



President's Corner

Larry Williams, President



DeeAnna Peterson, Immediate Past President

As Past President, you probably thought I'd ride off into the sunset, right?? Well, I'm working on it but I have to say thank you one more time. The group of professionals that I had the pleasure to work with helped me to accomplish my goals and then some. I really feel like we got NCRC moving on a new trajectory and that we have a new enthusiasm to continue to move the organization forward. My key goal was to make NCRC relevant within all 8 states and while we've only taken the first steps, we have many ideas to move that agenda forward.

Greetings NCRC Members,

I would first like to take this opportunity to thank President DeeAnna Peterson for her outstanding leadership and contribution to NCRC for the past two years. Her presence will be greatly missed and it is an honor to have served alongside her.

I am humbled and grateful and look forward to serving NCRC for the next two years as President. As President, I will continue the goal of making sure that NCRC stays relevant and we make an impact locally, regionally and nationally.

Happy Holidays everyone and I look forward to seeing you in January 2018.

But it can't happen without you. The incoming leadership is dedicated to continuing this mission and wants to hear from you. They need your feedback on what works, what doesn't and what's missing. Please continue to show them the love and support that you shared with me over the past two year term.

And I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the opportunity to be your NCRC President for the past two years, it's been an honor and a privilege.

Sincerely,
DeeAnna Peterson

2017/18 Calendar

**NCRC Board
Workshop**
January 4-5, 2018
Chicago, IL

NCRC Board Meeting
April 30, 2018
Ft. Wayne, IN

**2018 NCRC Annual
Conference hosted by
Indiana NAHRO**
**April 30 - May 2,
2018**
Ft. Wayne, IN

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Housing Committee

*Jennifer Keogh,
Outgoing Vice President
of Housing*



I was excited to convene with my colleagues at the National NAHRO Conference in Pittsburgh. For my final report as VP of Housing, I am highlighting the accomplishments of the Housing Committee during the NCRC Term of 2015-2017.

U P C S - V Demonstration

Assistance The NCRC Board of Directors provided financial assistance to four NCRC member agencies with \$1,000 in assistance towards their participation in the UPCS-V Demonstration. • Vermillion County Housing Authority, Illinois • Northwest Iowa Regional Housing Authority, Iowa • Mt. Pleasant Housing Commission, Michigan • Brainerd Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Minnesota

Rural Development - As requested by Minnesota NAHRO, NCRC voted to support the funding levels for the USDA Rural Development Program and request support of the National NAHRO Housing Committee. National NAHRO Housing Committee explored this issue and brought in speakers from USDA Rural Development for a working session at the 2016 National Conference in New Orleans.

One Day Seminar in Chicago - In partnership

with the Legislative Committee, NCRC hosted a one-day training seminar in Chicago on August 11th. The Seminar featured both Legislative and Policy topics. John Bohm from NAHRO and Jim Inglis, NCRC Legislative Committee Chair, presented "Legislative Advocacy for the Busy Professional" in the morning session. The afternoon session featured "Timely, Real and Relevant Conversations" with Jonathan Zimmerman from PHADA. Attendees created a shared agenda of topics to discuss and the session was lively and engaging. Excellent feedback was received from the survey from seminar attendees.

Jim Inglis and Jennifer Keogh recommend the following: 1. Legislative and Policy Subcommittee continue their work in the 2017-2019 term. 2. NCRC continues to offer a One-Day Seminar each year. 3. Work in partnership with NAHRO to create a speakers bureau on "Advocacy for the Busy Professional" for presentation at NCRC/State conferences.

As your VP of Housing, I attended Housing Committee meetings at all NAHRO conferences, participated in monthly Housing Committee conference calls convened by National NAHRO and served on several ad-hoc committees to review policy recommendations such as MTW and Criminal Records.

To ensure you are getting timely policy information, I recommend you subscribe to NAHRO policy blogs at <https://nahroblog.org/>

It was my sincere pleasure serving NCRC during the 2015-2017 term as VP of Housing.

Member Services Committee

George Guy, Outgoing Vice President of Member Services



The Summer Conference was held within the North Central Region in Indianapolis. There were over 600 attendees who attended the conference.

The goal is to continue to increase our membership and participation.

In an effort to share and cut costs, two states, Indiana and Illinois in our region, chose to hold a Bi-State Summer conference this summer. It was a proven success for both states.

The NCRC annual conference will be held in Fort Wayne on April 30- May 2nd 2018.

Elections were completed at our Annual Conference, Felicia Davis will now assume the role of Vice President of Membership Services and I will move to Vice President of Housing. I have spent the last few months assisting Felicia in her new role.

I have enjoyed my role as NCRC Vice President of Membership Services. In addition I have enjoyed the relationships that I have had the opportunity to cultivate over the last 2 years. It has been an honor to work with everyone to make our Membership experience better in NAHRO NCRC

With that said, Felicia Davis will be a fine representative as the NCRC Membership Coordinator as she is committed to the work required to continue to make our industry stronger!

IRGE Committee

Randal Hemmerlin, Vice President of IRGE



Hello! I am new to the International Research and Global Exchange Committee both at the NCRC level as your newly elected IRGE VP and at the National level as our NCRC representative. I

will do my best to represent us regionally and nationally.

One of the things that make me interested in the IRGE Committee, by being from Minnesota, is my physical closeness to Canada. When I lived 70 miles from the Canadian border in the city of Thief River Falls (famous for the Arctic Cat snowmobile) we would get the CBC news. I found the CBC did not always have the same take on the news as our American TV! And just for fun, we lived 1 ½ hours from the Winnipeg

metropolitan area whereas the Twin Cities was about a 7 hours' drive time. You start to wonder what country you really are from.

