



President's Corner

Jennifer Keogh, President

**H a p p y
Summer NCRC
NAHRO!** While I might be in the final few months as your Regional

the highlights of my presidency. They had a variety of relevant sessions and I was most proud to see many of our

President, the work doesn't stop, in fact it just keeps heating up.

You've all been busy hosting and attending state and national conferences and I have been right there with you, watching you, engaging with you and learning from you. More than 900 NAHRO members attended the Summer Conference in Boston; Connect to Purpose. We had opportunities to hear Stedman Graham address the delegation, learn from our NAHRO candidates for Senior Vice President and President, attend a variety of high caliber sessions and I know that many of you all found your way to Cheers (I saw all your posts on Facebook....when in Boston, right?)

I had the opportunity to travel to Indianapolis to attend the joint Indiana/Illinois NAHRO Conference. Spending time with the delegation and learning from our members has truly been one of



Cheers! Where many of our colleagues visted.



President Jennifer Keogh and Jeffrey Patterson from Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority and Megan Haberle from [Poverty & Race Research Action Council \(PRRAC\)](#) presented together in Boston on Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration.

2019 Calendar

**NCRC Board Meeting
October 11
San Antonio, TX**

**2019 National NAHRO
Conference Dates**

**National Conference &
Exhibition
October 10-12**

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NCRC colleagues as presenters. A big THANK YOU to George Guy and his team and to Jackie Newman and her team for their hospitality.



Delegation enjoying vendor show.



Senior Vice President Sunny Shaw attended the conference as our keynote speaker.



*Illinois President, Jackie Newman
NCRC President, Jennifer Keogh
Indiana President, George Guy*

As your president, I am so proud of the work of our region for their relevance and timely response to addressing important issues. On June 28 the NCRC Board met to discuss the HUD proposed rule on mixed immigration status. After thoughtful conversation, the board passed a unanimous resolution directing President Keogh to submit a letter from NCRC opposing the proposed rule. [You can find the letter here.](#)

The Heat is On for Advocacy. August isn't just about National Night Out events, final summer vacations and back to school. It also about Advocacy; one of the pillars of our organization. August provides a unique window to be in touch with your Senator or Representative. Generally, it is a time for members to refresh and reconnect with constituents, and to plan for their final end-of-the year legislative push. This year, our 4-week Advocacy efforts are centered around several issues critical to our membership: **Housing as Infrastructure and Capital Fund, Housing Choice Vouchers, Low-Income Housing Tax Credit and FY 2020 Funding.** NCRC launched "Bring the Heat! 2019 NCRC 8 State August Advocacy Challenge" Each state will be competing for the highest number of letters coming out of their state. The winning state will be announced and presented with an award at the October Board meeting in San Antonio.

The future of NAHRO is coming. In October our NAHRO and NCRC leadership will be changing. I am excited for George Guy as he will take the gavel as President of our Region. At the National level, we have two amazing candidates running for President and Senior Vice President. While this is an uncontested race, it is important for the future of NAHRO to learn more about the two women that will be leading our organization into the future. I encourage you to educate yourself on the [candidates](#), update your associates list in NAHRO's database and VOTE!!!

I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve as your Regional President. Thank you all for your commitment to our industry.



Senior Vice President Report

George Guy, Senior Vice President

Greetings Officers and Members of NCRC of NAHRO

I am pleased to submit my 2019 Summer Report.

This has been an incredibly busy conference season. Of course the NCRC Conference in Omaha was fantastic. In June, PHADA held their annual convention in Fort Lauderdale where our president, Jennifer Keogh, was a guest speaker. The NAHRO Summer Conference in Boston was a huge success. I had the pleasure of being part of a session entitled "Building a Strong Foundation: The Relationship between Commissioners and Executive Directors" along with one of my own agency commissioners.

Indiana and Illinois NAHRO held a joint state conference in Indianapolis July 29th-31st. The theme of "Creating Connections" carried through the conference well as I saw exhibitors, attendees, and staff from HUD coming together to discuss important issues within our industry.

Huge strides have been made in the name of affordable housing through legislative outreach. I was asked by Senator Todd Young (R-IN) to participate in a local housing round table. Congress and the Senate are hearing us. We have to keep up the momentum going. NAHRO's legislative conference provided a great opportunity to connect with elected officials. I'm looking forward to attending PHADA's legislative forum in September.

HUD held a Federal Convening in Evansville, Indiana that focused on re-entry programs. I sat as a panelist for that discussion and was pleased to see several members from our organization in attendance.

I was honored to be chosen for the HUD Region V Housing Preservation Task Force by HUD Region 5

Administrator, Joseph Galvan.

I attended the National Urban League Annual Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. The conference held a forum for Presidential nominees to speak. The conference and the candidates talked about their plans for Housing and Community Development. I was interviewed by a local radio station about the National Urban League and Affordable Housing.

As the President Elect I was invited by to speak to the Lucas Metro Housing Authority staff about the NCRC vision in 2020. I was honored to speak to the Lucas team about being "Relevant" in 2020

Our region is hard at work, raising the bar of what affordable housing means. I am proud to see that seven small PHA's from the NCRC region applied for Cohort 1 of the MTW expansion as well as another seven agencies applied for the rent reform study cohort.

