



March 7, 2025

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Steve Womack
Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Clyburn
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Thank you for your long-established leadership in supporting the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The undersigned members of the CDBG Coalition urge you to support no less than \$4.2 billion for the program in FY26. With inflation and stagnant CDBG allocations, the program is not able to fully meet existing needs. Local grantees report receiving more CDBG funding requests than they can accommodate. Further, the cost of labor and materials related to the program's two major activities, infrastructure and housing rehabilitation, has increased exponentially. And, with rising inflation and housing costs, more people need assistance.

While we are seeking \$4.2 billion in FY26, the current authorized funding level for CDBG, we urge you to support no less than the \$3.3 billion approved by the House and Senate THUD subcommittees in a final FY25 spending measure.

CDBG strengthens communities. Rural, urban, and suburban areas all receive CDBG funds. It is an essential resource for helping communities tackle serious challenges such as preserving owner-occupied single-family housing, installing and improving critical infrastructure such as water and sanitation systems, providing critical life-saving improvements such as fire equipment in rural areas, funding food banks, and providing homelessness prevention services, to name a few important activities addressed by CDBG. *There is no other federal program that provides communities with the resources to collectively address these issues.*

One of the program's greatest strengths is its ability to leverage other investments. As a flexible resource, CDBG often serves to match other sources of public and private funds. It also helps projects and services become reality by providing gap funding to meet budget needs. The CDBG program demonstrates a high return on investment for taxpayer dollars. Every \$1.00 in CDBG investment leads to \$5.02 from other public and private sources.¹

As you consider FY25 and FY26 funding for programs under your jurisdiction, we urge you to support our requests for the CDBG program – a program that helps states and jurisdictions and their program partners address serious challenges to health, safety, and livability. Please feel free to contact Vicki Watson, National Community Development Association, at vwatson@ncdaonline.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

American Library Association
American Planning Association
Boys and Girls Clubs of America
Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
Council of State Community Development Agencies
Enterprise Community Partners
Feeding America
Habitat for Humanity International
Heartland Alliance
Housing Assistance Council
International Code Council
International Economic Development Council
KABOOM!

¹U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, FY25 Budget – Congressional Justification – Community Development Fund

Local Initiatives Support Corporation
National Association for County Community and Economic Development
National Association for Latino Community Asset Builders
National Association of Counties
National Association of Development Organizations
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies
National Association of Regional Councils
National Community Development Association
National League of Cities
Main Street America
National NeighborWorks Association
National Recreation and Park Association
National Rural Water Association
National Urban League
Rebuilding Together
Rural Community Assistance Partnership
The Trust for Public Land
U.S. Conference of Mayors
YWCA USA