In addition to the Canadian proximity, those of you who may know me better, know that I am married to an American-naturalized Dane...Anne (spoken as Anna). Anne and I were married in Denmark in a Church built in the 1300s. We cannot help but have cross-culture talks. To top that, Anne works for DSV Air and Freight, a freight forwarding company from Denmark. Because of her employment, we often have visitors from many different countries stopping over. Just last month, I met a young Hungarian in our home.

Anne and I have also shared our home with foreign exchange students over the years. When I was a mentor for the Carlson School of Management (UM), I was blessed to have a young Russian woman as my mentee, a 20-year old from Moscow, to set me straight on how things really were after the fall of the USSR. Her mother and father lived in Moscow dur-

IRGE Committee Report Continued....

ing those difficult years.

The most important asset I hope I bring to the IRGE Committee is a willingness to learn. So far, I have learned a great deal through the Intakawa # 8 that we had on October 26, 2017 that spoke to homelessness and other issues that permeate many cultures. At least six people from other countries were speaking to us on their homelessness issues through this videoconference. I also learned that there is a movement to create housing as a right for people. At the International Brown Bag session, we heard from four Past NAHRO Presidents on their thoughts of the changes in housing in other countries and what it means to us, here in America. I was also able to personally visit with Pat Hine of the Yukon Housing Corporation

and President-elect of the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association during the National Conference.

Many of the same housing issues we deal with here in America, are being dealt with in other countries. In that regard, we share in a same humanity and in that sharing, we are less able to judge harshly those we do not know yet.

I look forward to serve you and the IRGE Committee.

Randal Hemmerlin, Executive Director
Red Wing HRA
Minnesota

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Legislative Report

Jim Inglis, Outgoing NCRC Legislative Chair



The Washington D.C. legislative landscape in October 2017 has been quite interesting and always unpredictable. As we are now in the 2017-2018 federal fiscal year without a budget NAHRO anticipates that when the continuing resolution expires December 8th

an Omnibus spending package will be adopted in December so we will need to be prepared to put forth and articulate our spending priorities for housing and community development programs and the THUD allocation.

On September 6, 2017 the House and Senate Minority leaders struck a deal with the President to double the amount of Hurricane Relief to \$15.25 billion, extended the debt ceiling, continue government funding and extend National Flood Insurance Program until December 8, 2017.

NAHRO is a steering committee member of the ACTION Campaign to advocate for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program. Senate Bill 548, the Affordable Housing Credit

Improvement Act and House Resolution 1661 the House companion bill are critical to preserve and protect the LIHTC program which is included in tax reform legislation.

The NAHRO Legislative Committee is pleased to announce that during the August Congressional recess the NAHRO Legislative Campaign and its NAHRO members transmitted 2,500 letters to the President and Members of Congress on appropriations and authorization issues related to the 2018 budget, capital fund, LIHTC, small agency reform and safety and security issues. Please check out the NAHRO Advocacy Center and continue to forward your housing and community development concerns.

The NCRC policy seminar was held on August 11, 2017 in Chicago was an informative and lively discussion. The seminar featured National NAHRO Legislative Director, John Bohm and HCV Policy Specialist Jonathan Zimmerman aka, JZ. The seminar was well received by those in attendance and great information was shared by attendees!!

I'm sad to report that Legislative Director John Bohm will be leaving NAHRO after the Pittsburgh Conference. John first started with NAHRO when I was President in 2003. John

Next NCRC Board of Directors Meeting

January 4-5, 2018

Time to be determined

Executive Board of Directors Meeting

*Embassy Suites Hotel
Chicago, Illinois*

will be greatly missed as a colleague and friend. This is my final report as NCRC Legislative Chair. In 2018-2019 the following NCRC members will serve

on the National Legislative Network: Jennifer Keogh, Jim Dewey, Jeffery Patterson, Carlos Sanchez and Joe Pash.



Small Agency Task Force

Sharon L. Carlson, SATF Chair

The 2015-2017 and 2017-2019 Small Agency Task Force had an ambitious agenda for its meeting in Pittsburgh.

Following introductions of returning as well as new members and guests, the main focus of the meeting was review and discussion of the transition report. The report highlighted the efforts and accomplishments over the past two years, and identified key areas of focus for moving forward. Outreach efforts over the past two years resulted in the formation of several small agency chapters at regional and state levels, creation of time and cost-effective professional development curriculum that offers targeted and basic information, continued momentum on the need for regulatory relief and reform, which resulted in re-introduction of the small agency reform bill in the last Congress. Although unsuccessful once again with the SHARP bill, discussion of the need to assist small agencies remains a primary concern.

Small agencies are a large segment of NAHRO membership. Task force efforts have been a creditable investment, and NAHRO is focused on how the association will best be able to assist small agencies in continued efforts moving forward. Recommendations from the task force include continued outreach through regions and chapters, creation of targeted professional development opportunities, continued advocacy and facilitation (where appropriate) of local decision-making regarding creation of consortia or entering management agreements, continued work with HUD to make RAD and MTW user-friendly, and collaboration toward impactful ways to improve communication between NAHRO national meetings.

