



President's Corner

Jennifer Keogh, President



Greetings NCRC NAHRO members! Conference season has been in full effect; state, regional and national conferences have provided members ample opportunities to work together for a better tomorrow. I had the opportunity to attend the Iowa NAHRO conference in April, my first stop on my tour as Regional President. I truly enjoyed my time learning about the issues specific to our delegates in Iowa and to have the opportunity to share information about our organization. I look forward to meeting more of you at your state conferences.

In April, more than 800 NAHRO members attended the Washington Conference, Innovation 2018: IMPACT. I

know we all took away something, but I absolutely loved BBC World News, Katty Kay and Doug Rice from Center on Budget for Policy and Priorities (I am a BIG fan!)

As always, we stormed the Hill for our visits with members of Congress. NAHRO hosted a morning discussion with staffers and the room was packed. Delegates loved this opportunity to hear first-hand from those that have their fingers on the pulse. I highly recommend attending this next year. We also had an opportunity to hear from Rep. Palazzo in the afternoon. Senator Mike Crapo from Idaho was presented with the NAHRO Legislator of the Year award. It is encouraging to see bi-partisan support for our programs.

Our 2018 NCRC Conference started in April and ended in May! We had a great line up of sessions to foster professional development. We were joined by our National NAHRO leaders, President Carl Richie and CEO, Adrienne Todman. It was such a nice opportunity to have a full connection between state, region and national NAHRO in one room

2018 Calendar

NCRC Board Meeting
October 26, 2018
Atlanta, Georgia

2019 Calendar

**NCRC NAHRO Board
Retreat & Meeting**
**January 10-11,
2019**
Chicago, Illinois

NCRC Board Meeting
April 16, 2019
Omaha, Nebraska

**NCRC Conference
hosted by NE NAHRO**
April 16-18, 2019
Omaha, Nebraska

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We were also joined by variety of HUD Regional staff. From the classroom to special events, the conference hit it out of the ballpark. Thank you to the Conference Planning Committee for their hard work and dedication to making it a complete success!

One of the roots of NAHRO is advocacy. I believe it is OUR job as housing professionals to advocate for our programs and the families we serve. NCRC published its first Legislative Position Paper. A BIG thank you to Jim Dewey and his Work Group for their contributions—this is a significant accomplishment. Members were able to use this paper with their Hill visits in DC.

We also launched our “Advocacy for the Busy Professional” at the Iowa Conference in April. Jim Inglis and I presented at the NCRC Conference and the goal is to present in all 8 states over the biennium. Our hope is that we would have members in each state become a part of a Speakers Bureau to continue the work in their state.

We continue to keep tabs on the administration’s proposals for funding and reform. The 2018 Omnibus Bill felt like a win with programs saved, however there was still a loss on the Administrative Fees for the Housing Choice Voucher program. We

are having conversations nationally on how to better describe and advocate for these fees—how do we tell our story about the necessity of the admin fess? Small Agency Reform continues to be on our radar and Senator Crapo (R-Idaho) is sponsoring S.2155. While this bill does exclude some small agencies by definition, it would still be a win and a starting point for small agency reform.

NCRC celebrated its 70th anniversary while in Indiana. We hosted a beautiful party at the President’s Dinner and it was wonderful to celebrate with our members. As an industry we have so much to be proud of. We have worked tirelessly to move our agencies forward. We continue to think innovatively and create partnerships in our communities. We work to find opportunities to help our families thrive and succeed. We have done all of this during times when the funding for our programs have been at staggering all-time lows. WE have persevered. Congratulations to all of you. This 70 years is a celebration of all of us!

It is an honor to serve our all as your Regional President.

-Jennifer

2018 National NAHRO Conference Dates

Summer Conference

July 27-29

San Francisco Marriott Marquis Hotel
San Francisco, CA

National Conference & Exhibition

October 25-27

Hyatt Regency Atlanta
Atlanta, GA

2019 National NAHRO Conference Dates

Washington Conference

April 7-9

Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel
Arlington, VA

Summer Conference

July 11-13

Boston Park Plaza Hotel
Boston, MA

National Conference & Exhibition

October 10-12

Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
San Antonio, TX



Senior Vice President Report

George Guy, Senior Vice President

Greetings Officers and Members of NCRC of NAHRO

Thank you to all of those who attended the 2018 NCRC NAHRO Conference hosted by the Indiana

Chapter of NAHRO last month! We were very excited to see more than 250 total attendees in Fort Wayne, Indiana for what turned out to be a wonderful event. I would like to give a special thanks to all of our vendors, sponsors, and guest speakers who supported this event and helped to make it a success. We were fortunate to have some amazing individuals present at the conference including Carl Richie, President of NAHRO; Adrienne Todman, CEO of NAHRO; Joseph Galvan, HUD Region 5 Director; Unabyrd Wadhams, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Field Office Operations; and John Hall, HUD Indy Field Office Director. Each of these key speakers brought insight and information to all of our attendees which will allow us to Work Together for a Better Tomorrow.

We have recently added Unabyrd Wadhams, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Housing's Office of Field Operations. She will be speaking on Wednesday to update us on all things HUD including FY 2018 Omnibus. We look forward to this informative Plenary Session.

I attended the Board of Governors Retreat in Austin, Texas on Friday January 19th- January 21st. Our President Carl Richie did a fantastic job of engaging the group on our organization goals going forward.

In March I attended another housing organization meeting in which I received information on a new Caucus was formed in the House. It is called the Public Housing Caucus. Co-Chairs Representative Stiver and Cleaver started. At this point there are over 40 members of this Bi-Partisan group. We were encouraged to contact our representatives to join the Caucus. I am working on getting more information to share with you regarding the Caucus. In the meantime I would encourage you to share the news about this caucus with your Representatives.

I appreciate the opportunity to work with the various committees on their objectives. Keep up the good

work.

As I submit this I am currently at the Legislative Conference. There is a great deal of optimism and enthusiasm after the passing of the 2018 Omnibus bill. NAHRO is really focused on picking up on the momentum by providing us with the tools and access to resources to assist in moving our respective organizations forward.

On that note as I close my report, I would like to say this is a moment of opportunity for us. We need to engage, empower and educate to build on it. Things are changing fast so we need to continue to "Work together for a Better Tomorrow".

I look forward to working with you all on achieving our goals and objectives over the next several months.

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- ◆ Tax credits and RAD
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- ◆ Fraud and agreed-upon procedures

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Housing Committee

Rick Moore, Vice President of Housing



As most have heard by now, Congressional Leaders and the White House reached an agreement on a Final FY18 Omnibus Appropriations Bill. Funding was increased on nearly every major HUD program and the housing tax credit program was increased as well. The housing credit

will get a 12.5 percent increase in allocations for four years, CDBG will receive \$3.3 billion, HOME will receive \$1.3 billion, and Housing Choice Vouchers will have an increase of \$1.7 billion just to name a few. In addition, the authorized ceiling for public housing units converted under RAD Component 1 increased from 225,000 units to 455,000 units. This will allow HUD to draw more projects from the RAD conversion waiting list.