It is a great privilege to have the opportunity to serve as the next president of NCRC. The task of choosing appointees and nominees for leadership positions was a challenge in the best possible way. We have so many faithful people in our region that are striving to pursue the vision and mission of NAHRO. Those that are interested in serving, we are still looking for individuals for IRGE (International Research and Exchange). If interested please call 260-267-9300 ext. 7100.

There will be information regarding our January meeting sent out in the weeks to come.

I look forward to seeing you in San Antonio in October.



Housing Committee

Rick Moore, Vice President of Housing

We are proud to say that another NAHRO Conference is in the books for the states of Indiana and Illinois! This was the second successful collaboration as the two states joined forces to provide attendees with a bigger and better experience on all levels.

A grouping of 174 attendees, 43 vendors and 44 speakers registered to attend the 2019 Indiana/Illinois NAHRO Conference on July 29-31, 2019 in Indianapolis, Indiana. The conference program schedule consisted of two full days of training, which ran concurrently in six different breakout rooms and covered topics that could apply to nearly everyone in attendance. Workshops were conducted on topics such as Tax Credits, Non-Profit Organizations, Inspections, Capital Funds, Human Resources, Marketing, Pest Management, Grant Writing, EPIC, HOTMA, FSS, Washington Advocacy, Community

Partnerships, PIC, and Choice Neighborhoods just to name a few. The third day concluded at noon; however, conference attendees present on the final day were able to receive fair housing certification for attending a one-of-a-kind “show”, in addition to the honor of hearing from our very own HUD Midwest Regional Administrator, Mr. Joseph P. Galvan.

After leaving the conference, it was even more apparent to me once again... opportunities for affordable housing in our communities is within reach and abundantly so if we are diligent in our efforts! Housing has truly reached a different era in time due to the variety of financial resources being made available and community partnerships that are growing on a daily basis. Knowing is half the battle, and we thank organizations such as NAHRO for providing us with a means to obtain and apply such resources. What a wonderful time to be in the affordable housing industry and make a difference in the lives of those that need it the most!

Professional Development Committee

Sharon Carlson, Vice President of Professional Development

NAHRO Professional Development Committee

Calendar year 2019 has thus far seen 325 certifications issued and we are on track to surpass the numbers issued in prior years. Certified Public Housing Manager – C-PHM, Certified Specialist of Eligibility and Calculation – CSEC-HCV and Certified Specialist of Occupancy – CSO-HCV have been most in demand for the current year. Commissioner courses continue to be offered during national conferences, providing more options for commissioners to achieve certification. In addition, NAHRO offers certification exam sessions during national and regional conferences and provides additional exam sessions throughout the country based on request. Fourteen certifications are currently offered, available for all levels of housing professionals. Certification information may be found here: <http://www.nahro.org/certification>

Faculty

NAHRO has welcomed seven new faculty members with expertise in public housing and community development, expanding faculty members to thirty in total. NAHRO will begin accepting new faculty applications in the fall and if interested in being placed on a waiting list, please contact Professional Development Director Jennifer Naughton at jnaughton@nahro.org

2019 Training Calendar

The national training calendar for 2019 may be found here: <http://www.nahro.org/trainingcalendar>. The page also offers opportunity for Chapters and Regions to highlight scheduled trainings, providing a quick



glance at what may be offered in our own neighborhoods. The calendar lists all scheduled trainings and exam periods, and rounding out 2019 the NCRC region has the following trainings scheduled for the Livonia, Michigan training center:

- PH Occupancy, Eligibility, Income and Rent Calculation with Certification Exam 8/19 – 8/23/19
- RAD PBRA with Certification Exam 9/16 – 9/17/19
- HQS with Certification Exam 10/21 – 10/23/19
- HCV Occupancy, Eligibility, Income and Rent Calculation with Certification Exam 11/4 – 11/8/19

Additional trainings will be offered on request, including at the Cincinnati training center as

demand is identified. Connect with Greg Shpak gshpak@nahro.org or Lori Barringer lbarringer@nahro.org to request a training.

John L. Carroll Memorial Scholarship for Small Agencies

The Fall application period for the John L. Carroll Scholarship award will open September 1 and will close October 1, 2019 at 5 p.m. Please visit <http://www.nahro.org/carroll-scholarship> and bookmark the page for further information about scholarship eligibility and the application periods. Up to ten scholarships may be awarded. Don't miss out on this opportunity; apply!

As always, please reach out with any professional development questions or concerns. Have a wonderful rest of Summer! scarlson@beldinghousing.org



IRGE Committee

Randal Hemmerlin, Vice President of IRGE

The following article was received by me from the CHRA Newsletter and I felt I should share the progress the Canadians are making

with the Right to Housing for their people.

Right to Housing is Now Law in Canada: So Now What?