The task force also highlighted the opportunity

offered for a small agency session, which took place during the conference. The topic for the session revolved around creating partnerships, and the need for agencies to re-think strategies for operation. Several participants from small agencies around the country presented strategies used, and a question/answer session provided opportunity to share ideas. The task force hopes to gain valuable information from participants in order to offer future opportunities on a routine basis.

The task force was joined by NAHRO staff, who discussed HUD regulatory reform and relief efforts, Capitol Hill and Professional Development updates. Incoming members will determine new business for the task force going forward. The next meeting of the Small Agency Task Force will be held in April, 2018 during the Washington Conference and we hope to have many join us.

Lastly, members in attendance received word of long-time SATF staff liaison John Bohm's pending departure from NAHRO. John's persistent work to bring small agencies into relevant discussions with key Congressional offices, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and NAHRO leadership was gratefully acknowledged. His outstanding efforts, instruction, and strategic thinking have elevated small agency concerns on behalf of our members, whom have appreciated his guidance and leadership. John will be sadly missed!

Respectfully submitted by: Sharon L. Carlson, National and NCRC SATF Chair
scarlson@beldinghousing.org



Considering MTW?

Find out what you need to know.

Testing Performance Measures for the MTW Program

HAI Group commissioned Abt Associates to conduct a two-part study of the MTW program, with guidance from the Public and Affordable Housing Research Corporation (PAHRC), in collaboration with the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA), the Public Housing Director's Association (PHADA), the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO), and the MTW Steering Committee.

The MTW Guide

HAI Group has collaborated with the Center for Urban and Regional Studies at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill to produce *The MTW Guide*. The *Guide* can serve as a roadmap for agencies seeking to apply to the MTW program, current MTW agencies looking to learn from their peers, or non-applicants hoping to implement applicable MTW best practices at their agencies.

The MTW Guide: Formulating Strategies for Successful Participation - Training Series

This seven-part training series produced by HTVN, HAI Group's e-Learning Solution, explores the pros and cons of MTW participation, identifies critical resources and stakeholders, and generates baseline data.

To access these resources and much more, visit
www.housingcenter.com/MTW

Housing America Task Force Report

Anna Judge, Housing America Poster Contest Chair



October was Housing America Month

The month of October is used to raise awareness of the need and the importance of safe, decent and affordable housing in quality communities.

Events were held around the country by housing authorities and others to spotlight the great works that have been done and the successes that so many residents have experienced.

The following pages are some of the events that took place during Housing America Month in our region that were posted to NAHRO's website. Please consider hosting events next October and please register those events on NAHRO's website under this link <http://www.housingamericacampaign.org/events.html>. Photographs of these events on social media help spread the word of the need in our communities.

"What Home Means to Me" Poster Contest

NAHRO has chosen its 12 posters for the 2018 calendar. Our region will be represented twice in the upcoming calendar by Adelia Jackson from Lincoln, Nebraska and Jasoni Crafton-Givens from Springfield, Illinois. The 2018 calendars are now available for purchase. They are \$7.00 each and can be ordered by using this link <https://nahro.personifycloud.com/PersonifyEbusiness/Store/2018-Calendar---What-Home-Means-to-Me/ProductDetail/31470362>.

Remember that it is never too early to start hosting your poster contests. The due date for regional submissions will be **April 1st** each year to ensure entries are submitted on time for the regional conference and then the winners are sent on to NAHRO for national judging. The top twelve NAHRO winners receive \$100 VISA gift cards and the grand prize winner receives an iPad in addition to 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.

Rules and entry applications can be found here: <http://www.housingamericacampaign.org/what-home-means-to-me.html>

Scholarships

At the Board meeting held in Pittsburgh, the Board unanimously voted to make the following changes to the scholarship application (1) the application date for the regional scholarship will be **April 1st** to make it easier for states to remember, while still providing time for the MS Committee to review the applications and pick the regions winners, (2) mirror the NAHRO application to eliminate the need for additional information for applications moving on to national judging, and (3) add an additional \$500 scholarship to the region, while also removing the 2-year dispersal of scholarship funds.

I will be working with Cheryl Anne and Felecia Davis to get the application edited and added to our website in the next couple of weeks.



Dakota County CDA Celebrates Housing America Month

The CDA held Free Little Library ribbon-cutting events at two of its LIHTC properties

Children from the developments cut the ribbon and selected their first books which were donated by CDA staff.

Free Little Libraries will be added at all of the CDA's 25 LIHTC properties throughout 2018



The CDA also held two grand opening celebrations at its two newest developments in October.

Keystone Crossing – the Dakota County CDA's 25th LIHTC property



Argonne Hills – the CDA's 29th senior housing developments that serves residents 55+



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Carver County CDA Celebrates Housing America Month

“So cool.” “Awesome.” “Yay, I love to read.” “Thank You.”

These were just some of the comments we heard at our ribbon cutting ceremonies to celebrate Housing America Month. The events were held on October 19th and 23rd at four of our multi-family communities! As part of recognizing Housing America Month at the CDA, we hosted resident events around the installation of Free Little Libraries. Refreshments were served, and residents were invited to check out our new Libraries.

The families that attended were excited to have access to books right within their community. Since the Libraries have been installed, we have observed kids coming right off the school bus and stopping by the Free Little Library to pick out a book or two to read that night! Books have been going fast but we have also received many donations of books from our residents, so the libraries have been staying full!

Regional Service Officer Report

Cheryl Anne Farmer, RSO



NEWSLETTER – We are looking for advertisers for our quarterly newsletters. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please pass along the advertising rate sheet located at the end of this newsletter. The next deadline for newsletter submissions is January 15, 2018. Please send us any interesting news

that is happening at your agency, we would love to share it with the rest of the region.