A conference call of the NAHRO Housing Committee was conducted on March 14, 2018. Agenda items discussed included an update on the budget process and review of new suggestions for policy changes to be given to appropriators.

Members discussed a policy provision allowing for PHAs to project-base vouchers to their own properties without creating a subsidiary or affiliated non-profit with which to execute a HAP contract, as well as a policy provision requiring HUD to update their HCV Guidebook not less frequently than once a year. Other ideas of short legislative changes were also mentioned by committee members.

NAHRO National Committee on Housing discussed several topics including;

- Executive Order Reducing Poverty in America by promoting opportunity and economic mobility;
- Updating HUD Handbooks;
- Voucher Administrative Fee;
- Triennial Recertifications

I will continue to send updates as they become available.

It was great to see many of you at the NCRC Conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana on April 29th through May 2nd.



Next NCRC Board of Directors Meeting

October 26, 2018
Executive Board of Directors Meeting
Hyatt Regency Atlanta
Atlanta, GA



IRGE Committee

Randal Hemmerlin, Vice President of IRGE

I am presently working on a 294-unit multi-family housing proposal to be built over the next five years in three phases.

The developers of the proposal are requesting Tax Increment Financing (TIF) over a 26-year period. By receiving this Housing TIF, 118 units will be rented at affordable housing rates. The City has no other risk or funding in the proposal.

Is this a sure thing? Well, no, its not. Anyone who has worked in a political process knows that nothing is a sure thing.

And, while housing is a national/international concern, sometimes what it comes down to is that it starts in the community we live in. Why is it we think we can solve housing problems somewhere far away when we have difficulty solving them in our own backyard? All housing issues are local.

So, I would propose that I should exchange ideas with others not to correct their housing problems but rather to help me correct my own. Perhaps they have a great idea that worked and by my attending a conference or work session, I can bring it home. Perhaps I can share something that worked for us, and they can bring it home. I like this approach better than thinking I have the answer to their housing issues. The old saw of being an expert in something is when you are 20 miles from home can still ring true but also hollow.

I attended the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association Annual Meeting on April 24 right after the National NAHRO Spring DC conference. I listened in a number of sessions and said a few words at the International Symposium but I want to share an idea that I heard regarding the dignity of housing people.

That idea is not necessarily new but I heard a lot about "Housing is a Human Right" in Ottawa. Once we agree that Housing is a Human Right, we place a priority in our legislative processes to make sure our population is housed and that means all of our

population.

When Housing is a Human Right, we have a legal obligation to house our homeless people rather rely on charity organizations to do the heavy lifting of housing people. This made sense to me.

I am following up right now with some of the speakers I heard in Ottawa and aim to invite them to present in the USA regarding the Housing is Human Right. We are thinking that the Annual NCRC meeting in Nebraska in 2019 may be a good setting for these speakers. Keep this is on your agenda.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent the NCRC in another country and bring home a good idea.



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Professional Development Committee

Sharon Carlson, Vice President of Professional Development

As a Standing Committee in the NAHRO Organization, the Professional Development Committee exists at the national, regional and state chapter levels. The national NAHRO PD Committee is primarily organized in three subcommittees, identified as 1) Curriculum; 2) Quality Assurance; and 3) Marketing. The three subcommittees work to assess the content and quality of NAHRO trainings and to provide training opportunities to members.

Currently, NAHRO has 58 offerings in various formats, from live to online opportunities. The curriculum subcommittee is working with NAHRO to regularly review and complete updates for outdated courses, work with NAHRO trainers, and solicit feedback from members on new courses that are needed. All trainings and trainers are reviewed by the Quality Assurance subcommittee, which provides feedback to the curriculum subcommittee and to trainers. The Marketing subcommittee works with NAHRO program staff to provide the highest-quality training opportunity while continuing to explore the most cost-effective way to reach members.

The NCRC PD Committee should have at least one member from each state in the region, devoted to helping with organizing conference session offerings during the regional conference and to provide feedback to the national committee. The PD Committee is currently working with Nebraska for the regional conference scheduled for Omaha in April, 2019.

Based on need and at the request of members, NAHRO continues to expand its partnerships with Professional Development organizations with areas of expertise that already have established, high-quality programs. In addition to training specific to Community Development, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, and Sustainability and Growth, NAHRO offers program content specific to the Rental Assistance Demonstration PBV program, and will soon offer RAD PBRA. Please visit <http://www.nahro.org/partners> for information.

NAHRO has four training centers in the NCRC

region. Thus far for 2018, Livonia will host HQS training 5/21 – 5/23, HCVOEIR 8/13 – 8/17, and Managing Maintenance

10/15 – 10/17. Cincinnati will host Property Management Essentials 6/19 – 6/21 and UPCS 9/17 – 9/17. <https://nahro.personifycloud.com/PersonifyEbusiness/Default.aspx?TabID=1355&>

will provide information about these offerings as well as any that may be scheduled for the centers in Columbus and Hammond. A complete list of trainings may be found here: <http://www.nahro.org/courses>. Although the Public Housing Manager (PHM) was a highly requested training for this year, the March class in Livonia was cancelled due to lack of registrations.

John L. Carroll Memorial Scholarship for Small Agencies

The Spring Application period closed April 16, 2018 at 5 p.m. E.T. During the national committee meeting held April 21, 2018 in Washington, D.C. four scholarships of the ten possible were awarded (only four applications were received!). Three of these scholarships were to Michigan agencies, with the remaining one to a Washington agency. The next application and award period will be open in the fall, and all agencies with up to 550 combined Public Housing and HCV units are encouraged to apply. Look to the NAHRO website for more information: <http://www.nahro.org/carroll-scholarship>.

Please reach out with any professional development questions or concerns and I will be happy to assist. The next in-person meeting of the Professional Development Committee will be held at the Summer Conference in San Francisco on July 26, 2018.

scarlson@beldinghousing.org



Member Services Committee

Felicia Davis, Vice President of Member Services



At the Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., The Members Services Committee had a very productive meeting.

The Member Services Committee discussed the current membership numbers had dropped slightly since the last conference. It was also mentioned that dues totals had

remained steady thanks in part to the Newark, NJ Housing Authority re-joining.

This year we also received a higher number of Awards of Merit applications (210). The committee is hopeful that this trend continues. Of the applications (193) will receive a Merit Award and (60) have been nominated for the Awards of Excellence. Of the (210) applications, NCRC submitted the most applications for any region at (62)!

I would like to personally thank the jurors how helped to score for our region:

Bryan Hartman
Peggy Rice
Demetria Simpson
John Foster
Keon Jackson
Aaron Cooper
Marcy Conner
Nancy Bentley

The Awards Subcommittee discussed some changes to fees and who could apply for the Awards. They would like to keep the early bird and regular rates. The subcommittee discussed the increase in late fee \$150 and maybe opening up the awards to non-members. If it was agreed the application fee would be much higher at \$250. Discussion was also

had about the Awards of Excellence presentation needed to be more prominent. It was suggested that it be moved from the last plenary session at the National Conference to the second plenary session.

