“NCRC NAHRO 2018 Conference “**Working Together For A Better Tomorrow.**” The conference was held in downtown Fort Wayne, Indiana at the Grand Wayne Convention Center. The regional conference featured relevant learning sessions, a variety of challenging and engaging speakers, to include 45 national, state and local vendors including community partners, a Fort Wayne TinCaps (Midwest League) baseball game, networking opportunities, and much much more."

**In March NAHRO Executive Directors Met with the Senator Todd Young in Washington, D.C.**

Again, I will be submitting to the membership information on a new the Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis Indiana Senator Todd Young has co-founded. He and others are attempting to build a coalition to engage and legislate where necessary on issues of Affordable Housing. I introduced Tess to Senator Young’s staffers at the request of the Senator. The Task Force is seeking the support of NAHRO. Indiana NAHRO will continue to meet with the Senator moving forward to assist him and his staff in tackling affordable housing issues on a local and national level.

- In 2018 IN NAHRO Board identified the need for more engagement from our State and Federal legislators in the area of affordable housing, legislative and advocacy. As a result we decided to begin the work to establish a white paper to assist them in this effort. Since then we have engaged Purdue personnel to assist in creating the white paper. We look to establish 3-5 items to focus on 2019.

**Here are some of the issues we are surveying PHAs throughout the State:**

- Help communities address blight, end homelessness, and provide homes within reach.
- Expand permanent supportive housing for the homeless and special needs populations; Keep the homeless, elderly, and disabled populations stably housed, in their own homes, and out of institutions.
- Increase neighborhood assistance programs to help the most vulnerable people.
- Help counties expand the availability of affordable homes (this may be more state focused).
- Enable more local tax abatement for mixed-use development. (this may be more state focused).
- Establish fast track foreclosure for vacant properties. (this may be more state focused).
- Provide resources for creating pathways to self-sufficiency. Transition from home renters to home buyer.
- **Continue Advocacy for Small PHAs**
- **Collaborative training with HUD on VMS and the 2 Year Tool**

We have been working with our Local HUD office new PH Director, Catherine Lamberg, on addressing local challenges and opportunities. We will continue to have regular trainings/meetings in an effort to encourage engagement and partnership on appropriate matters.

**Guest Trainers Mr. Mike LaRiccia, Program Advisor, Office of Public Housing, Cleveland, OH.**

VMS Training will be presented by Mr. David Zaiser, Financial Analyst/Team Leader, Office of Public Housing, Jacksonville, FL. There were 60+ participants from Indiana Housing Authorities.

**Headline: Senator Todd Young Visits Fort Wayne Housing Authority, Fort Wayne, IN**

to speak with the community leaders about impact of affordable housing to assist his legislation in Washington, D.C.

We are assisting Senator Todd Young’s and his colleague Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis Act. We plan to provide more information to the region on this task force as they are encouraging us to encourage our peers support of the initiatives.

- Indiana and Illinois NAHRO will hold a Joint Conference July 29th – 31st in Downtown Indianapolis, IN at the Hyatt Hotel.
- Due to turnover we had several vacancies on the board that had to be filled. To increase participation We began to fill those vacant positions. We are pleased to announce at the end 2018 we have all positions filled. Here’s the list of the current Board. They are as follows:

  George Guy, President; Fort Wayne Housing Authority  
  Rick Moore, Senior Vice-President; Housing - Evansville Housing Authority  
  Crissy Lawson, Treasurer; Brazil Housing Authority  
  Greg Stocking, Secretary-Indiana and Housing Community Association (IHCDA)  
  Helen Garret, VP of Membership  
  Amy Jacobowitz, Small Housing Agency Coordinator, Fort Wayne Housing Authority  
  Amber Skoby VP Legislation-Bloomington Housing Authority  
  Taryl Bond, Vice President of CRD-Gary Housing Authority  
  Kimberly, Vice PresidentProfessional Development – Anderson Housing Authority
As I write this article, the Federal Government Shutdown enters its second month and is the longest on record. Minnesota NAHRO is working to support and educate our members and keep them abreast of the latest developments in the following ways:

- On January 18th, MN NAHRO hosted a statewide conference call for our members to discuss the current status of the shutdown, the impact on our programs, what agencies in Minnesota are doing to minimize the impact on residents and resources available. Tess Hembree, Director of Congressional Relations for NAHRO; Jennifer Keogh, NCRC President; Barbara Dacy, Legislative Chair for MN NAHRO, and myself conducted the call and fielded questions from our members. We intend to continue these calls, with the next call scheduled for February 1st, until the shutdown ends.

