

# Protect HUD Funding!

## PROTECT HUD FUNDING IN CA-21: Ensuring Housing Stability for Our Communities

**What is HUD?** Vital Programs for CA-21 **The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development** (HUD) provides crucial support through programs like:

- **Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8):** Helps low-income families afford housing.
- **Continuum of Care (CoC)** grants: Funds homelessness services.
- **HOME & CDBG:** Supports affordable housing and community development.

### **CA-21 Housing By the Numbers - Housing Choice Vouchers currently serve:**

- 13,000+ households through Fresno Housing Authority
- 3,100+ households through Tulare County Housing Authority
- Additional households supported by affiliated housing authorities across the district

### **CDBG-DR Funding:**

- Over \$1.6 billion in CDBG-DR funds for California's wildfire and flood recovery
- Critical investments in disaster resilience for vulnerable San Joaquin Valley communities
- Support for infrastructure, housing, and economic revitalization

### **Affordable Housing Projects:**

- The Mosaic: 25-unit affordable housing project in Downtown Fresno (under construction)
- Belmont Family Apartments: Includes units for homeless veterans
- Multiple affordable housing initiatives across Fresno and Tulare Counties serving at-risk populations

### **The Housing Crisis in Numbers**

- 16,000+ households rely on Housing Choice Vouchers in the district
- Housing costs ↑ 65% since 2020 | Wages ↑ only 19%
- 2-bedroom rent: \$1,886/month (district average)
- 30% of renters spend over 50% of income on rent

### **The Impossible Gap**

- Average voucher recipient earns: \$21,500/year
- Living wage needed for a family of four: \$48,600/year per adult
- Voucher recipients would need to more than double their income

### **Impact on District Residents - Vulnerable Populations:**

- 63% of residents are Latino; 16% are immigrants
- Deep poverty: 10% uninsured, 10% unemployment rate
- 58% rely on Medicaid for healthcare
- Nearly 30% experience food insecurity
- Many households earn less than 30% of Area Median Income (\$24,750 for 1 person, \$35,350 for a family of 4)
- 18% of public housing units occupied by people with disabilities
- 20% of public housing units occupied by senior citizens

### **Agricultural Community Needs:**

- Limited affordable housing options in rural Fresno and Tulare Counties
- Transportation barriers increase housing instability in remote areas
- Agricultural workers and rural families disproportionately affected
- Farmworker families increasingly displaced due to rising housing costs

# Time to Take Action!

## Threats to HUD Funding - Proposed Cuts Include:

- 40% reduction in rental assistance funding
- Elimination of traditional Section 8 voucher program
- Two-year time limits for "able-bodied" recipients
- Block grants with reduced federal protections
- \$700+ million cut from homelessness programs

## If Funding Is Reduced:

- 16,000+ district households could lose housing assistance
- \$1.6+ billion in disaster recovery funds would be at risk
- Affordable housing projects like The Mosaic and Belmont Apartments could be halted
- Homelessness would rise, particularly among seniors, veterans, farmworkers, and people with disabilities
- Rural disaster preparedness and infrastructure upgrades would be threatened

## Take Action Today!

### Contact Your Representative:

#### U.S. Representative:

- Rep. Jim Costa: (202) 225-3341 | (559) 495-1620

#### U.S. Senators:

- Sen. Alex Padilla: (202) 224-3553
- Sen. Adam Schiff: (202) 224-3934

### Key Committee Members:

- House Appropriations T-HUD Subcommittee Chair: Rep. Steve Womack (R-AR): (202) 225-4301
- Senate Appropriations T-HUD Subcommittee Chair: Sen. Brian Schatz (D-HI): (202) 224-3934

### Sample Script When Calling:

"Hello, my name is [YOUR NAME] from [YOUR TOWN] in CA-21. I'm calling to urge Representative Costa to protect HUD funding in the upcoming budget.

Our district faces severe affordable housing shortages and high rates of poverty. Nearly 30% of residents struggle with food insecurity while housing costs have increased 65% since 2020. The proposed cuts to HUD funding would be catastrophic for our communities.

[SHARE YOUR PERSONAL STORY IF YOU HAVE ONE]

Please maintain funding for all HUD programs and reject proposals to impose time limits or convert programs to block grants. Our communities rely on these programs for stable, affordable housing.

Thank you for your time and consideration."

**Protecting housing programs creates stable, vibrant communities that benefit us all.**