WEBSITE – If you have any job postings that you would like to post on our website please send them to me. This is a free service to our members. Don't forget to check out our member discussion forums on the website. We need our members to use these forums in order to maximize the benefits to you.

AWARDS – Be on the lookout for upcoming scholarship information. The updated forms will be sent soon.

MEMBERSHIP – Thank you all for your patience while we go through the membership dues transition. Just a reminder that each agency will need to provide us with the six individuals you would like listed as your agency members. Each of those individuals will have voting rights in the next election.

FUTURE CONFERENCES

2018 NCRC NAHRO Conference – Mark your calendar! April 30-May 2, 2018. The Indiana NAHRO Chapter will be hosting the 2018 conference at the Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne. We hope to see you all there.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for January 4-5, in Chicago, Illinois. Hotel room reservation information has been sent to the current board. More information will follow in the coming weeks.



SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar for the
2018 NCRC NAHRO Conference!

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENING SOON!

NCRC's Legislative and Policy Seminar Featured Discussions about Legislative, Regulatory and Administrative Matters

By Jonathan Zimmerman, PHADA



On behalf of the Public Housing Authorities Directors Association (PHADA), I would like to thank NCRC for inviting me to join you for its legislative and policy seminar in Chicago on August 11, 2017. I had the privilege and honor of having a highly interactive session with a range of housing author-

ity professionals throughout the North Central region and things that mattered to them now and into the future.

We engaged in discussions regarding the topics in my “Washington Update” presentation. This included funding and proration levels across programs in both House and Senate Appropriations Committees’ FY 2018 Transportation Housing and Urban Development bills, as well as some of the other policy-related provisions in both bills. The group drilled down into each of the major areas stemming from Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act” (HOTMA).

NCRC attendees talked about HOTMA provisions in HUD’s notices including but not limited to: new features of the project-based Voucher program; the definition of units owned by a housing authority; alternative inspections options of dwelling units; HUD’s detailed definitions of life-threatening and non-life-threatening conditions in HQS; the HCV housing assistance payment (HAP) calculation for households who own manufactured housing and are renting the manufactured home space; fair market rents (FMRs), Small Area FMRs and payment standard setting options; changes to the Family Unification Program (FUP) for Children Aging out of Foster Care; new fungibility options between Operating and Capital Funds in both directions; and over-income households in public housing.

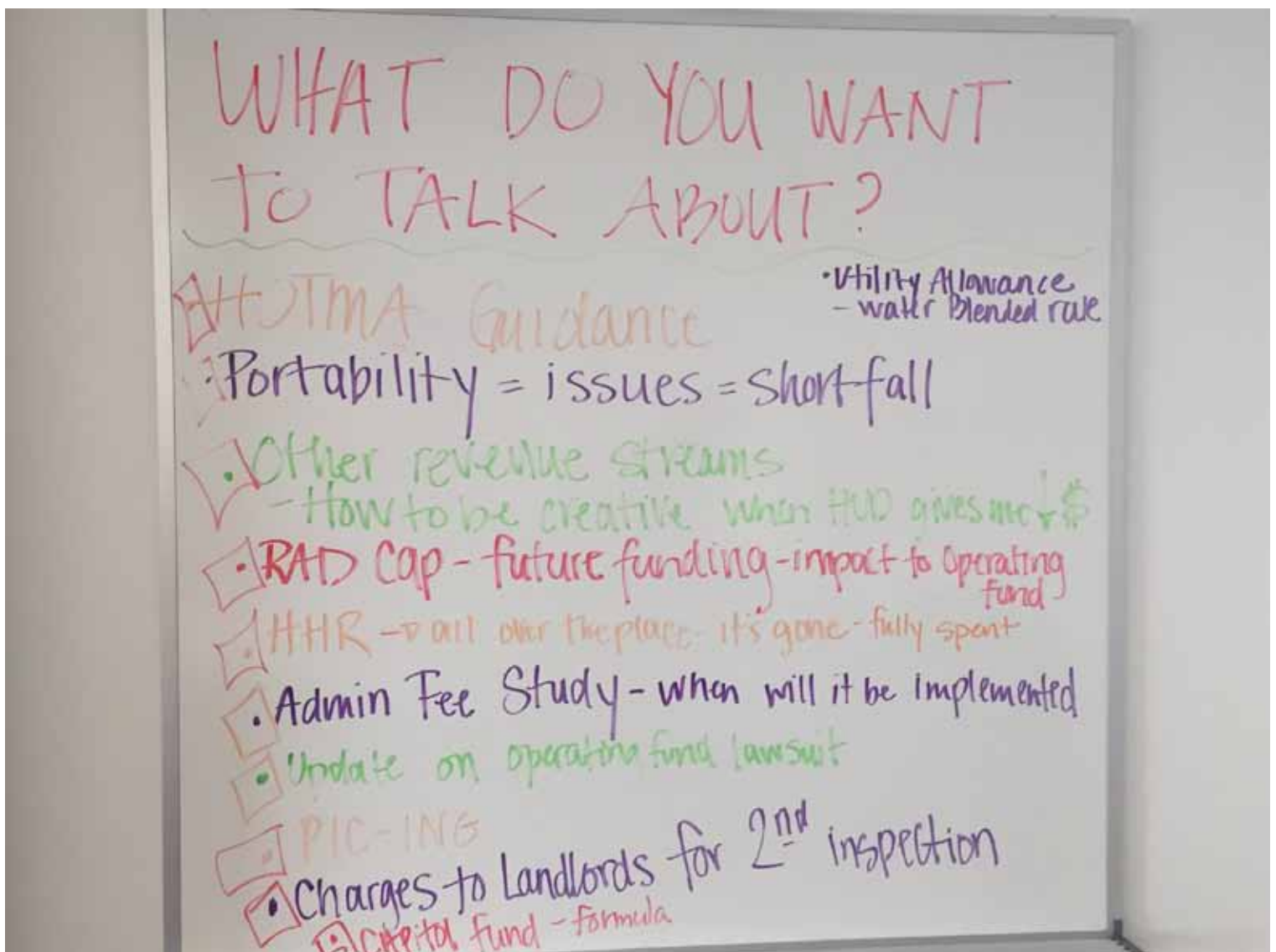
NCRC folks also talked about ways to evaluate and use a range of discretionary voucher payment standards