The Marketing and Relationships Subcommittee discussed ways to obtain and retain current members. It was suggested that a welcome committee should be formed at every level (state, regional, & national). Other things discussed were offering a 1 time reduced registration rate to non-members for a conference. Also a mapping program so the subcommittee can see where members are located so they can match them to a non-member in the area and encourage them to join.

The IT Subcommittee reported that they are reviewing the online Journal and the timeline for the website redesign. A survey about the website will be coming out soon and encourages everyone to complete it once it is available. Discussions are being had about renewal being sent and paid online and also Associate changes being made and reflecting changes in real time.

The Emerging Leaders Subcommittee had a meeting about mentorship that was attended by 9 Fellows. This mentorship would be help new and Emerging Leaders develop into leaders. Other things discussed were topics for the Brown Bag Session. The Subcommittee will be submitting a proposal for the National Conference that will include the Fellows.

The Member Services Committee (Task Force) will continue to review the Summer Conference to if it is still viable.

The next meeting will be in conjunction with the Summer Conference July 27-29 in San Francisco, CA.

Commissioners Committee

Sandra Boutel, Vice President of Commissioners



The Spring meeting for NCRC was held in Ft. Wayne, IN April 30-May 3rd. It was very well attended at a wonderful facility, Ft. Wayne Convention Center in downtown Ft. Wayne.

Keynote speakers for the event were NAHRO CEO Adrienne Todman and NAHRO President Carl

Richie. Major items talked about were the Omnibus Bill and the 2019 Budget.

The Omnibus Bill provided more funds for programs for 2018.

The 2019 Budget is a different story. Reports of severe cuts to programs has everyone worried.

It is vital that we connect with our Legislatures in Washington thru advocacy and let them know what is needed to support our programs.

The Summer NAHRO Conference is to be held in San Francisco, July 27-29th. There will be a Commissioners Fundamentals Class during the

conference. If you don't have your Certification for Commissioners, plan to enroll in the class. There is a lot of valuable information whether you have been a Commissioner for a while or newly appointed.

Other classes available for commissioners include:

- Commissioners' guide to Understanding and Monitoring Agency Operations and Programs
- Ethics for Commissioners
- Leadership Training for Commissioners
- Marketing, Image-building and Community Engagement
- Strategic Planning, Agency Development and Policy for Commissioners
- Succession and Sustainability Planning and CEO Search

Check with Professional Development to find out when and where the classes will be given near you.

The National Commissioners Committee is working on updated the Commissioners Handbook. The first 3 chapters are being reviewed now and the rest of the chapters should be done by the Summer Conference. Target date for release is the end of the year.



Small Agency Task Force

Marty Ryan, SATF Chair

The Small Agency Task Force (SATF) has had two conference calls since our NCRC January board meeting. There is representation from all eight states of the region. The task force committee is as follows:

Illinois – Kerri Freytag

Indiana – Amy Jacobowitz

Iowa – Jodi Royal-Goodwin

Michigan – Sharon Maki

Minnesota – Jill Bengston

Nebraska – Tina McBride

Ohio – Jenna Jenkins & Nathan Blatchley

Wisconsin – Rebecca Kralewski

Small Agency Task Force Committee Report Continued....

At the January work day prior to the board meeting, each work group set goals for the next two years of President Keogh's term.

Goals that were set by the work group were as follows:

- Recruit new members
- Identify new Executive Director's within one year of their employment
- Reach out to 3 housing agency's to show relevance of NCRC and its' membership
- Identify small HA's of 250 or less and 499 or less
- Work with Legislative Committee
- Website Forum
- Creation of Toolkit for new members

It was clear that the SATF must connect and engage with the Legislative, Housing, Website & Leadership committees to not only meet our goals but to support our efforts.

Senate bill S.2155 – Regulatory Reform was introduced and supported by Senator Crapo of Idaho. The full bill as introduced may be found with this link: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/2155>.

At the National NAHRO Legislative conference, the SATF convened and discussed New Demolition/Disposition Guidance, FY2018 Omnibus, FY2019 President's Budget & Section 3 HUD Meeting Report.

If you have any questions or recommendations, please contact me at albiahousing@iowatelecom.net or 641-777-6203.

Legislative Report

Jim Dewey, NCRC Legislative Chair



Since the submission of the previous quarterly Legislative Committee report, the legislative landscape has remained as robust as ever. I thought about titling this report "Live from DC it's Anyone's Guess". Congress finally enacted a 2018 budget

through an Omnibus bill that was approved in March 23, 2018. This bill contains a 10 percent increase in spending for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This means that nearly every single program in the HUD portfolio received additional funding. But, as of this week, the President would like to rescind \$41 Million dollars allocated to Capital Fund. National has been providing e-blasts

on the latest updates. Keep an eye out for these and take the time to review and understand how it may affect your programs.

Secretary Ben Carson testified in front of the House Appropriations T-HUD subcommittee on March 20, 2018 to answer questions concerning HUD's FY 2019 budget proposal. Several programs within HUD's portfolio are proposed to be drastically decreased or eliminated under the President's budget proposal, including CDBG and HOME. Highlights of the testimony included replacing key benefits of the CDBG with Opportunity Zones, an emphasis on RAD conversions, and the merging of Capital Funds and Operating Funds (though steep budgetary cuts are proposed to the Operating Fund). Highlights of the President's proposed 2019 budget are below:

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Legislative Committee Report Continued....

- **Public Housing Capital Fund:** \$0, a \$1.941 billion decrease
- **Public Housing Operating Fund:** \$2.477 billion, a 44 percent or \$1.6 billion decrease
 - Operating Fund includes an additional \$364 million in additional funds for set-asides that were previously funded through the Capital Fund, such as Jobs Plus. The budget lists top-line funding as \$2.8 billion.
- **Rental Assistance Demonstration:** \$100 million, a \$100 million increase
 - The budget proposes an expansion of the RAD program and eliminates both the cap and September 30, 2020 deadline for submission of applications.
- **Choice Neighborhoods:** \$0, a \$137.5 million decrease
- **Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment Renewals:** \$17.514 billion, a 4.6 percent or \$841 million decrease
- **Ongoing Administrative Fees:** \$1.53 billion, a 6.7 percent or \$110 million decrease
- **Family Self-Sufficiency:** \$75 million, level funding
- **Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance:** \$10.866 billion, a \$50 million increase
- **Community Development Block Grant:** \$0, a \$3 billion decrease
- **HOME Investment Partnerships:** \$0, a \$950 million decrease
- **Housing Opportunity for Persons with AIDS:** \$330 million, a 7 percent or \$26 million decrease
- **Homeless Assistance Grants:** \$2.383 billion, level funding

I am proud to say that 112 NCRC members went to Washington DC last month for the Legislative Conference to advocate for our programs. I think that is a huge number representing our region. During that conference the Legislative Leadership Committee met and established this year's NAHRO Advocacy Plan. This plan will focus on maintaining 2019 funding levels, expansion of MTW, regulatory reform, preparing for the incoming 116th Congress, building some grass roots advocacy by strengthening our Congressional District Contacts (CDC's), improving regional communication, bringing in business partners, State housing alliances and coalitions.

