

Protect HUD Funding!

Protect HUD Funding in CA-05: Ensuring Housing Stability for Our Communities

What is HUD? Vital Programs for CA-05 The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides critical support through programs like:

- **Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8)** help low-income families afford decent housing.
- **Continuum of Care (CoC)** grants fund homelessness programs and services
- **HOME and CDBG** programs fund affordable housing construction and community development.

CA-05 Housing By the Numbers

Housing Choice Vouchers currently serve:

- 5,074+ households through Stanislaus Regional Housing Authority (serves Stanislaus, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa, Alpine, Inyo, Mono counties)
- 741 households through Housing Authority of the City of Madera
- Additional households through eastern Fresno County Housing Authority (13,000+ total vouchers)
- Many families through affiliated housing authorities in the district.

CDBG-DR Funding:

- \$147.5 million in CDBG-DR funds specifically available for multifamily housing projects in wildfire-affected areas
- Over \$27.5 million awarded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy for wildfire recovery and forest resilience projects in district counties
- Critical funding for rebuilding communities in the highest wildfire-risk counties in California
- Additional federal disaster recovery allocations of \$12+ billion available for recent disasters

Affordable Housing:

- King Kennedy Veteran Cottages: 23 detached units of permanent supportive housing for veterans in Modesto
- STANCO Project Homekey: Multi-family units converted to permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals
- Multiple HOME program projects throughout Madera and Central Valley communities

The Housing Crisis in Numbers:

6,800+ households rely on Housing Choice Vouchers in the district

Housing costs: Up **54%** since 2020 | **Wages:** Up only **16%**

The Impossible Housing Gap:

- **Modesto median home price:** \$439,000-\$465,000
- **Average voucher recipient earns:** \$22,100/year
- **Living wage needed for family of four:** \$48,600/year per adult
- **Gap:** Voucher recipients would need to MORE THAN DOUBLE their income

2-bedroom rent: \$1,650/month (district average)

32% of district renters spend over 50% of income on rent

Time to Take Action!

Impact on District Residents

Vulnerable populations:

- **91%** of Stanislaus Regional Housing Authority participants are **very low-income** (under 50% AMI)
- 59% are extremely low-income across the entire district (under 30% AMI)
- Significant veteran population dependent on HUD-VASH programs
- Rural communities with limited housing options and long waiting lists (up to 10 years for public housing)

Extreme wildfire risk across the district:

- **Tuolumne County: 82% of homes at substantial wildfire risk** (worst in California)
- **Mariposa County: 67% of homes at risk** (4th worst in California)
- **Calaveras, Amador, El Dorado counties** also rank in top 10 statewide for wildfire risk
- Insurance companies have largely abandoned the Sierra foothills due to fire risk
- Ongoing rebuilding and recovery efforts dependent on federal assistance

Gold Country and Central Valley challenges:

- Limited affordable housing in historic Gold Country communities like Jackson, Sonora, and Placerville
- Rural isolation compounds housing affordability challenges
- Tourism pressure in foothill communities reducing long-term housing stock
- Agricultural workers in Central Valley portions need affordable housing near employment

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 to states with fewer federal protections
- \$700+ million cut from homelessness programs

Impact of two-year time limits:

- Would harm working families—most non-elderly, non-disabled recipients are employed
- Average voucher recipient income (\$22,100) is less than 45% of the MIT Living Wage (\$48,600 annually) for the Central Valley region
- Fair market rents increased 54% between 2020-2024, drastically outpacing the 16% wage growth in the region
- Annual housing cost estimated at \$19,800 for single adults, \$26,400 for families with children in the Gold Country/Central Valley
- Creates housing instability during crucial periods of children's development in rural school districts
- Disrupts established school attendance and educational progress in small mountain and valley communities
- Particularly devastating in wildfire-prone areas where families need long-term stability for recovery

Protect HUD Funding!

Take Action Today!

Contact Your Representative:

U.S. Representative:

- Rep. Tom McClintock: (202) 225-2511 and (916) 786-5560

U.S. Senators:

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

Contact Key Committee Members

- House Appropriations Transportation-HUD Subcommittee Chair: Rep. Steve Womack (R-AR): (202) 225-4301
- Senate Appropriations Transportation-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-05. I'm calling to urge [ELECTED's NAME] to protect HUD funding in the upcoming budget.

Our district faces unique challenges as the most wildfire-prone region in California, with over 80% of homes in Tuolumne County at substantial fire risk. Housing costs have increased 54% since 2020 while wages have risen only 16%. Many of our Gold Country and Central Valley communities depend on HUD programs for disaster recovery, affordable housing development, and supporting our most vulnerable residents.

[SHARE YOUR PERSONAL STORY IF YOU HAVE ONE]

Our rural and mountain communities, including veterans, seniors, and wildfire survivors, depend on HUD programs for both day-to-day housing assistance and disaster recovery. The proposed cuts would be catastrophic for communities still rebuilding from devastating wildfires and facing extreme ongoing fire risk.

Please maintain funding for all HUD programs and reject proposals to impose time limits or convert programs to block grants. Our communities need MORE housing assistance and disaster recovery support, not less.

Thank you for your time and consideration."

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