to serve a range of programmatic and financial objectives; flat rent options including exception flat rent “rent reasonableness” evaluations and submissions to HUD. There was a brief update of the Operating Fund reserve offset litigation. We discussed the benefits of the Moving-to-Work demonstration for other housing authorities to consider prior to HUD opening the application process for them to apply for 100 new MTW slots created by Congress.

Despite the ambiguous status of HUD’s various assessments of fair housing (AFH) tools, valuable information and resources were provided to attendees to help them with their decision-making around which AFH tool option made the most sense to them both programmatically and financially.

This portion of NCRC’s seminar did not feature a training per se, but instead was a group facilitated discussion with housing authority professionals who had implemented provisions of HOTMA as well as other existing regulatory and administrative reform/relief measures, and/or had given a lot of thought to how they want to approach implementing discretionary measures based on their local goals, unique markets and populations. These discussions enabled attendees to benefit from weighing public policy vs. public administration considerations in their localities.

One of my takeaways is that NCRC’s seminar enabled attendees at varying positions with their respective housing authorities, considerable amounts of time to ask important questions, get answers to their “real world” issues that they could benefit from, to share their relevant experiences with their peers, and to provide valuable feedback about what reforms are needed at the Federal level. Once again, Midwesterners’ reputations as being humble, friendly and helpful was confirmed. Great dialogue, listening and action-oriented sessions as evidenced by NCRC members is a gift that keeps on giving. Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of NCRC’s seminar.



STATE CHAPTER REPORTS

ILLINOIS CHAPTER

Jackie L. Newman, President



On behalf of ILNAHRO and the entire Board we extend our sincere thanks to the following Board members who recently completed their service with ILNAHRO Board for their tireless efforts in advocating for affordable housing:



Ron Clewer, VP International

Karen Davis, VP Community Relations & Development

Jodi Stromberg, Treasurer

The nominating committee, chaired by Kim Holman-Short, recently completed its work for the upcoming ILNAHRO Board term which covers October 2017 – September 2019. The following represents the current Board Leaders and Officers for ILNAHRO:

IL NAHRO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OCTOBER 2017- September 2019

President: Jackie L. Newman, Springfield

Senior Vice President: Alan Zais, Winnebago

Secretary: Nicole Krol, Peoria

Treasurer: **VACANT**

*****VICE PRESIDENTS WITH PORTFOLIO*****

Housing: Kim Holman-Short, Bloomington

Member Services: Paul Bollinger, Peoria

Professional Development: Kate Brown, Champaign

Commissioners: **VACANT**

CR&D: William Pluta, Chicago

Legislative Liaison: David Young, Chicago

International: Felicia Davis, Winnebago

NCRC at Large Representative – 2 Year: Larry Williams, Rockford

NCRC at Large Representative – 4 Year: **VACANT**

Emerging Leader: Keon Jackson - Grayslake

Vendor Liaison: Saul Himelstein, Ohio

There are still three vacancies on the ILNAHRO Board and we will continue to actively seek members who are committed to serving and representing our membership. The current sub-committees of ILNAHRO include:

ILNAHRO Housing America Poster Committee

ILNAHRO By-Laws Committee

ILNAHRO Annual Conference Committee

ILNAHRO 1-Day Conference Committee

ILNAHRO Personnel Committee

ILNAHRO Nomination (Board Recruitment) Committee

ILNAHRO's Poster Contest, chaired by Kim Holman-Short, is always a huge success. This year ILNAHRO submitted twenty-three entries through NCRC. Ms. Jasoni Crafton-Givens was selected as a national winner by NAHRO and received a \$100 gift card and will be featured in the 2018 Housing

America Calendar. Jasoni also received cash prizes from ILNAHRO and the Springfield Housing Authority. Jasoni's family is a participant of the Voucher Program through the Springfield Housing Authority. We are extremely proud of all youth who submitted their posters and participated in ILNAHRO's Housing America Poster Contest.

Over the past year ILNAHRO held the following conferences:

- One-Day Conference • April 2017 • Chicago, IL
Energy Efficiency
- IL/IN-NAHRO Joint Conference August 2017
Springfield, IL • Varied Topics
- One-Day Workshop/Conference October 2017
Peoria, IL • EPIC / REAC

The joint conference with Illinois and Indiana was a first and was a great success. Both ILNAHRO & IN-NAHRO look forward to another joint conference in FY 2019. A special thanks to the Board members who volunteered to assist on the Joint Conference Committee and those who have been instrumental in assisting with the One-Day Conferences/Workshops.