A new Public Housing Caucus has been formed by Senator Cleavers and Senator Stivers. I understand that there have been about a dozen other's that have since signed up to this caucus. This is huge for our industry and advocacy efforts. I think this will strengthen our budgetary position with congress for many years to come. Please inform your legislators about this caucus and encourage them to join as well.

National also set a goal for advocacy letters for this August and for the year of 3,000 and 5,000 respectively. I challenge the NCRC membership to be the region providing the most letters in 2018!

Our NCRC Legislative Task force completed our region's Legislative Position Paper that was released to our members and sent on to National on April 6, 2018. I would like to thank all task force members, Branna Lindell, Steven Rackis, Barbary Dacy and Alan Zais, for their work on this paper and helping our region express some of our issues and concerns about the programs we administer to help the most needy in the communities.

Advocate- If we are not heard, others will be!

Housing America Task Force Report

Anna Judge, Housing America Poster Contest Chair



A huge shout out to all of the housing authorities that submitted poster entries for the 2019 “What Home Means to Me” poster contest. As a region we received over 120 entries. The winners from our region were chosen and awarded at the NCRC conference in Fort Wayne, with the top three entries submitted to NAHRO for the National contest. At the Board meeting in Fort Wayne, the NCRC Board approved monetary awards to the first-place winner from each age category. That means that not only are these three wonderful entries moving onto to NAHRO for national judging, but they are also receiving a \$100 prize for winning our regions contest! I have to say that



the entries this year were wonderful and it made it difficult for the judges. Each and every one of them had a great story to share and you should all be proud of the homes that you provide to these youth. You make a difference in their lives each and every day and you should be proud of the work you do. These youth are our future and we should applaud all the entries received, as they were all winners in our books.

Remember that it is never too early to start next year's contest. I encourage you to start holding your state contests early to ensure that your state winners are to me by April 1, 2019 for regional judging. Please remember that all entries must go through your State Chapter before moving on to the region for judging. I implore the housing authorities to reward their winners with something the youth can be proud to show off to the family and friends whether it is a monetary award, a certificate, or simply recognition from your agencies.

This year's 1st place winners from our region were:

Elementary School
Johnathon Cooper
New Albany Housing
Authority, Indiana



Middle School
Tazjianna Davis
Ypsilanti Housing
Commission, Michigan



High School
Chicola Davis
Winnebago County Housing
Authority, Illinois



I am already looking forward to next years entries and I am confident that we will see one, two, or all three of these winning entries in NAHRO's 2019 “What Home Means to Me” calendar.



Community Revitalization & Development Report (CR&D)

Judith Carlin, Vice President of CR&D

The Omnibus and Appropriations Bill provided housing and transit a historic win. Housing tax credits will increase 12.5% over 4 years. The income formula for what counts as affordable housing was adjusted; the result of the change will enable higher income families to qualify for affordable housing. The intended result is to have higher income tenants to offset low income renters. Programs the President's budget targeted for elimination survived; HOME Investment Partnerships Program and the Community Development Block Grants were provided a bump in funding. The bill also expanded RAD to include Section 202 Housing for the Elderly communities.

National CR&D goals and objectives for 2017-2019 are: discuss, review, and analyze housing, revitalization, and development issues through legislative, administrative, and judicial lens; improve Communication and Outreach; and act as a Program and Operations Expert Resource. 2017-2019 NAHRO Goals and Objectives, 1/12/2018. CR&D will work through task force groups to develop assignments and determine outcomes.

For PHAs interested in pursuing RAD, it is expected that the RAD cap increase will, at historic application levels, provide 12 months of opportunity for PHAs. Balancing the decision to move forward with an application is HUD's discussion of providing PHAs a path to voluntary conversion of public housing to a Section 8 platform.

Following up on the current status of Opportunity Zones, it is reported that all states participated. On April 8th Treasury announced the first round of approvals. As of April 15th the following NCRC states were approved: Michigan, Nebraska, and Ohio. The CDIF is assisting Treasury through the nomination and designation process only. Further guidance from Treasury on Opportunity Zones is forthcoming.

On May 17th the Joint Economic Committee held a hearing on "The Promise of Opportunity Zones." Testimony was heard from Senators Corey Booker and Tim Scott as well as from industry representatives from Enterprise Community Partners, Economic Innovation Group (EIG), and Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). Speakers focused on the potential dollars of investment which will be available to communities in need, however, they urged Treasury and Congress to clarify language and insure transparency and accountability of Opportunity Fund activities, and prevent abuse. Terri Ludwig of Enterprise Community Partners highlighted the potential for abuse resulting in the net elimination of affordable housing.

More information is available at <https://www.jec.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2018/5/the-promise-of-opportunity-zones>

Regional Service Officer Report

Cheryl Anne Farmer, RSO



NCRC's New Media & Photo Policy

We believe that using photos of Friends of all ages in our print and web publications fosters a greater sense of community. Photography and video recordings from NCRC NAHRO events allows NCRC to display the networking and education of our NCRC Community. We use photos to enhance the quality of our print materials, newsletters, the ncrcnahro.org website, social media, publicity, and fundraising. We also use photos to further our efforts in education, outreach, and supporting the connection between NCRC and National NAHRO. As a participant in NCRC NAHRO events, you have a right to opt out of inclusion in photographs/media, but unless a **"Media Images Opt-Out Release"** is signed and on file at the NCRC NAHRO office with a reference image of the person opting out, participation in NCRC NAHRO activities implies permission for the use of images taken at those events.

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Free Member Benefit for NCRC Members

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Utilize our Member Forums

Have you visited our website, logged in and hopped onto one of our member discussion forums? This is a great way for you to network with colleagues from our 8 states. We currently have the following:

[General Forum](#)

[Small Agency Forum](#)

NCRC Seeking Website Sponsor

NCRC values the support of our vendor community. We will be announcing a new opportunity for very soon to help you promote your business through NCRC. Stay tuned for more information coming your way.

2018 NCRC President's Award



Congratulations James Inglis, Livonia Housing Commission

The President has the prerogative to choose one person to recognize each year for their service above and beyond what is expected of them. The award goes to any NCRC Member who has assisted the President in his or her role during the past months of office.

The 2018 NCRC President Award was presented to Jim Inglis, Executive Director from the Livonia Housing Commission in Michigan. I have been fortunate to have a Board of Directors that have stepped forward to lead and steer our

organization. However, there has been one board member that has been my constant. Jim took me under his wing early on and has never let me veer off course. He has been a mentor to me, as I know he has been to so very many professionals over the years. Jim has worked diligently on Legislative and policy issues and continues to help move our advocacy efforts forward during my presidency. Jim is the one person I pick up the phone when I need guidance and problem solving. When I took on the Presidency early, Jim stepped to my side and helped me put together my first board retreat. Jim is a NCRC Past President and has served on the NCRC Board for many years, he is a NAHRO Past President, serves as NAHRO faculty and is a NAHRO fellow. He truly does everything because he cares so much about our organization. I can think of no one better to have received this award on NCRC's 70th birthday. Thank you, Jim for being my Owl.

