

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 24, 2025

The Honorable Scott Turner  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th St SW  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Turner:

We write in response to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) reckless and disturbing policy change and funding announcement that could push 170,000 formerly homeless individuals back on the streets and exacerbate our nation's homelessness crisis.

As currently written, the Notice for Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Fiscal Year 2025 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program issued on November 13, 2025 by HUD would slash funding for permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs from 86% of CoC funds to just 30%, impose an extremely compressed application timeline creating a half-year funding gap, and deprioritize CoCs which use evidence-based solutions to end homelessness. At a time when our nation has over 771,000 people experiencing homelessness, this NOFO will worsen the situation, impacting people with disabilities, veterans, domestic violence survivors, women with children and more.

Housing First was first adopted on a bipartisan basis under President George W. Bush after much frustration with the ineffectiveness and costliness of high-barrier approaches to homelessness and has since been supported by additional administrations. It is a low-barrier approach used to provide stable and affordable housing for people experiencing homelessness without preconditions to ensure the most basic necessities like shelter and food are first met. But Housing First is not "housing only." It also ensures individuals have access to supportive services that are necessary to achieve successful outcomes, whether it be employment, substance abuse treatment, or mental health services. From 2005 to 2007, Housing First helped reduce chronic homelessness by 30 percent, and it remains a critical tool used by many local homeless service providers.<sup>1</sup>

We are also deeply concerned that the FY2025 NOFO only provides CoCs with 60 calendar days to apply, an unreasonably short timeframe, since the application process takes nearly 80 calendar days to complete and submit to HUD. Additionally, as HUD released the FY2025 NOFO so late in the year, this creates a nearly half year funding gap as FY2024 funds expire on December 31, 2025. This reckless timing will put critical homeless services at risk, leave rents unpaid, and put the most vulnerable people back on the streets.

Instead of continuing forward with the November 13 approach, we urge you to immediately rescind the harmful FY2025 NOFO, renew current grants under the requirements of the previous FY2024 NOFO, and ensure that CoCs using proven, evidence-based solutions receive the critical funds necessary to continue supporting people experiencing homelessness.

Sincerely,

<sup>1</sup> Urban Institute, [To end homelessness, Carson should continue Housing First approach](#) (Jan. 19, 2027).

*Maxine Waters*

Maxine Waters  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Financial Services

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Nancy Pelosi  
Member of Congress

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Nydia M. Velázquez  
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*Emanuel Cleaver, II*

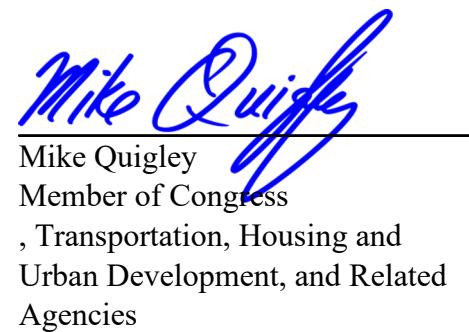
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*Hank Johnson*

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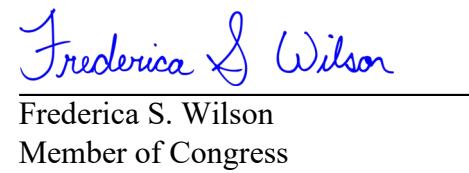
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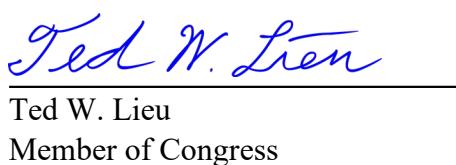
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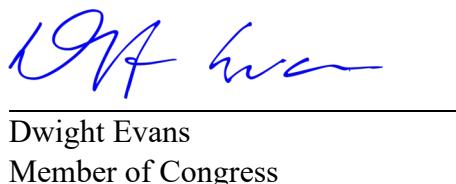
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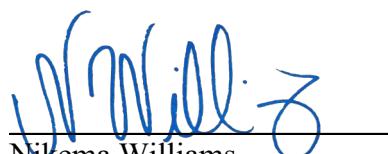
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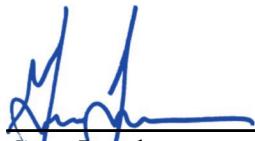
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Luz M. Rivas  
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CC: The Honorable French Hill, Chair, House Committee on Financial Services