The ILNAHRO Board continues to work diligently in the areas of:

- Ensuring the distribution of ILNAHRO's Monthly newsletter and posting it on ILNAHRO's Web site.
- Ensuring E-blast distributions to ILNAHRO members on breaking HUD news; NAHRO news; Advocacy issues; Legislative matters and potential grant opportunities.
- Ensuring ILNAHRO Board Priorities remain industry relevant and serve as an underpinning in support of National NAHRO's housing initiatives and advocacy efforts.
- Completing its standard operating procedures manual which outlines roles of each V.P. position; along with the adoption of Board Roles and Expectations.

ILNAHRO will continue to join forces with NCRC and NAHRO as we impact public policy for the State of Illinois; and add value to Housing and Community Development Organizations through advocacy efforts and cutting edge training opportunities.



INDIANA CHAPTER

George Guy, President

The Indiana Chapter of NAHRO is pleased to report that the 2017 joint conference with Illinois NAHRO was a

huge success! The conference was held at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield, Illinois on August 16-18, 2017. Throughout the course of planning, the Executive Board Members and Joint Conference Planning Committee strived to provide a conference that would be appealing to all, with a wide variety of vendors and session topics available throughout the two and a half day event. The NAHRO Chapters of Indiana and Illinois plan to continue efforts to periodically hold joint conferences in the future as well.

The Annual Board and Member Meeting was also held at the conference on Friday, August 18, 2017 to elect new officers for the upcoming term. Officer nominees were presented and approved as follows: George Guy, President; Rick Moore, Senior Vice-President; Crissy Lawson, Treasurer; and Ralph Jordan, Secretary.

Indiana looks forward to hosting the **2018 NCRC NAHRO Conference 2018** which will consist of eight states **"Working Together For A Better Tomorrow."** The conference will be held in downtown **Fort Wayne, Indiana at the Grand Wayne Convention Center, April 30-May 2, 2018**. The regional conference will feature relevant learning sessions, a variety of challenging and engaging speakers, 50+ national, state and local vendors including community partners, a Fort Wayne TinCaps (Midwest League) baseball game, networking opportunities, and much much more.

- Registration will open in early November
- Hotel accommodations at the Hilton Hotel

We welcome all volunteers to assist with the coordination of the Regional Conference. If you would like to assist please call Jessica Matuska at 260-267-9300 ext. 7601.



MINNESOTA CHAPTER

Diane Larson, President



I am excited to serve as the Minnesota NAHRO President for the coming two years. Thanks to the leadership of Barbara Dacy and Board members from 2015-2017, MN NAHRO has many exciting initiatives and plans underway. Officers on the board for the 2017-2019

term include:

President:

Diane Larson, Executive Director, Itasca County HRA

Senior Vice-President:

Bryan Hartman, Program Manager, Bloomington HRA

Treasurer/Secretary:

Terri Smith, Director, Metropolitan Council HRA

VP of Housing:

Dana Hiltunen, Executive Director, Virginia HRA

VP of Commissioners:

Cynthia Kafut-Hagen, Commissioner, Hibbing HRA

VP of CR&D:

Karl Batalden, Housing & Community Development Coordinator, City of Woodbury

VP of Professional Development:

Louise Reis, Executive Director, St. Cloud HRA

Highlights of our recent Chapter activities include:

ReDevelopment Symposium 2017: MN NAHRO is partnering with the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) to offer a one-day Redevelopment Symposium to examine the importance, value, and procedures for redevelopment initiatives. The event will be held

on November 14th and again on November 17th.

Preparing for the 2018 legislative session: The MN legislative session starts on February 20th ending in the third week of May. On November 2nd, the legislative committee, chaired by our Past President, Barbara Dacy, convened our recurring conference calls to begin defining positions on a number of key issues. Since it is a typical bonding year, MN NAHRO will be leading an initiative for both Housing Infrastructure Bonds and bonding to provide funding for rehabilitation of the public housing stock across the state. Between state, federal, and administrative issues, the committee identified approximately 14 key areas that the MN NAHRO board will need to wrestle with to determine what we can reasonably accomplish in the upcoming legislative session.

Getting Organized for the 2017-2019 Term: The first meeting of the new MN NAHRO Board will be held on December 7th, 2017. This meeting will include an orientation for our new members and organization of committees. MN NAHRO recently conducted a membership survey and the results will be reviewed to assist the board with the first part of our strategic planning. From that planning effort, we will develop our 2018 work plan. The board will also evaluate a draft budget for 2018 and consider a change in our process for the poster contest and the scholarship program to better align with the regional and national timeframes.

Membership Drive: Our 2018 membership drive is underway and we are again offering a "flat rate" membership for commissioners where an agency can register all of their commissioners for one flat rate. This has proven to be very beneficial for MN NAHRO and has increased the number of commissioner members. We recently published a MN NAHRO Handbook for Commissioners outlining the roles and responsibilities of a commissioner with the inclusion of additional laws specific to Minnesota. Any agency registering their commissioners for membership receives complimentary copies of the Handbook for each commissioner as a member benefit.

New Staff: We welcome Jordan Lutter to our staff

who will serve in the role of Membership Engagement & Events Coordinator. He will assist our Executive Director, Shannon Guernsey, in a variety of administrative functions related to our membership and professional development activities.