Jul 05, 2019

On June 21, the Governor General signed into law Bill C-97, which contained the "National Housing Strategy Act", and the federal right to housing legislation. This legislation is historic – it not only marks the first time that the Government of Canada has legally recognized an explicit right to housing, but it sets Canada apart as one of only a small handful of countries in the world with such legislation in place. It also marks the culmination of years of effort on the part of a multitude of stakeholders to ensure that this right became a legislated reality.

The question many people in the community housing sector are asking is, "So what's next?" Although the right to housing is a positive step forward, questions remain as to its implications. Based on the legislation itself and discussions with CMHC and other govern-

ment officials, I've compiled a Top 10 list of what we expect the legislation will achieve, what it won't achieve, and what we don't yet know.

What the Legislation Will Do

1. It will set a new roadmap for federal housing policy: One of the first lines in the legislation reads as follows: "It is declared to be the housing policy of the Government of Canada to recognize that the right to adequate housing is a fundamental human right affirmed in international law; and to recognize that housing is essential to the inherent dignity and well-being of the person and to building sustainable and inclusive communities." This legal recognition is unequivocal, and clearly sets forth the federal government's policy objectives and goals with its overall housing policy. Perhaps not coincidentally, this legal recognition aligns with the new CMHC corporate objective to ensure that by 2030, every person living in Canada has access to housing that meets their needs. The legislation therefore sets a new overall direction for CMHC and the federal government in terms of its housing programs, policies, and budgets – a direction we very much welcome.

2. It will require the federal government to develop and maintain a National Housing Strategy aimed at

those in greatest need: One of CHRA's key recommendations for this legislation was that the federal government would be required to develop and maintain a National Housing Strategy that would focus on improving housing outcomes for the most vulnerable, and that was achieved. Such a requirement will make it illegal for future governments to abolish a housing strategy and will also require the federal government to redevelop the current Strategy upon its expiry in 10 years.

3. It will create new accountability mechanisms that can investigate systemic barriers to accessing housing: The legislation creates 2 new accountability bodies that will proactively monitor implementation of the right to housing: a National Housing Council and a Federal Housing Advocate. The Council is meant to be an advisory body on housing issues, and will include a diverse group of representatives, including those with lived experience. The role of the Federal Housing Advocate, which is an independent body, will be to research, investigate, and report on systemic housing issues, including barriers faced by vulnerable peoples, and to initiate studies into economic, institutional or industry conditions impacting housing conditions. The Advocate can also refer issues and recommendations for investigations to the Council. The legislation also requires the Minister to respond to any reports filed by the Advocate within 120 days.

4. It will measure and publicly report on indicators related to the National Housing Strategy: The legislation requires the federal government to table a report every three years on the effectiveness of the National Housing Strategy, and whether it is meeting its overall objectives and stated goals – the first of these reports must be tabled before March 31, 2021. Presumably these reports will measure and determine whether the federal strategy is on the right track or needs adjustment. However, since it is likely that CMHC will be tasked with developing these reports, the question must be asked if they should be in a position to conduct their own evaluation.

What the Legislation Won't Do

1. It will not create an enforceable individual right to access housing: During the development of the legislation, there was a debate as to whether the law would provide mechanisms for individuals to seek redress if they did not have access to housing.

The legislation contains no specific mechanisms for individuals to seek out access to adequate housing; there will be no federal tribunals or bodies that will hear such cases. In this respect, the right is more of a collective right rather than a legally enforceable individualistic right.

2. It does not apply to provincial, territorial, Indigenous, or municipal jurisdiction: The National Housing Strategy Act is a federal statute, and therefore has no jurisdiction over other orders of government. There is no legal requirement for those governments to cooperate or respond to recommendations; and in fact, the legislation clearly states that the Advocate can only report and make recommendations on "measures respecting matters over which Parliament has jurisdiction". Any participation by other orders of government would be on a purely voluntary basis, and at this point, there has been little indication of interest on the part of other governments in doing so.

3. It is not constitutionally protected: The National Housing Strategy Act is not a constitutional provision, and therefore in theory, the legislation and its recognition of rights could be rescinded by a future Parliament. Although abrogating the legislation would be politically difficult, there are no legislative or constitutional barriers preventing a future government from scrapping the legislation.

What We Don't Know Yet

1. How will courts apply the law? All laws are subject to court interpretation, and their exact impact is not fully understood until a sufficient body of case law is developed. The National Housing Act and the right to housing are no different. Until courts and other legal bodies begin to apply the law to rulings, it's impossible to predict the exact legal ramifications of the law until such time that courts begin to use it. This will take time, likely years, to better understand.

2. Who will be appointed as Housing Advocate and to the National Housing Council? The government hasn't given any suggestions who will fill the new Advocate or Council positions. Although the legislation spells out clear criteria for the selection of both the Advocate and Council, there's been no time frame or specific process confirmed for the selection of individuals to either position.

3. Will it fundamentally change federal funding or pro-

grams? Although I've argued that the right to housing will change the direction and mandate of the federal government in its role in housing, that does not necessarily mean that policies or funding will change. Governments may argue that they are meeting the requirements of the Act under existing funding levels or programs. We don't know whether the Act will compel governments to increase funding for housing and homelessness programs in order to housing access for all, or whether governments will justify existing levels as sufficient to meet those objectives.