- We have added a page to our website to post resources and updates as they become available.
- Weekly Action Alerts are being released with the latest information and reminding our members to contact their lawmakers and the White House about the impact of the ongoing shutdown.

As our members grapple with the effects of the Federal Government Shut-down, we continue to work on state-wide legislative issues including a bold ask of $300 million in bonding for housing initiatives.

IOWA CHAPTER
Marcy Conner, President

Iowa NAHRO sponsored a S.A.V.E Yourself Training & Conflict Resolution/Verbal De-escalation training in October, 2018. The training was well attended and many learned valuable skills to deal with difficult people and how to handle a very dangerous situation when confronted with a possible shooter.

The Iowa NAHRO Annual Conference will be held May 16th & 17th in West Des Moines. The Professional Development committee is hard at work putting together training sessions.

Portability... The State of Iowa has been dealing with the portability issue for quite some time. Many Public Housing Authorities are losing the ability to assist the maximum number of families in their service areas because of high portability expenses. This also causes PHAs to experience sharp decreases in administrative fees that have already been cut. Iowa has been experiencing a lot of “voucher shopping” as recipients fulfill their first-year lease, then move out of the PHA’s jurisdiction. When the other PHA bills for the voucher, it can be very costly to the Iowa PHA. This action reduces the PHAs ability to serve its own population.

Much discussion regarding this issue has been had with Senator Ernst, Senator Grassley and Congressman King’s offices. Most recently, a letter from Congressman King was sent to HUD Secretary Ben Carson about how portability is affecting the State of Iowa. His office has requested information on the following:

1) Whether the Department is considering discontinuation of the portability option?
2) Whether the Department is considering requiring funds that are allocated to a community PHA to remain in that jurisdiction?
3) Whether the Department has exceptions for states and localities that are harmed by “portability”? Specifically, is the Department considering regulation that would eliminate voucher shopping?

We are having discussions with PHA’s from other states who are having similar portability issues as Iowa. We are working together to make our voices heard!

For more information about Iowa NAHRO, check out our website at [www.ianahro.org](http://www.ianahro.org)

MINNESOTA CHAPTER
Diane Larson, President

As I write this article, the Federal Government Shutdown enters its second month and is the longest on record. Minnesota NAHRO is working to support and educate our members and keep them abreast of the latest developments in the following ways:

- On January 18th, MN NAHRO hosted a statewide conference call for our members to discuss the current status of the shutdown, the impact on our programs, what agencies in Minnesota are

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We are having discussions with PHA’s from other states who are having similar portability issues as Iowa. We are working together to make our voices heard!

For more information about Iowa NAHRO, check out our website at [www.ianahro.org](http://www.ianahro.org)
The Minnesota NAHRO Board adopted our 2019 State Legislative Priorities including:

- Seeking an increase of $55 million in appropriations for affordable housing
- Seeking $100 million for GO Bonds for Public Housing Rehabilitation
- Seeking $200 million for Housing Infrastructure Bonds to develop permanent supportive housing and affordable senior housing
- Supporting continued appropriations for local redevelopment tools and programs (DEED, establishment of a State Tax Credit Contribution Fund)
- Seeking an increase of $25 million in appropriations for investments in several DHS housing programs that include support services to address homelessness in Minnesota

The Board, through its legislative committee, have also been working on several initiatives:

- Submitting a comment letter on the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing proposed rule
- Continuing to monitor the progress on “Prosperity’s Front Door” campaign which is a direct result of the Governor’s Task Force on Affordable Housing
- Participated in NAHRO’s Lame Duck Advocacy Campaign
- Finalized the “Small Agency Tool Kit: A Step By Step Guide to Advocacy” to be distributed to our membership

- Participated in the Homes For All Policy agenda process to determine what issues Minnesota NAHRO wants to lead, support, and/or monitor

In anticipation of the significant GO Bonding request for Public Housing Rehabilitation, the MN NAHRO Board authorized the hiring of a consultant to perform a Public Housing Capital Needs Assessment Survey to determine the current unmet capital investment need across the state. We will use the results of the survey to inform, educate and influence policy makers.