Events: Our annual conference was held in Duluth, Minnesota in September with attendance at 210 participants. Staff and committees will be busy in the coming months planning both our annual Day at the Capitol and our spring conference. The Day at the Capitol is tentatively planned to coincide with the beginning of the legislative session in late February and our spring conference will be held at Madden's Resort near Brainerd, May 23rd – 25th, 2018.

I have had the opportunity to meet many of our regional partners through my previous appointment to the NCRC board. I am looking forward to working with all of you in the upcoming two years!



WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Rebecca Kralewski, President

The task of the leader is to get his people from where they are to where they have not been."
~ Henry Kissinger

District 8 of the Wisconsin Association of Housing Authorities would like to thank everyone that was able to join WAHA for our 2017 Annual Conference which was held September 18-21, 2017 at the Holiday Inn/Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center in Wausau. There were over 182 participants registered for this conference and 21 vendors.

Each year WAHA presents an *Honorary Membership Award* to a deserving individual who has shown a commitment to WAHA and housing on the state level. This person will join a long and distinguished list of people who, though out the years, have made significant contributions to WAHA at the State level. The first award was given in 1973 and WAHA continues this tradition today. This year's *Honorary Membership Award* is being presented to an individual who is well-known to most of us. This year's recipient went to.... JANE ALBERTS, Executive Director the City of LaCrosse Housing Authority.

In addition, the WAHA "Steve Falak" scholarship application has been revised to align with the NCRC scholarship application/NAHRO for further the ease of the ---applicants to apply.



Couple updates:

The member services committee has worked on updating the WAHA bylaws to include the expansion of telecommunication at various levels of the boards outreach. The member services committee will be next working towards a working conference document for each district to utilize for future conference planning ease along with the possibility of going to electronic registration as well.

The WAHA website underwent an upgrade and has a new look.

The next WAHA board meeting will be held Wednesday, November 15th, 2017 at 10:00 am via a conference call.

2018 Save the Date:

WAHA 2018 Spring training location will be in Wausau at the Holiday Inn. The dates will be April 17 and 18, 2018 with the Board meeting on April 16, 2018 at 4:30 pm.

The 2018 Conference hosted by District 4 will be in Sheboygan at Blue Harbor. The dates are September 17-20, 2018. The theme for their conference will be -- Ride the Waves With the H.E.A.R.T. of a Champion

Check back at www.wahaonline.org website for future information.

In closing, I would like to recognize a few of retirees from 2017. WAHA this past year lost almost 200 YEARS OF HOUSING EMPLOYEE service to affordable housing.

District 1

- Debra Vogel – Hsg. Manager/Baraboo CDA – 34 yrs. of service
- Dar McDuffee – Hsg. Specialist/Dane Cty HA – 17 yrs. of service, also had years of service at Madison CDA prior to Dane Cty

District 3

- Patty Sweet – Hsg. Occupancy Clerk II/Oshkosh HA – 25 yrs. of service
- Karen Hinz – Hsg. Occupancy Clerk II/Oshkosh HA – 10 yrs. of service

District 4

- Bruce Krahn – Executive Director/Plymouth HA – 18 yrs. of service

District 5

- Kathy Hall – Tenant Services Coord./Boscobel HA – 12 yrs. of service

District 6

- Kay Hestekin – Executive Director/Eau Claire Cty HA – 26 yrs. of service. Kay work with Eau Claire Cty for many years before she became full-time with the HA. Kay was a WAHA Board Member January 1996 – September 2002.
- Faye Gibson – Hsg. Specialist/Eau Claire Cty Ha – 25 yrs. of service. Faye also worked in other departments in the County before joining the HA team.

District

- Jo Ann Grode – Executive Director/WI Rapid HA – Director to retire the end of this year.

District 8

- Jan Kupczyk – Executive Director/Ashland HA – 18 yrs. of service, 5 as the Director



IOWA CHAPTER

Marcy Conner, President

As the leaves change, it's evident the colder weather is upon us. I was wishing for more of the unseasonably warm days but I also wished for \$1,000,000 to magically fall into my lap. I'm still at the Housing Authority which means I didn't get the \$1,000,000. On a more serious

note, Iowa NAHRO would like to thank DeeAnna Peterson for attending our Spring conference and explaining the relevance of NCRC to the Iowa membership. Many HA's were not aware of NCRC, let alone what NCRC was doing for Iowa. Thank you again, DeeAnna!

Financial Training: Iowa NAHRO provided a two-day Financial Training for its membership on October 18th & 19th. The first day of financial training focused on the Public

Housing program and the second day focused on the Housing Choice Voucher program. The training was a success and positive comments were provided by the membership.

Iowa NAHRO Board Meeting: The new Iowa NAHRO Executive Board Officers had a full agenda at the meeting on November 2, 2017 in Grimes, Iowa. The Iowa NAHRO appointments to the NCRC Board are **Steve Rackis**, Iowa City HA, who has been appointed to the NCRC 2 year At-Large term and **Michelle Schneir**, Eastern Iowa Reg'l HA, who is currently serving the 4 Year Term.

Iowa NAHRO Spring Conference, 2018: The Iowa NAHRO VP of Professional Development, **Marty Ryan**, is working on the Spring Conference to be held in West Des Moines, IA on April 18th – 20th. The membership was presented with the challenge of creating the theme for this conference. Multiple themes were presented and **"Power Up Communities"** was selected as the theme. As more information is made available, check out the Iowa NAHRO website for registration and agenda information.

Iowa NAHRO website: Check out the Iowa NAHRO website at www.ianahro.org for information regarding the updated Iowa NAHRO scholarship, which has been updated to mirror the National NAHRO scholarship, and the Housing America poster contest.