Regardless of its limitations, passage of the National Housing Strategy Act is historic and something to be

celebrated. Over the next few months and years, stakeholders will work with the new accountability mechanisms and the new right to ensure that the federal government honours its commitment to maintaining the right to housing for all people in Canada.



Jeff Morrison is Executive Director of the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association.

Commissioners Committee

Sandra Boutell, Vice President of Commissioners



ago. I'd like to congratulate the National Commissioners

It is finally here! The new revised handbook for Commissioners was introduced at the Summer Conference in Boston. If you have new commissioners and/or sitting members on your board that do not have a handbook, order copies for them. The price is \$26.95 each. There are a lot of new articles since the last handbook was released 10 years

Committee for the work the last three years to complete this project.

August is Advocacy month. Encourage your commissioners, support staff and city officials to send letters to their legislative constituents each of the four weeks supporting public housing, community block grants, RAD and other housing programs.

Check out the Housing Journal for worthwhile articles written by members of the Commissioners Committee in the Commissioners Corner.

Have a wonderful rest of the summer!

Member Services Committee

Felicia Davis, Vice President of Member Services



Greetings Members!

At the Summer Conference in Boston, MA, The Members Services Committee had a very productive meeting.

This year NAHRO staff received a higher number of Awards of Merit applications (230). The committee is hopeful that this trend continues. Of the applica-

tions (207) will receive a Merit Award and (79) have been nominated for the Awards of Excellence.

The Member Services Committee has reached most of the goals set for this two-year term ending in October 2019.

The Awards Subcommittee discussed proposed changes to the Herman Award. They would like to have 3 awards issued for agencies (Small, Medium and Large). This award will also have a name change to entice applications. The name voted is Professional of the Year!

The Marketing and Relationships Subcommittee continue to discuss ways to obtain and retain current members. There was discussion of a possible survey in the conference app or a tear-away page in the program, for attendees to complete and turn-in during the conference for feedback. Talks will continue to help retain and recruit new members.

The IT Subcommittee reported that staff are gathering information on user personas for the website which will help better design the websites layout for users and that the launch date has been delayed.

The Emerging Leaders Subcommittee had a meeting about the continued mentorship of the Fellows. This

mentorship will help new and Emerging Leaders develop into leaders. The Emerging Leaders and Fellows are in the process of having bi-monthly calls to discuss leadership tools. Other things discussed were topics for the Lunch and Learn Session and how to market for attendance. The Subcommittee will be submitting a proposal for the National Conference that will include the Fellows.

The next meeting will be in conjunction with the Summer Conference

October 9, 2019 in San Antonio, TX


Small Agency Task Force

Marty Ryan, SATF Chair



Greetings NCRC Board Members,

Not sure what anyone else sees in the above image, but for me, I see small housing authorities as the rope that is in a tug of war with HUD on one side and other industry groups on the other side feeding us statistics, reasons, etc. of why we should reposition our Public Housing. And the rope can go either way depending on the needs of

our housing stock.....but what is the best decision  NAHRO and fellow colleagues have been conducting webinars to provide information to help determine and justify if it is in the best interest of the housing authority, residents and community to reposition our Public Housing. The jury is still out so stay tuned.

Also, check out the new NAHRO Advocacy App: Go to your App store and type in NAHRO Advocacy & download.

Make sure you are tuned in to www.NAHROblog.org: Legislative & Policy Updates from Washington, DC

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

Public Housing Repositioning a. PH Preservation Webinar Slides –

<http://www.nahro.org/sites/default/files/searchable/Handout%20-%20Public%20Housing%20Preservation%20Options.pdf>

PH Preservation Webinar Recording – <https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/2115777431084055560>

Eligible Status Verification Proposed Rule a. NAHRO Direct News –

<http://www.nahro.org/news-content/oppose-huds-mixed-immigration-status-proposed-rule>

Looking forward to seeing everyone in San Antonio, TX for the National NAHRO Conference.

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

Advocacy, Advocacy, Advocacy. What more can I say for the NAHRO Advocacy month of August. If you have not yet sent in your letters to

your congressional leaders, please consider doing so quickly. As you know Jennifer and I challenged our eight great states to see who can send in the most letters during this month (GO MICHIGAN). National NAHRO has provided and will provide letters on the following topics during the month:

- **Week 1: Infrastructure and Capital Fund**
- **Week 2: Homelessness and Vouchers**
- **Week 3: Low-Income Housing Tax Credits**
- **Week 4: THUD Budget**

National set a goal of 4,000 letters to be sent out during the Congressional August recess. It is easy to send one in, by just filling out your name and putting in your zip code. NAHRO has done the rest for you. 4 weeks, 4,000 letters, a thousand letters per week, we can do this, so come on and join your colleagues in advocating for our programs that help so many in our communities!