Minnesota NAHRO is gearing up for our annual Day at the Capital to be held on February 6, 2019. We will begin the day with education for our members followed by appointments at the capitol. Our staff is busy setting up meetings with legislative leaders for all participants.

A newly released initiative for MN NAHRO is the “members only” section of our website where we are featuring sample policies and forms. With the assistance of our Housing Committee, we also started sending out “hot topic” updates to our membership. These hot topics are sent monthly along with a member update. We are very excited to offer these two new member benefits.

Stay warm (or at least warmer than in Minnesota)! For more information on Minnesota NAHRO, please visit our website at mnnahro.com
OHIO CHAPTER
Peggy S. Rice, President

OHAC is hosting a four-day Multi-family Housing Specialist Training by Nan McKay January 22 – 25, 2019 in Columbus, OH. This training is in response to requests from our membership. It will include a section on the RAD conversions.

We are in the mist of planning the Annual Spring Conference to be held May 1 – 3, 2019 at The Summit, A Dolce Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio. We anticipate the award of six scholarships at this conference. Training will include sessions on Managing Maintenance; a peer lead Best Practices for the Housing Choice Voucher Program; the good, the bad and the ugly of RAD (also peer lead); a HUD lead discussion on Section 18 and a Family Self Sufficiency session lead by Anice Schervish Chenault of HUD. In addition to this lineup we are trying to coordinate with Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Program to provide sessions. We have hosted “HUD’s PIC Room” in the past, this year we are expanding the concept to “Ask HUD”: A Technical Assistance Room.

During the OHAC 2018 Fall Conference Luncheon, OHAC honored Hal Keller, President of Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing, as our first annual OHAC Person of the Year. The award was created to honor someone in the Affordable Housing arena that, is outside of OHAC, and has contributed to either the state, region or nationally. We are continuing to develop the criteria and deadlines for the award. It will be award at the Fall Conference each year.

We continue our advocacy at the state level. HB 336 Property Tax Valuations for Subsidized Properties was introduced in late November. This bill would require county auditors to value federally subsidized residential rental property based on its market rent without regard to government police powers or other governmental action. This bill, along with HB 282 Criminal Mischief Rental Restriction and HB 390 Eviction Timelines did not move in 2018. All three bills are expected to be reintroduced in this General Assembly.

NEBRASKA CHAPTER
Jeanne Leick, President

NE NAHRO is working with NCRC on the 2019 Spring Conference entitled Health and Housing – a Home Run Collaboration. Ron Clewer with the Alliance for Strong Families will be the keynote speaker. Adrienne Todman from NAHRO and Jennifer Keogh NCRC - President will be present to welcome everyone to Omaha. HUD will be providing Capital Fund/EPIC training and the HCV Two-Year tool training. Breakout sessions include “Shoppers Paradise – Wait List Shopping”, “Living on Air – The Mystery of Zero Income”, Section 8 Landlord Panel, Fraud & Ethics, VAWA and Transfer Requests, and Internal Controls. The Conference will also feature a “Health & Housing” and “Disaster Planning” tracks. The conference budget was approved at the January board meeting in Chicago.

In 2018, NE NAHRO members received a free national training with their paid membership. Instead of a free training in 2019, NE NAHRO is offering members a $200 stipend to help offset registration costs to attend the NCRC Spring Conference.

NE NAHRO has scheduled Procurement Training in Grand Island, NE March 12-14th. NIFA training has been scheduled for March 19-20th in Omaha. We will see you in Omaha in April.
The next WAHA Board meeting is scheduled for January 24, 2019 and will be a teleconference meeting.

Our next education training will be held April 16-18, 2019 in Wausau.

Our annual conference is scheduled for September 16-19, 2019 in Milwaukee.

Further information about WAHA can be found on the website at www.wahaonline.org

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North Central Regional Council of NAHRO (NCRC NAHRO) is a professional membership association of housing and community development agencies and individuals. Total circulation of the newsletter averages approximately 4,000. All editions will be sent by e-mail link to the entire membership and posted on the website. NCRC NAHRO member agencies administer nearly all of the public housing and Section 8 existing housing in an eight state region, including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin. In addition, over 800 of our member agencies operate a wide variety of other federal, state and locally funded programs for housing and community development.

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