MICHIGAN CHAPTER

James Dewey, President

November is the month to give thanks, and as my first action, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to Lorri Brookman who has served as our President for the last two years. Her leadership has helped MI-NAHRO continue with its mission. Secondly, I would like to list and thank the following people who have agreed to take on leadership roles within our State Chapter during my tenure as President:

Sharon Carlson – Professional Development VP, Martell Armstrong – Legislative VP, Lee Talmage – Housing/Section 8 VP, Rachelle Anderson – Member Services VP/Housing America, Zac Fosler – Senior VP and Conference Chair, Tim O'Brien – Vendor Liaison, Karen Baird – Commissioners VP, Matt York – Emerging Leader Representative, Sharon Maki – Small Agency Task Force and Homeless VP, Jim Inglis – CR&D VP

As State Chapter Presidents, we are charged with many things, in particular, the following three are areas I intend to concentrate on during my two-year term: 1. Work for effective legislative and community relations. 2. Help promote a positive image of NAHRO and the industry. 3. Promote membership amongst our industry leader's. My own goals are to

strengthen our Small Agency Task Force, develop a viable Emerging Leader program, implement a statewide resident college scholarship fund and to increase our advocacy efforts throughout the state.

Michigan NAHRO held a successful joint conference in September with the Upper Peninsula Housing Organization (UPHO) and the Michigan Housing Directors Association (MHDA) at Crystal Mountain Ski and Golf Resort. The conference included great topics presented by professionals throughout the State of Michigan and our very own Georgi Banna from National NAHRO. The Executive Board will meet again in late January 2018 for our winter board meeting.

Upcoming State conferences to be held April 11-13 in Bay City Michigan and September 12-14, 2018 in Grand Rapids Michigan. Both will prove to be successful conferences with sessions that are current to our everyday changing work place. All Michigan and NCRC members are welcome to attend!

Michigan is fortunate to have a National NAHRO training site in Livonia, Michigan, just outside of Detroit. This year the Livonia Training Center has the following trainings scheduled: Public Housing Manager (PHM) to be held February 12-16, 2018, Housing Quality Standards (HQS) to be held May 21-23, 2018 and Managing Maintenance (MM) to be held October 15-17, 2018. A Housing Choice Voucher Occupancy, Eligibility, Income and Rent Calculation (HCVOEIR) is being considered for August 2018.

I sincerely hope that all NCRC NAHRO members enjoy the upcoming holiday season with friends, family and residents alike.

OHIO CHAPTER
Peggy Rice, President



The OHAC Annual Fall Conference was held September 20 – 22, 2017 at the Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel in Columbus, Ohio. The conference drew a crowd of 185 attendees, 21 exhibitor booths and 9 sponsors. The conference kicked-off with opening session discussing the “Opioid Crisis” we are experiencing in Ohio and nationally. There was an evening reception sponsored by the Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing with music by a crowd favorite, Dean Simms Jazz Trio, thanks to The Inspection Group.

Over the two and a half days of training, the conference covered topics that appealed to all levels of housing authority staff. The agenda options were: Troubleshooting Basic Heating & Air Conditioning & Preventive Maintenance, plus the (optional) EPA 608 Certification Test; EPA Lead Renovator RRP Certification Training; Hands-on Residential Wiring & Troubleshooting; “Nuts & Bolts of PHA Accounting & Budgeting” with Jason Casterline; Human Resource Training; Legal Track with the “Guru of Housing Authority Law”, William (Bill) Willis of Willis Law Firm, LLC; HCV Track with Mike LaRicca covering the HCV Two-Year Forecasting Tool, as well as Tushar Gurjal, Policy Analyst from NAHRO, to discuss HOTMA; and Smoke-Free Track “Quitting Cold Turkey”. In the evenings there was plenty of time for networking as Complete Pest Control hosted a hospitality suite, both nights, for colleagues to relax and get some invaluable insight from other attendees.

During our Annual Fall Conference, new officers were elected. The following executive directors will represent OHAC as the officers for the 2017 – 2019 term:

President:

Peggy Rice, Executive Director, Portsmouth MHA

Vice President:

Ralph Chamberlain, Executive Director, Erie and Sandusky MHAs

Secretary:

Jenna Jenkins, Executive Director, Morgan MHA

Treasurer:

Jennifer Ebeling, Executive Director, Knox and Morrow MHAs

The 2017 OHAC Directors’ Retreat was held October 18 – 20 at Shawnee Lodge down on the Ohio River in Portsmouth, Ohio. The retreat is a setting to offer valuable training specifically for executive directors, along with time for planning and networking with colleagues. The agenda featured “Legislation/Advocacy – Why it’s Important and How to Navigate the Process”, a panel of housing authority directors discussing, “Collaborations – How are Housing Authorities Working with Others to Serve Their Communities?”, “Update on the Statewide Plan to End Homelessness and How Your Housing Authority Can Participate” and the day of training ended with “Coffee with Cohorts”. We were able to experience some of President Rice’s hometown as we enjoyed a bus ride into Portsmouth to eat at one of the city’s famous establishments, The Portsmouth Brewery with catering by the Scioto Ribber.

2018 National NAHRO Conference Dates

Washington Conference - April 22-24

Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel
Arlington, VA

Summer Conference - July 27-29

San Francisco Marriott Marquis Hotel
San Francisco, CA

National Conference & Exhibition - October 25-27

Hyatt Regency Atlanta
Atlanta, GA



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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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