As of the writing of this report, I'm happy to say that a two-year budget and debt ceiling deal was reached and it passed the House July 25th. Details of the deal are available on the [NAHRO blog](#). The Senate will vote on the bill before August recess and it is expected to pass. The President has expressed support for the deal and helped lobby Republican votes for it, so he should sign it into law. This is good news for a couple reasons. First, it increases spending by \$27 billion in FY 2020, which is a pretty decent amount. Second, it brings to an end the impact of the Budget Control Act, which set the low spending levels through FY 2021. No more spending caps, no more sequestration, it's all finally over!

Now that spending levels have been set, Senate appropriators are expected to begin their work during the August recess, which makes our August advocacy campaign that much more important. Watch your e-mails in the coming weeks for blasts from National and myself for advocacy opportunities.

Every NAHRO member is considered a member of Leg Net, so if you would like to receive weekly e-blasts and participate on monthly calls, contact Tess Hembree at thembree@nahro.org and she will include you in those opportunities.

Let's not forget the new Public Housing Caucus that 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.

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

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Housing America Task Force Report

Anna Judge, Housing America Poster Contest Chair



Scholarships:

Emily McKenzie from the Duluth HRA in Minnesota was our regional winner for the 2019 Ernest J. Bohn Scholarship. Emily's application and essay won her a \$1,000 scholarship from NCRC and then was sent on to NAHRO to compete in the 2019 NAHRO Merit College Scholarship.

It was announced in Boston that Emily won a \$1,000 from NAHRO as well. In addition, LDG, whom in 2018 announced that they would be giving NAHRO residents/youth \$100,000 for the next 10 years in what is now known as the LDG Scholars program. While Emily was not named as one of the 3 LDG





scholars, LDG co-founder Chris Dischinger and his wife Lisa announced at the summer conference that they would be giving non-LDG winning scholars an additional \$1,000 to assist them in their educational pursuits. With that being said, Emily will receive a \$2,000 scholarship from NAHRO with the support of LDG in addition to the \$1,000 she received from NCRC.

Emily will be attending Hamline University in Minnesota this fall and plans to graduate in 4 years with a double major. The majors she is currently looking into are forensic science, anthropology and criminology. Please join me in congratulating Emily!



What Home Means to Me Poster Contest:

The 2020 calendar winners will be announced in San Antonio this October. The posters that were sent on to NAHRO from our region that will be considered are the entries shown below. Please join me in congratulating these very talented youth on representing the NCRC region at the national level. I can guarantee you that we will see one, if not more, of these three entries in the next calendar.

Elementary School	Middle School	High School
 <u>Lukas Erickson</u> St. Cloud Housing Authority, Minnesota	 <u>Jayden Lattimore</u> Bloomington Housing Authority, Illinois	 <u>Gracielle Colon</u> Winnebago County Housing Authority, Illinois
		

*Remember the deadlines for both the poster contest and the scholarships are April 1st each year!

Housing America Month:

Lastly, October is right around the corner and that means so is *Housing America Month*. If your agency is opening a new development, debuting Little Free Libraries or community gardens, hosting resident activities or signing proclamations, we want to hear about it!

Please share these special occasions with us like that of Port Huron Housing Commission contained in the [link here](#): This project was completed by the Port Huron Housing Commission with grant money from the Play Everywhere Challenge, part of a collaboration between the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation and KaBOOM! KaBOOM! which is a non-profit dedicated to bringing play spaces to children in need. The challenge invites communities to submit unique or atypical designs for play spaces. The Port Huron Housing Commission was one of 23 organizations that got the grant.

The *Housing America Task Force* relies on your support to continue our mission. Thank you, as always, for your unwavering support. We couldn't be as effective and present as we are without the backing of NCRC's membership.



Regional Service Officer Report

Cheryl Anne Farmer, RSO



Planning is underway for the 2020 NCRC Conference hosted by IL NAHRO. If you are interested in presenting a session please email me at RSO@NCRCNAHRO.org. If you have any suggestions for topics that you would like me to pass on to the conference planning committee, please let me know.

I want to thank the following companies for agreeing to be our website sponsors for the next year. Your support means a lot!

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**Mark you Calendar for the
next NCRC Board Meeting!**

October 11th
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 pm
Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
San Antonio, Texas

Board reports are due on October 2nd.

Save the Date!

2020 NCRC Conference Hosted by IL NAHRO

Pack your bags and head to Chicago in 2020.



April 22-24, 2020



**Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza
River North**

350 W Mart Center Dr.
Chicago, IL 60654

CMHA Riverside Park Groundbreaking

Congratulations to the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA), which held a Riverside Park Groundbreaking Celebration on June 7, 2019. CMHA is excited to begin Phase II of the development, which will consist of 203 townhome units. The renovation project improvements will enhance the lives of the families residing at the estate. Nearly 100 residents, staff, political officials, community partners and stakeholders came out to celebrate the event that is transforming neighborhoods, connecting people and creating new opportunities.



Playground Rededication at King Kennedy Boys and Girls Club

Congratulations to the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) and the King Kennedy Boys and Girls Club for all of their efforts to make the center so nice for the youth. The entire community came out to celebrate the rededication of the Larry Doby Playground at King Kennedy.