2018 Charles A. Thompson Memorial Award for Distinguished Service



Congratulations Sharon Carlson, Belding Housing Commission

As Director of the Belding Housing Commission Sharon Carlson has achieved so much. She is also admired and highly respected by her peers and colleagues. Here are some highlights of her many accomplishments:

- Past President of Michigan Chapter of NAHRO
- Current Executive Board Member for Michigan and NCRC NAHRO
- Current Chair of the Michigan NAHRO Professional Development Committee
- Chair of the Michigan Small Agency Task Force and the National Small Agency Task Force
- Past Chair of the National NAHRO Board of Ethics and Credentialing trustee Committee.
- NAHRO Faculty Member

Ms. Carlson currently trains multiple NAHRO Professional Development products including Commissioners Fundamentals/Ethics, Public Housing Occupancy and Rent Calculation and Housing Choice Voucher Occupancy, Eligibility and Rent Calculation. NAHRO professional development is enhanced by her involvement and her dedication to support and promote the programs.

Her passion and support of small agencies has been recognized at all levels of NAHRO and she has been the author of several small agency reform proposals. Ms. Carlson is the driving force behind the small agency reform initiative which impacts 80% of NAHRO membership.

Ms. Carlson continues to support the mission and goals of NCRC NAHRO and has been active in NCRC leadership positions and has an excellent record of participation on the NCRC Executive Board. Thank you, Sharon, for embodying the principles and ideals of NAHRO.

2018 Community Development Award of Excellence



Congratulations Dakota County Community Development Agency, Keystone Crossing Workforce Housing Townhomes

Keystone Crossing is the newest townhome development in the Dakota County Community Development Agency's Workforce Housing Program. Dakota County is the third largest county in Minnesota, and the Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) has identified a need for affordable housing for working families, especially in the core cities of the county that have large employment centers. The CDA often coordinates with cities to redevelop blighted or under utilized areas and further the mission of providing affordable workforce housing for families earning modest incomes. The CDA created the Workforce Housing Program in 1990 as a way to develop rental housing in support of working families with children. The primary goal of the Workforce Housing Program is to lower the

monthly housing costs of low and moderate income working families and provide an opportunity to live in the communities where they work, attend school, shop, access services and other amenities. Since that time, the workforce housing portfolio has grown to 25 developments with 807 units. There is great demand for affordable workforce housing in Dakota County. Families are facing other factors such as low vacancy rates, increasing average rents and job growth in employment sectors that pay a modest wage. Residents are able to become self-sufficient by living in affordable housing and saving for a down payment on a home, transportation, child care or pay off debt. The CDA's Workforce Housing Program is innovative as it created a 20-year partnership with US Bancorp Community Development Corporation to finance the acquisition and construction of additional units of affordable housing in a community of high demand. The CDA is the managing partner who maintains and manages the operations of the housing development. At the end of the 20 years, the development has fulfilled its requirements of the partnership and it is turned over to the CDA as the full owner of the property. This partnership allows the CDA to continue to identify needs and increase capacity of the organization to provide units of affordable housing in Dakota County. While other agencies may have similar programs, the level of affordability that the CDA achieves makes this an affordable solution that attains its goals of lowering the monthly cost of housing for working families.

2018 Housing Award of Excellence



Congratulations City of Lincoln, Reading Matters

PHAs across the country have been challenged to participate in addressing the critical issue of literacy and grade-level reading. Lincoln Housing Authority (LHA) responded to that challenge by developing the Reading Matters program. Reading Matters is promoting literacy and boosting educational outcomes by presenting new, diverse, age-appropriate books to children 12 and younger, whose families reside in LHA's low income housing programs and gently used books to all families involved with LHA. Along with the distribution of books, education is also provided to families regarding the importance of Reading Aloud 15 minutes each day. Reading Matters was developed in recognition of some startling national statistics which we believe are also representative of low income households in Lincoln, Nebraska.

"Nationwide, 61% of low income families have no books at all in their homes for their children (Children's Literacy Foundation)." "These children are six times more likely to leave school without a diploma if they are unable to read proficiently by the end of third grade (Barbra Bush Foundation for Family Literacy)." "An alarming number of children – more than 80 percent of those from low income families – are not proficient readers by the end of 3rd grade. This has significant and long-term consequences not only for each of those children but for their communities, and for our nation as a whole (The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading). "More than four out of five children from low-income families are not hitting the benchmark of reading well by the end of third grade. The personal and social costs are staggering, affecting success in school, work, and life. There is a growing consensus that grade-level reading should be a shared national goal (Research from gradelevelreading.net)." The Reading Matters program objective is to give low-income children in Lincoln a foundation for success by incorporating books into housing assistance and encouraging families

to read aloud together. Distribution of New Books: New, diverse, age appropriate books are purchased to distribute to children 12 and younger, who reside in one of LHA's low income housing programs. At least once a year each child receives a new book to take home. The book is selected by the parent or the child. Distribution of Used Books: Gently used books, donated by employees, local businesses, and the community are made available to all families at the LHA central office, the maintenance office, family resource center, and all leasing offices and club houses. Children and families are welcome to browse and take a books home. These are available for children to keep and they can always come back to get more books. Promotion of Reading and Read Aloud 15: Information is given to every family to encourage them to "Read Aloud 15" by either listening as children read books aloud or reading aloud to children for 15 minutes each day. Extra books are also given as an incentive. A local restaurant donated 250 bookmarks each month for a year. Once a child reads and records seven books on the bookmark, they can return the bookmark to the restaurant for a free kid's meal. While literacy programs are not a new idea, we believe the Reading Matters program is a unique and innovative program for the children and families of LHA. The program motivates and encourages reading through distribution of new and used books, offering incentives for reading on a regular basis and on-going education regarding the importance of reading and reading out loud. The program has received strong support from residents, employees and the community and has established partnerships that will continue to assist with the sustainability of the program. It is a simple program that just makes sense and those who support it financially know that 100% of their money goes to high quality books at low cost and no donations or grants are used for administrative overhead.

