

December 19, 2008

Mr. John Podesta  
Ms. Valerie Jarrett  
Mr. Peter Rouse  
Co-chairs  
Obama-Biden Transition Team

Dear Mr. Podesta, Ms. Jarrett, and Mr. Rouse:

The undersigned 62 organizations from Illinois are writing to express our support for the National Low Income Housing Coalition's proposal for a low-income housing initiative to be included in the new economic recovery plan in development by President-elect Obama.

This plan will help to ameliorate the adverse consequences of the recession on those who are suffering the most and stimulate the economy. The individual components of the proposal are to:

- Capitalize the new National Housing Trust Fund at \$10 billion for two years to rehabilitate or build 100,000 rental homes for the lowest income households using green standards.
- Fund 400,000 new Housing Vouchers at \$3.6 billion for two years to provide the lowest income households with rent assistance.
- Fund the homelessness prevention component of the Emergency Shelter Grant program at \$2 billion for two years to prevent low-income households from becoming homeless and to rapidly rehouse those that do lose their homes; 400,000 households will be assisted.
- Fund the Public Housing Capital Fund at \$5 billion for two years to upgrade public housing using green standards.
- Provide \$3 billion for two years to upgrade federally assisted multi-family housing using green standards.

All five items will help achieve both objectives, but the first, second, and third are primarily for recession relief, while the first, fourth, and fifth will create new jobs. Taken together, the five actions will assist at least 800,000 households hardest hit by the recession and create 201,800 jobs, 8% of the 2.5 million jobs that President-elect Obama wants his economy recovery plan to produce. The total request is \$23.6 billion.

If you would like to discuss our request, please contact Bob Palmer, Policy Director for Housing Action Illinois, at 312-939-6074 x. 206 or bob@housingactionil.org.

Sincerely,

A Safe Haven, Chicago  
Affordable Housing Corporation of Lake  
County  
Agape Missions, Joliet  
AIDS Foundation of Chicago

Avondale School, Chicago  
Banner Acquisitions LLC, Northbrook  
Better Existence with HIV (BEHIV),  
Chicago  
Bridge Communities, Glenn Ellyn

CEDA Near West, Cicero  
Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness  
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless  
Chicago House and Social Service Agency  
Chicago Rehab Network  
Christian Community Health Center, Chicago  
Citizens' Lighthouse Community Land Trust, Evanston  
Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities in Illinois  
Community Crisis Center, Inc, Elgin  
Community Housing Association of DuPage (CHAD)  
Cornerstone Services, Inc., Joliet  
Daybreak Center, Joliet  
DuPage Housing Action Coalition  
DuPage PADS, Wheaton  
Emergency Fund, Chicago  
Episcopal Church of the Advent, Chicago  
FCAN (Families' and Children's AIDS Network), Chicago  
Habitat for Humanity of Illinois  
Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights, Chicago  
Hesed House/PADS, Inc., Aurora  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of the Northern Illinois  
Hispanic Housing Development Corporation, Chicago  
HOPE of East Central Illinois, Charleston  
Housing Action Illinois  
Housing Authority of Joliet  
Housing Authority of McDonough County  
IFF  
Illinois Association of Community Action Agencies  
Illinois Housing Council (IHC)  
Illinois Network of Centers for Independent Living  
Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs, Winnetka  
Jewish Council on Urban Affairs  
Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Office, Wheaton Franciscans  
KMA Management Inc., Chicago  
Lakeside Community Development Corporation, Chicago  
Lathrop Homes Local Advisory Council, Chicago

Logan Square Neighborhood Association, Chicago  
Lutheran Advocacy-Illinois  
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois  
MoveSmart.org  
Naperville CARES  
Northside Action for Justice, Chicago  
Open Door Clinic, Elgin and Aurora  
People's Resource Center, Wheaton  
Project IRENE  
Rockford Housing Authority  
Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law  
South Suburban HIV/AIDS Regional Coalition, Ford Heights  
South Suburban PADS, Homewood  
Springfield Housing Authority  
Supportive Housing Providers Association  
Western Egyptian Economic Opportunity Council, Steeleville  
Woodford County Housing Authority  
YWCA of Quincy