Caption for photo below: CMHA CEO Jeffery K. Patterson, Senator Sherrod Brown, Mayor Frank Jackson, Councilwoman Phyllis Cleveland and Larry Doby, Jr. at the rededication of the Larry Doby playground at King Kennedy Boys and Girls Club.

Major League Baseball for making this event such a great success! For more information, visit cmha.net, @CuyahogaHousing on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn and You Tube.



Check out St. Paul Public Housing Agency's Resident Initiatives Activities, Events, and Programs!

Summer is here! The PHA's Resident Initiatives (RI) Department is in full swing with resident activities. The RI staff will be working with partners to bring the following activities to various PHA family sites.

- **Movie Mondays & Wednesdays** - Free movies on Mondays and Wednesdays. These events will take place at the Roosevelt and Mt. Airy family sites. Resident youth can enjoy free movies and light snacks.
- **Free Family Yoga** - Free family yoga and cool summer treats by Gray Ducks! All ages are welcome. These will be offered at Roosevelt and Mt. Airy family sites.
- **Summer Reading Program** - Summer reading program for youth ages 11 - 14 will start June 13th and runs once a week through July 25th at McDonough, Mt. Airy, and Roosevelt family sites.
- **Summer Meals Program** - Summer meals program will start at Roosevelt and Mt. Airy on June 17.
- **Nature trips** - Residents are invited to go on a nature walk on June 19 at Trout Brook Park; June 21 at Keller Regional Park; and June 27 at Como Park.



OUR PROGRAMS AREN'T FOR EVERYONE.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Ken Merrifield today at
800-873-0242, x 291 or at
kmerrifield@housingcenter.com.

www.housingcenter.com

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Free Member Benefit for NCRC Members

Don't forget that you can advertise any job openings on the NCRC Website. Please submit your posting in word format to rso@ncrcnahro.org

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](#)

NAHRO Professional Development **Training Calendar**

View and register for all NAHRO courses **HERE**.

Additional regional, state, and local trainings:

- October 7-9, 2019 at Dothan Housing Authority, Dothan, AL
HCV Project Based Vouchers (HCV PBV) w/ Proficiency Test
- October 29-31, 2019 at LACDA-Maravilla Hall, Los Angeles, CA
Managing Maintenance with Certification Exam
- April 22-24, 2020 at Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza, Chicago, IL
2020 NCRC Conference Hosted by IL NAHRO

2020 National NAHRO Conference Dates

Washington Conference

March 29-31

Grand Hyatt Washington Hotel
Washington, DC

Summer Conference

July 23-25

Sheraton New York Times Square
New York, NY

National Conference & Exhibition

October 1-3

Marriott Orlando World Center
Orlando, FL

NAHRO



Jeanette Lee, Springfield, IL

Certified Specialist RAD Project-Based Vouchers

Willie Shane Parker, Peoria, IL

Certified Specialist of Eligibility and Calculation-Housing Choice Vouchers

Certified Specialist of Occupancy-Housing Choice Vouchers

Nydia Parries, Cleveland Hills, OH

Certified Specialist of Eligibility and Calculation-Housing Choice Vouchers

Certified Specialist of Occupancy-Housing Choice Vouchers

Keesha Readus, Springfield, IL

Certified Specialist of Occupancy-Public Housing

Certified Specialist of Eligibility and Calculation-Public Housing

Lynn Simone, Sparta, MI

Certified Public Housing Manager

Certified Maintenance Manager

Paul Wade, St. Clair, MI

Certified Commissioner

Tracy Wieckhorst, Nebraska City, NE

Certified Manager of Property Operations

STATE CHAPTER REPORTS

ILLINOIS CHAPTER

Jackie L. Newman, President



Well.
It's a Wrap!!
**Another successful IN-IL
NAHRO Joint Conference**



A few members of the ILNAHRO Chapter. L to R: Alan Zais, David Young, Jackie L. Newman, David Norther, Felicia Davis, Keon Jackson and Dr. Grant

Well, we talked about the IN/IL NAHRO Conference for months (hosted in Indianapolis, Indiana). Now it has come and gone. If you were there, I hope that the conference **exceeded** your expectations!! If you missed it, we hope that you will join us next time for an even better one than this year.... if it's possible to top it!! The joint conference was well received and attended this year. We heard many positive comments by attendees and we received your survey responses which included ways in which we can make the conference experience better, thank you for your feedback.

The conference started off with great topic discussions. We applaud and thank the speakers who donated their time and knowledge, to present at this year's conference. We had speakers from (just to mention a few) HUD representatives who spoke on topics of UPCS-V Inspections & PIC-NG Overview, FSS Best Practices and FSS Resources for Supportive Services, and CF Guidebook Training; Alison Bloodhart of Bloodhart Consulting who spoke on Organization Culture Through People Practices; Sunny Shaw, NAHRO Senior Vice-President, as the Keynote Speaker; and Joseph Galvan, HUD Midwest Regional Administrator, as the Closing Speaker.