2018 Alvira B. Long Memorial Award



Congratulations Dina Getty, Winnebago County Housing Authority

Ms. Getty's community leadership has been demonstrated in such areas as creating a Therapy Dog program that she brought to several of the housing authority sites. Ms. Getty created the Little Library program for a number of the Winnebago county Housing Authority sites which she secured funding through the Winnebago county Board. Ms. Getty has appeared alongside WCHA staff at neighborhood meetings and with to explain the reason and process for the mixed finance programs of WCHA. As a board member, Ms. Getty was responsible for supporting and approving \$33 million in mixed finance programs for the new construction and rehabilitation of 316 units of affordable housing in five cities for LIHTC, competitive ARRA, CFFP and RAD-II. She also approved WCHA's administration of a neighboring housing authority's 167-unit RAD-I program when it was requested by HUD to save the mixed finance program for that agency. Ms. Getty was instrumental in helping create the NAHRO Commissioner certification program and "The Handbook for Commissioners" through her work with in the National NAHRO Commissioner's Committee. Ms. Getty helped to create and was a panelist in a National NAHRO conference session designed to help troubled housing authority boards recover. Ms. Getty a member of the National Commissioners Committee was instrumental in helping create the NAHRO Commissioner certification program and "The Handbook for Commissioners" through her work with in the National NAHRO Commissioner's Committee.

2018 Rising Star Award



Congratulations Felicia Davis, Winnebago County Housing Authority

Felicia serves on the Illinois NAHRO board since 2016 and is currently the International Vice President. She's given presentations at Illinois NAHRO conferences. She was a committee member for the first joint chapter of the Illinois and Indiana NAHRO annual conference in 2017. She's served on NCRC board since 2015 as Vice President of Member Services. She's served on national NAHRO since 2015 leading the Emerging Leaders committee that helps develop and attract talent to the public housing field and she presented at the 2017 National Conference. She's a recent graduated of the Leadership Rockford Program (thank you, board members!) and remains involved with the alumni for leadership programs. She's a board member of the Freeport Area Landlord Association, a member of the Winnebago/Boone Continuum of Care, facilitated the 2017 Economic Summit for local business and education

leaders, volunteers for the Food Truck program which she's brought to several of our sites for residents, participates in the literacy program for reading books to school children, and last week was appointed to the board of HomeStart, which provides housing counseling, home buying, and other housing services for several counties.

2018 Ernest J. Bohn Education Scholarship



Congratulations Clay County Housing & Redevelopment Authority

Congratulations Sofia Abdullah - \$1,000.00 recipient

When I was younger, I did not understand what doctors essentially did. My desire for becoming involved in the medical field increased when my brother was diagnosed with cancer. I saw the support and relief the oncologist gave my brother. The oncologist did not only provide chemotherapy but also he helped my brother deal with his emotional and spiritual issues like his suicidal feelings. Other hardships I have faced were after the genocide my people faced from Saddam Hussein. Life for young female Kurdish girls gave little room for them to pursue degrees. While growing up, Kurdish girls usu-

ally get the image of life defined only by marriage and children. As a result, their dreams of having a career are often neglected. However, I believe women of any culture or race can achieve just as much as men can in any setting, whether it is work, military, business or even in the home. I want to go to college and show other Kurdish girls that having a career is a possibility. I can be example for them and my success will show them that anything is possible.

2018 Ernest J. Bohn Education Scholarship



Congratulations Portsmouth Metropolitan Housing Authority

Congratulations Taylor Mershon - \$500.00 recipient

Since I was two years old, my father suffered from drug addiction. After so many years of dealing with the repercussions of his addiction, I suffered from depression and anxiety. I began going to therapy when I turned 16. Experiencing therapy and learning how drugs effect brain chemistry piqued my interest in counseling and social work. In March of 2017, my father began treatment and stayed sober for five months. After getting out of treatment, he acquired a good paying job and his own home.

Additionally, our relationship was the best it had ever been. For the first time in my life, everything was looking up with my dad. Then in August of 2017, due to internal bleeding from surgery, he passed away. After suffering through depression and anxiety and experiencing therapy, I knew what I wanted to do with my life and losing my dad only clarified that.

RETIREMENT



NCRC wishes a fond farewell to Kim Holman-Short as she retires after 37 years in affordable housing. Kim served as the Executive Director of the Housing Authority of the City of Bloomington and the Housing Authority of the County of McLean. She began her career in affordable housing in 1981 and was an Executive Director for 24 years. Kim officially retired May 18.

Kim has served on the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) Member Services Committee, Housing Committee, Steering Committee, Housing America Campaign and the Board of Governors. She is a Past President for the North Central Regional Council of NAHRO, and the Illinois Chapter of NAHRO. She has served twice on the Nominating and Election Committee and NAHRO National Conference Planning Committee. Kim was

awarded the Charles A. Thompson Award for Distinguished Service by NCRC in 2010.

She also served on the Assisted Housing Risk Management Association, which provides affordable insurance to housing authorities and affordable housing providers, United Way of McLean County, the Workforce Investment Board, and numerous local boards and committees. Kim served on the City of Bloomington Human Relations Commission for several years and worked with local officials to have a street renamed in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr in 1987.

The region and our industry has truly benefited from her leadership and we are going to miss her. Please join me in congratulation Kim on an amazing career.



NCRC wishes a fond farewell to **Branna Lindell** as she retires after many years in affordable housing. Branna is currently the Housing Division Director of the City of South St. Paul. She began her career in affordable housing in 1985 and has been the Director for 33 years. Branna is retiring June 1st.

Branna is a 30 year member of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). She has served on the National NAHRO Housing Committee, Community Revitalization and Development Committee as well as the International Research and Global Exchange Committee. She is a Past President for the North Central Regional Council of NAHRO, and the Minnesota Chapter of NAHRO. She also served as the NCRC secretary for many years. She is also a past member of the Board of Governors.

The region and our industry has truly benefited from her leadership and we are going to miss her. Please join me in congratulation Branna on an amazing career.

2018 NCRC CONFERENCE PICTURES







A special thank you to the 2018 NCRC NAHRO Conference Committee:

**Jennifer Keogh
Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities**

**George Guy
Fort Wayne Housing Authority**

**Cheryl Anne Farmer
NCRC NAHRO**

**Joe Pash
Johnson Controls**

**Saul Himmelstein
The Inspection Group**

**Rick Moore
Evansville Housing Authority**

**Allison Gauer
Evansville Housing Authority**

**Crissy Lawson
Brazil Housing Authority**

**Beverly Armour-Thomas
Fort Wayne Housing Authority**

**Jessica Matuska
Fort Wayne Housing Authority**

**Lisa Fischer
Fort Wayne Housing Authority**

STATE CHAPTER REPORTS

ILLINOIS CHAPTER

Jackie L. Newman, President



Planning is in full swing for the upcoming ILNAHRO Annual Conference scheduled for **Wednesday, August 22** through **Friday, August 24, 2018** at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center in Rockford, IL. Our theme for this year's conference is: *"Changing Neighborhoods – Empowering Families – Changing Lives"*.



Registration for the conference will begin on Monday, June 4, 2018. Sponsorship and Vendor opportunities are available and those interested can contact Joe Pasch by e-mailing him at joe.pash@jcj.com. Please visit the web site to find out more about our upcoming annual conference at www.ilnahro.org as details begin to unfold. As an added convenience, this year, ILNAHRO will offer on-line registration.