*Joseph Galvan, HUD
Midwest Regional
Administrator*



*Sunny Shaw, NAHRO
Senior Vice-President*

The work to serve the community never stops, even if that community is not your own. Seeing all the food still left on our buffet, we were happy to have been able to package up a couple dozen food trays and take it right outside to the homeless citizens taking cover from the rain Monday evening. This was a true testimony of service!

The conference concluded with bang with one of the vendors, Jeff Wilhite of Wilhite & Associates who pulled together a host of small skits based on real-life topics that PHAs face on a day-to-day basis that had the attendees laughing, participating and even gleaning a few (real) dollars. His "Play To Win" presentation was amazing. Here are couple snippets from his presentation:



Please mark your calendars for April 22-24, 2020 as ILNAHRO hosts the NCRC Conference in Chicago, Illinois!! We will broadly advertise registration, workshops and sponsorship opportunities in the coming months. The 2020 NCRC Conference Committee is already hard at work!!



INDIANA CHAPTER
George Guy, President

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

- The IN/IL NAHRO Conference in Indianapolis was a huge success. The conference included a full day of FSS training, NAHRO Professional Development

Commissioner Training and several other incredible sessions and speakers. Joseph Galvan, HUD Region 5 Administrator spoke as well. A huge thank you to Jackie Newman, Illinois President and the conference planning committee who is already hard at work at planning the 2020 IN NAHRO Conference in Muncie.

- Elections took place during the Indiana NAHRO member meeting. Vacant spots were filled. We look forward to continuing to work with the Leadership
- HUD held a Federal Convening in Evansville, Indiana that focused on re-entry programs. I was invited as a panelist for that discussion.
- In 2020 our State Conference will be held in Muncie, IN.



IOWA CHAPTER
Marcy Conner, President

Iowa NAHRO President, Marcy Conner, presented the 2019 President's Awards and recognized the recipients for their years of service.



Front Row: Guest -Adrienne Todman, Lori Amdor, Susan Swartzendruber, Celia Taylor, Marty Ryan, Adam Sutton, Marcy Conner, Steve Rackis Back Row: Lynn Hansen, Dawn Lorenzen, Jodi Royal Goodwin, Amy Tooley, Don Amsler, missing-Lisa Ahern



*Cathy Seddon
43 years*



*Gail Caldwell
36 Years*



*Michelle Schnier
35 years*



*Pati Toops
33 years*



*Cathy Burtness
32 years*



*Sharon Van Dyke
32 years*



MINNESOTA CHAPTER Diane Larson, President

Minnesota NAHRO hosted a very successful spring conference at Madden's Resort near Brainerd, MN in May with over 200 registrants. Our NCRC

President, Jennifer Keogh, was our featured guest speaker during our Thursday lunch and also presented a session on Harm Reduction/Prevention Strategies to Promote Resident Success. Two national trainings were presented: HCV Housing Quality Standards Training and Commissioner Fundamental Training. Several informative sessions addressing Public Housing Repositioning options were presented and well attended. Two awards were given to members during the conference. The Allan Anderson Award of Merit was given to Terri Smith of the Metropolitan Council HRA and the Housing and Community Development Achievement Award was presented to David Schluchter of Minnesota Housing. A MN NAHRO Board meeting was held the day prior to the conference.

July found us at our annual Leadership Retreat where we brought together leaders and upper management in Montevideo, MN. In addition to leadership training, two great

roundtable sessions were held and the second day of training provided information on the Opioid Crisis, responding to the crisis and response and recovery.

The MN NAHRO Board held a teleconference in July to conduct a special board meeting. Nominating Committee Chair, Jill Keppers, presented a slate of nominees for the upcoming Board election with the Board voting unanimously to accept the slate. Results of the upcoming election will be announced at the Annual Conference in Duluth, MN.

Myself, along with several other Minnesota members attended the National NAHRO Summer Conference in Boston, MA.

We are now gearing up for our annual conference that will be held September 11th – 13th at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center. The theme of this year's conference is *Navigating the Future*. Our Professional Development Committee has done a tremendous job organizing relevant and timely sessions. Two national trainings are being offered including a two-day "USIG REAC Update" and a two-day "Reasonable Accommodations & Fair Housing" training. Tracks include HUD Repositioning featuring the HUD Special Applications Center, a Legal & Policy Track, and a Management & Administration track. **MN NAHRO extends an open invitation to all NCRC members to attend any of our trainings.** See our website for more information and registration details.

I will be passing the gavel on to the new President of Minnesota NAHRO during our annual conference. It has been a great experience and pleasure to serve the members of Minnesota NAHRO the past two years.



MICHIGAN CHAPTER James Dewey, President

Summer is upon us and it's getting steamy. But now that summer is here, Michigan NAHRO is warming up for their fall joint conference to be held in Shanty Creek September 11-13. This joint conference will be held with two other state organizations; Michigan Housing Directors Association (MHDA) and the Upper Peninsula Housing Organization (UPHO). This will be my last meeting as President of MI-NAHRO as I will be handing over the gavel to Zac Fosler, our incoming MI-NAHRO President. We will also be introducing our newly elected board members as they too will take office this fall. We will also be looking for member support for some major By-Law changes for our organization that are needed to keep us current and organized. Registration is still open and

as always, NCRC members are always encouraged and welcome to our State conferences.