Sessions will include topics that will certainly benefit many within your organization!! There will be sessions for Finance, Section 8, Public Housing, RAD, Executive Director's Roundtable for both the seasoned and newly appointed, Community Development Organizations, Tax Credit Structuring and Energy Efficiency. So -- you will not want to miss the opportunity to learn and network! We hope that you will join us for the conference.

As the landscape of Affordable Housing continues to take shape under our HUD Secretary it is incumbent upon us to continue to share the importance and impact affordable housing has in neighborhood development, stabilizing families and communities and changing lives. ILNAHRO is committed to ensuring the voice of its membership remains strong through advocacy, educating HUD leadership and directing its membership to cutting edge training opportunities on a State, Regional and National level.

We hope that you will meet us in Rockford!!!



INDIANA CHAPTER

George Guy, President

The Indiana Chapter of NAHRO is pleased to provide its Spring 2018 report on its activities since January.

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.

Our organization has been challenged over the past few years with turnover due to retirement of former leadership. We have been working on filling vacant appointments. Here is the list of our current officers and appointed positions:

George Guy, President;
Rick Moore, Senior Vice-President;

Crissy Lawson, Treasurer; and

Ralph Jordan, Secretary

Helen Garret, Membership Coordinator

Amy Jacobowitz, Small Housing Agency Coordinator

Joe Anderson, Professional Development and Emerging Leaders Coordinator

Rick Moore, Housing and Legislative Coordinator

On behalf of the State of Indiana NAHRO, Thank you to all of those who attended the 2018 NCRC NAHRO Conference hosted by the Indiana Chapter of NAHRO last month! We were very excited to see more than 250 total attendees in Fort Wayne, Indiana for what turned out to be a wonderful event. I would like to give a special thanks to all of our vendors, sponsors, and guest speakers who supported this event and helped to make it a success. We were fortunate to have some amazing individuals present at the conference including Carl Richie, President of NAHRO; Adrienne Todman, CEO of NAHRO; Joseph Galvan, HUD Region 5 Director; Unabyrd Wadhams, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Field Office Operations; and John Hall, HUD Indy Field Office Director. Each of these key speakers brought insight and information to all of our attendees which will allow us to Work Together for a Better Tomorrow.



IOWA CHAPTER

Marcy Conner, President

It's been a very busy few months for the members of Iowa NAHRO. The Iowa NAHRO Annual Conference was held in West Des Moines, Iowa in April. The Conference was full of energy as "Power Up Communities" was this year's theme. We had a great turnout with 140 attendees. The sessions were very well attended with sessions on "Local State and Housing Trust Fund", Drug Identification in Rental Properties, Legislative Advocacy for the Busy Housing and Community Development Professional, "Safety Awareness for Rental Personnel Staff", "How to do Conduct an Informal Hearing" and "How to Do a Proper Inspection/How to Write Work Specifications/ Putting Together Cost Estimates" and many more informative sessions.

Iowa NAHRO presented three awards at the Conference. The **Community Development Award** is awarded to a chapter member for outstanding professional contribution in the field of community development. This award was presented to Terri Rosonke, Iowa Finance Authority.

The **R. Jack Paetz Friend of NAHRO Award** is given to a person or organization that has furthered the goals of NAHRO in an outstanding an unusual manner. This award was presented to Sonia Jackson, Commissioner of 19 years with Southern Iowa Regional Housing Authority.

The **President's Service Award** is given to a chapter member for clearly demonstrating outstanding effort and achievement in the promotion and success of the chapter. This award was presented to Lori Amdor, Corning Housing Commission.



Lori Brockway
accepting for
Terri Rosonke



Sonia Jackson



Lori Amdor

The Conference ended with a powerful "Poverty Simulation" that had participants assume the rolls of different families facing poverty. Some families were newly employed, some were elderly, and some were recently deserted by the "breadwinner". The task was to provide for basic necessities and shelter during the course of four 15-minute weeks. This was an eye-opening experience for the attendees as they experienced the stress a low-income family experiences while trying to find services and provide for their family during struggling times.

Members of Iowa NAHRO traveled to Washington DC to meet with the Iowa Congressional offices. The visit included meetings with the offices of Congressman David Loebsack, Congressman Rod Blum, Congressman David Young, Congressman Steve King, Senator Joni Ernst and Senator Charles Grassley. At each meeting, we presented a copy of the "*Iowa Is Losing Housing Funds to Other States*". We discussed the problems portability is creating for Iowa Housing Authorities and made recommendations for changes that would eliminate or reduce the loss of housing funding in Iowa. They were all very aware of the portability issue and were receptive of our recommendations. Many offices agreed to collaborate with other offices and include Iowa NAHRO in the negotiations. It was a very successful day of meetings.



Senator Joni Ernst meeting



Congressman David Young meeting

Before closing, I would like to recognize a few Iowa NAHRO members with many years of service in Housing.

- Cathy Seddon, Southern Iowa Regional Housing Authority – 42 years
- Gail Cadwell, Area XV Housing Authority – 35 years
- Michelle Schnier, Eastern Iowa Regional Housing Authority – 34 years
- Pati Toops, Ford Madison Housing Authority – 32 years
- Brian Keesler, Central Iowa Regional Housing Authority – 32 years
- Sharon Van Dyke, Grinnell Housing Authority – 31 years
- Cathy Burtness, Mason City Housing Authority – 31 years

For more information on Iowa NAHRO, feel free to check out our website at www.ianahro.org.



MINNESOTA CHAPTER
Diane Larson, President

**Highlights of our recent
Chapter activities
include:**

**2018 Legislative
Advocacy:**

Minnesota NAHRO has a strong legislative committee that has been conducting conference calls every Friday during the legislative session. Our calls typically involve at least a dozen members and we are working on the following key initiatives:

- Leading an effort to secure \$30 million in General Obligation Bonds for Public Housing Rehabilitation.
- Leading the effort to secure \$110 million in Housing Infrastructure Bond funding for the development of affordable housing, including "senior housing" as a new eligible use.
- Tracking a consensus proposal and providing testimony to ensure we do not lose bonding set-aside for single family housing.
- Supporting two new initiatives: a state Tax Credit Contribution Fund and the allocation of funds to a Housing Trust Fund.

On February 28th we hosted Minnesota NAHRO Day at the Capitol. The day began with an orientation to provide our members with tools, training, and talking points for their day with scheduled visits to legislators. The event was very successful with over 35 visits made to legislators.

Organization and Other:

On March 1st, MN NAHRO conducted a Board Strategic Planning session followed by our business meeting. Using a PowerPoint presentation, I provided our board with a general organizational overview. This overview included MN NAHRO's relationship

with NCRC and national NAHRO. We also reviewed our mission statement, core values, board member expectations, and our membership.

During our strategic planning, we broke into work groups according to some broad focus categories and developed priorities for the coming two years. From this planning, a 2018-2019 work plan will be drafted for board review and approval at our next board meeting.

One of our regular business items was a review the membership drive results for 2018. We again offered our flat rate for commissioners which has significantly increased commissioner membership. As a member benefit, we also provide each commissioner member a complimentary copy of our MN NAHRO Commissioner Handbook that was completed last year.

At the request of NCRC, I have appointed a MN representative to both the Small Agency Task Force and the Conference Committee.

MN NAHRO is leading a work group consisting of member agencies who developed Transitional Housing in the 1990's financed with a 20-year forgivable loan provided by Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA). Due to GO Bond legislation and regulation, HRAs have been informed that an additional 15-year compliance period will be required. We have over 400 units of housing in the state financed with this program. The work group has developed a position paper and entered into conversations with MHFA staff to ensure the ongoing viability of these properties throughout the state.

Upcoming Events:

Our MN NAHRO spring conference will be held at Madden's Resort near Brainerd, May 23rd – 25th, 2018. The conference has seven (7) different tracks of learning opportunities including a national training to assist members with updating their HCV Administrative Plan.

Plans are now underway for our summer Leadership Retreat that will be held July 19th and 20th in Worthington.



NAHRO

MICHIGAN CHAPTER
James Dewey, President

Michigan NAHRO held a successful spring conference in Bay City Michigan April 11-13. We will be holding our second conference of the year this fall in Grand Rapids MI, September 12-14. As always, MI-NAHRO extends an open invitation to all NCRC members to attend our conferences.

During our spring conference, our Executive Board meeting was held and I am excited to say that the executive board approved a new MI-NAHRO College Scholarship. This was one of my goals as president and it is now complete. The board also voted to amend the yearly budget to include money for the yearly scholarship. My other three goals are being worked on but the next one to be completed will be the Emerging Leader Program. Matt York from our great state is heading this up and has it well underway. He expects we will have

our first Emerging Leader named in the fall of 2018, in time to be sent to National for consideration.

April was a busy Conference month starting with Michigan's conference, then about 20 of us from Michigan attended the National NAHRO Legislative Conference in Washington DC, followed up by the NCRC Spring Conference in Fort Wayne Indiana, those who attended the NCRC conference would agree it was a very well ran and informative conference. I encourage all to think about attending a future NCRC conference.

Michigan is fortunate to have a National NAHRO training site in Livonia Michigan, just outside of Detroit. This year the Livonia Training Center still has the following trainings scheduled: 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. A commissioner training was added to be held in my hometown of Port Huron, Michigan August 22-24. Again, all NCRC members are welcome to Michigan for trainings.

I sincerely hope that all NCRC NAHRO members take a moment to reflect this coming Memorial Day



NEBRASKA CHAPTER
Jeanne Leick, President



The first NE NAHRO free National Training Pilot Seminar was held in Lincoln the last week of March. There were 39 people who attended the PHAS training and 13 who attended the SEMAP training. I had the opportunity to attend the PHAS training and it was very good – I especially liked throwing markers during jeopardy (yes, we really did that and it was FUN!!). I would like to apologize to my teammates for being disqualified because of resourcefulness.

The 2019 NCRC Spring Conference will be held April 16 -18, 2019 at the Hilton in Omaha. Thank you to Patti and Renee from Professional Development and Judith Carlin and her team from Omaha Housing Authority for all your work in securing a hotel for the event. It is not an easy task to secure a venue that works for everyone in the region. Sharon Carlson with the NCRC professional development has offered to help with planning the sessions for the conference.

Carrie is heading up the committee for the **2018 Fall Conference** to be held in Kearney September 18-20th. They have an excellent conference planned at the Younes Convention Center in Kearney. Please plan to attend, as there will many opportunities for networking and training.

Today, the Governor signed LB496 which would allow TIF funding for workforce housing construction in villages, first & second-class cities and in extremely blighted areas within a municipality that is not a rural community.

OHIO CHAPTER

Peggy S. Rice, President



The 2018 OHAC Annual Spring Conference was held April 11th – 13th at the

Kalahari Resort and Conference Center in Sandusky, OH. The training included Hearing Officer, Property Management essentials, UPCS/REAC Updates, EPIC/Capital Fund, Mental Health and Legislative Updates. We also added a training for Directors and Board Members; *Strategic Leadership*. This session included discussions on enabling legislation, defining roles and responsibilities of the staff and board members, ethics, conflict of interests, strategic planning, and coaching for board member performance. The highlight of the Spring Conference was the six

\$1,000 scholarships we gave away.

We have scheduled two trainings one in both the spring and summer. The first, we will be partnering with Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing to offer a Blended Occupancy Management – LIHTC training on May 29th – 31st in Akron, OH. Then June 25th – 29th we will have a Public Housing Management training (with certification) also in Akron.

We have our 2018 OHAC Annual Fall Conference scheduled for September 19th – 21st in Columbus. We will begin the planning in the near future.

Late last year we spoke out in opposition of Ohio HB 282 which would potentially recognize residential rental property damages as criminal mischief. It went on to prohibit a metropolitan housing authority from renting or providing housing assistance to a person who has recently been convicted of criminal mischief relating to residential rental property. Earlier this year the Financial Institutions, Housing and Urban Development Committee for the State of Ohio amended the bill to address our concerns. We are continuing to follow this bill in committee.



WISCONSIN CHAPTER

Sarah Boss, President



The Wisconsin Association of Housing Authorities (WAHA) board met in January and April for the quarterly meetings. The Board discussed district and committee work, conference information and board planning and goals. We also discussed the prepara-

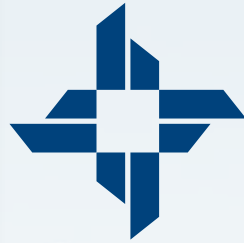
tions our Wisconsin representatives have made to prepare for the NAHRO legislative conference. All housing authorities in the state were asked to prepare a housing profile explaining their agency programs and most especially their agency challenges. The profiles are organized to present to representatives. The next WAHA board meeting is scheduled for July 26, 2018.

WAHA recently held the annual Spring Executive Director Training on April 17th and 18th. Training was provided by NAHRO. Topics covered were Washington updates and appropriations, Section 3, procurement, smoke free, lead safe rules, HOTMA implementation, UPSC-V, MTW expansion and RAD updates.

Our annual fall conference will be held at the Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan on September 17-20. The conference committee has been very busy planning and organizing. The agenda will encompass training and education for Executive Directors, line staff, maintenance staff and commissioners.

Each month the local HUD field office hosts a teleconference call with all housing authorities. Hot topics, policy, procedure, and funding are regularly discussed. During the April call, attendees were able to hear from the new field office director, Shirley Wong.

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



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ADVERTISING RATE SHEET

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.

The cost of advertising in the newsletter is as follows:

<u>Finished Size of Ad (width x length)</u>	<u>Cost per issue</u>
Full Page 7.5" x 10"	\$420
Half Page 7.5" X 5"	\$324
Third Page	\$276
Quarter Page 3.5" X 5"	\$235
Medium/Small ad 3.5" X 3.5"	\$204
Business Card 3.5" X 2.5"	\$175

The NCRC NAHRO Newsletter is published four times a year. Advertisements will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Limited space allotted.

Submission deadlines are January 15th, April 15th, August 15th and November 1st.

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