July 25th, Our Detroit Field office held a full day information session on HUD's Repositioning Public Housing initiative across the state. The field office has identified 75 agencies and 7,572 units from our state that they think should consider repositioning for one reason or another. That is 57% of our state agencies and 35% of our total units. The information shared was informative and gave information on the multitude of ways to reposition Public Housing.

Our State Legislative VP Brandie Isaacson, continues to work very hard in her role. Brandie has recruited MI-NAHRO members to serve as our 14 State Congressional District Contacts (CDC) to ensure we have boots on the ground in Michigan advocating for our programs.

Michigan is fortunate to have a National NAHRO training site in Livonia Michigan, just outside of Detroit and NAHRO has the following trainings scheduled yet this year: PHOEIR with exam August 19 through 23rd. RAD PBRA the week of September 16th, 2019. HQS with Exam October 21st through 23rd, and HCVOEIR with exam November 4th through 8th. Please visit the NAHRO website under Professional Development for more details for each training.



NEBRASKA CHAPTER

Jeanne Leick, President



NE NAHRO is holding the Fall Conference at the Holthus Convention Center in York, NE from September 17th thru September 19th. We have a great conference scheduled with a session titled "Ask Joe Anything" presented by Joe Schiff from The Schiff Group. There will also be sessions on mental health, landlord tenant law and a legislative update. During the conference, NE NAHRO is also hosting a National NAHRO Rent Calculation training and test for those of you that are interested in getting certified.

During the Spring NCRC conference many people were battling blizzards and floods, last month some of

the same areas were hit again with flood waters. These areas were already experiencing a housing shortage and with the damage from the floods even more people are in need of affordable housing in the state. Agencies in the flood affected areas assisted by providing housing resources and applications for housing to those in need.

In the Legislature we had a few changes to the Landlord Tenant Act. The notice period for nonpayment of rent changed from 3 days to 7 days for the agencies managing non-HUD properties. Also, the Act now requires landlords to provide an itemized statement and/or security deposit refund within 14 days of tenancy termination. Previously the law required it to be refunded within 14 days of the tenant request for the statement.

NE NAHRO is also hosting a Maintenance Conference in Gering, Nebraska August 21-22nd. The agenda includes topics on plumbing, heating, air conditioning, electrical, and REAC inspections. Whenever you attend a conference in the western part of the state it will also include a Ribeye Steak Cook Out which you do not want to miss. It is absolutely delicious.

OHIO CHAPTER

Peggy S. Rice, President



OHAC held our Annual Spring Conference May 1 – 3, 2019 at The Summit, A Dolce Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio. We award of six scholarships at this conference.

Training included sessions on Managing Maintenance; a peer-lead Best Practices for the Housing Choice Voucher Program; the good, the bad and the ugly of RAD (also peer-lead); a HUD lead discussion on Section 18 and a Family Self Sufficiency session lead by Anice Schervish Chenault of HUD. In addition to this lineup we had the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Program to provide sessions. We have hosted "Ask HUD": A Technical Assistance Room".

We continue our advocacy at the state level. HB 336 Property Tax Valuations for Subsidized Properties was introduced last November. This bill would require county auditors to value federally subsidized residential rental property based on its market rent without regard to government police powers or

other governmental action. OHAC provided written opposition to the bill and intends to participate in the Interested Parties meetings slated to take place later this summer.

We are working with Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities to assist agencies within Ohio who are planning to apply for the Mainstream Vouchers. The 811 Interagency Partners are helping link housing authorities to the appropriate local organizations – boards, centers for independent living and providers.

We have advertised our agenda for the Annual Fall Conference September 18-20, 2019 at the Renaissance Westerville – Polaris Hotel in Westerville, Ohio. We have quite a line-up with Jason Casterline's Financial Workshop, HQS Training, Heating and Air hands on training, Mental Health First Aid, Bill Willis with Fair Housing, and a HCV Best Practices II. We will also have a HUD Room for "HUD Repositioning Tools".

We are planning three stand-alone trainings; HCV & Public Housing Rent Calculation Training by Nan McKay; Hearing Officer Workshop by Nan McKay and Procurement and Contracts Management Training by Mike Gifford of Housing Agency Procurement Assistance.



WISCONSIN CHAPTER
Sarah Boss, President

Upcoming Events

The annual WAHA Fall Conference will take place September 17-19, 2019 in the Milwaukee area. This year's theme is Step Up To The Plate. The conference committee has created a jam packed agenda with topics such as conflict resolution, PIC Errors, Financial Audits, Procurement, Social Media messaging, Rent Calculations for Public Housing and Section 8, Repositioning, Educating Policymakers, and much more.

Conference attendees will also be taking time to connect with their housing peers by attending a Milwaukee Brewers baseball game at the end of the conference.

The next WAHA Board meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2019.

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



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

The cost of advertising in the newsletter is as follows:

<u>Finished Size of Ad (width x length)</u>		<u>Cost per issue</u>
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