

March 31, 2025

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

Dear Secretary Turner,

We write to express our strong opposition to the sudden termination of Fair Housing grants that threaten our country's fair housing infrastructure. The funding cuts to the organizations enforcing the statutory requirements of the Fair Housing Act, coupled with significant staffing reductions within the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), pose a serious risk to the progress we have made in combating housing discrimination and will increase housing insecurity among our constituents.

Reports¹ indicate that HUD's Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) has terminated approximately 78 grants - nearly half of its 162 active grants – undermining crucial fair housing services nationwide. While HUD has made multiple grant announcements for FY2023 and FY2024^{2,3,4}, it remains unclear exactly which grantees have been affected. Some of the organizations appear in multiple announcements due to possible grant extensions or multiple awards, making it difficult to determine the full scope of the funding cuts on the critical organizations that defend the nation's commitment to fair housing.

Fair Housing Centers serve as the frontline defense against discriminatory practices in the housing market. These organizations are responsible for investigating complaints, conducting audits, providing legal assistance to victims of housing discrimination⁵, leading enforcement actions against those who break Fair Housing laws, and using settlement awards to expand services to help more constituents find housing, free from housing discrimination. They ensure compliance with the Fair Housing Act, which prohibits discrimination by direct providers of housing, such as landlords, real estate companies, banks and lending institutions, and homeowners' insurance companies, based on an individual's race or color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, or disabilities. Through this work, Fair Housing Centers promote equitable housing practices and play a pivotal role in fostering inclusive communities.

The impact of the proposed funding cuts will be felt nationwide. There are over 160 organizations around the nation that depend on federal housing funding to serve vulnerable communities⁶. In Illinois, 11 organizations were listed in HUD's recent FHIP grant

¹ US News, 2025 *Trump Administration to Slash Funding for Enforcement of Fair Housing Laws*.
<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/michigan/articles/2025-02-28/trump-administration-to-slash-funding-for-enforcement-of-fair-housing-laws>

² <https://archives.hud.gov/news/2024/FY24StatebyStateYr2and3PElandFY23EOIawards.pdf>

³ https://archives.hud.gov/news/2024/FY2023_FHIP_Awards.pdf

⁴ <https://archives.hud.gov/news/2023/FHIP-Chart.pdf>

⁵ HUD https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/partners/FHIP

⁶ Associated Press, *Trump Administration to slash funding for enforcement of fair housing laws*.
<https://apnews.com/article/trump-doge-housing-crisis-cuts-discrimination-d0c6e3b4b030787a1f60a7dc153153dd>

announcements. In Indianapolis, there are 20 grantees listed in the FHIP grant announcements, with one organization indicating they will lose approximately \$50,000 in funding after the Administration abruptly terminated one of their grants⁷. Additionally, there are at least two grantees— one in Idaho⁸ and one in Florida⁹—that have already reported partial grant terminations. Given the uncertainty surrounding these cuts, made more difficult by the Administration’s deletion of thousands of government websites¹⁰, it is critical to clarify which organizations have been impacted and to assess how these changes will impact fair housing enforcement at the state and local levels.

Fair Housing Centers contribute to the creation of equitable and fair access to housing. The services provided by fair housing centers are indispensable to a large and diverse set of Americans, including but not limited to:

- African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, and other racial and ethnic minorities who have historically faced systemic discrimination in housing.
- Persons with disabilities seeking accessibility and reasonable accommodation in housing under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Families with children who have been denied access to housing because they have [children](#).

The reported funding cuts to FHIP and staffing reductions at HUD threaten significant consequences for our communities:

- **Discrimination may increase and proliferate** due to a lack of adequate enforcement, undermining decades of progress paid for with taxpayer dollars.
- **Limitations on legal recourse** would make it increasingly challenging for victims of discrimination to seek justice, leading to a decline in reported cases, an increase in unsolved grievances, and a lack of accountability for bad actors.
- **Erosion of public trust** may lead communities to lose faith in the government’s commitment to uphold their civil rights in housing.

Additionally, proposed staffing cuts at HUD would severely impact the Department’s ability to process discrimination complaints and enforce Fair Housing laws. Specifically, these drastic cuts would have catastrophic consequences for Fair Housing Assistance Programs (FHAP), public housing operations, and mortgage insurance programs that millions of people rely upon. These proposed staffing cuts threaten to dismantle vital housing support systems and put countless lifelines for working families in jeopardy.

7 WFYI, *Impacts of Trump Administration funding cuts hit the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana*.
<https://www.wfyi.org/news/articles/impacts-of-trump-administration-funding-cuts-hit-the-fair-housing-center-of-central-indiana>

8 KTVB, 2025 *Vulnerable Idahoans without legal aid after HUD cancels fair housing grants*
<https://www.ktvb.com/article/news/local/vulnerable-idahoans-without-legal-aid-after-hud-cancels-fair-housing-grants-national/277-debd2c95-622b-4519-83e9-cbdcf71b66c2>

9 WPTV, 2025 *Trump administration making cuts to federal funding for fair housing assistance*
<https://www.wptv.com/news/state/trump-administration-making-cuts-to-federal-funding-for-fair-housing-assistance>

10 NY Times, 2025 *Thousands of U.S. Government Web Pages Have Been Taken Down Since Friday*.
<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/02/02/upshot/trump-government-websites-missing-pages.html>

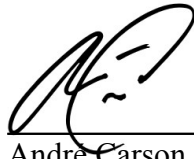
Per the recent court ruling by Judge Stearns, we demand that HUD reinstate all Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) grants.¹¹ We request a detailed response no later than Friday, April 4th, 2025, detailing which organizations have had their funding reinstated and an assessment of the possible consequences should grantees not have their funds reinstated. Fair and equal housing is a fundamental human right, and we must take action to safeguard it.

We appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and look forward to your response.

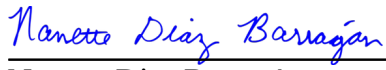
Sincerely,




Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress




Andre Carson
Member of Congress



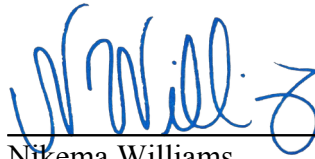
Nanette Diaz Barragan
Member of Congress




Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress




Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields
Member of Congress

¹¹ National Fair Housing Alliance, *National Fair Housing Alliance Applauds Court Decision Halting HUD's and the DOGE Task Force's Termination of Grants to Fight Housing Discrimination*
<https://nationalfairhousing.org/national-fair-housing-alliance-applauds-court-decision-halting-huds-and-doges-termination-of-grants-to-fight-housing-discrimination/>



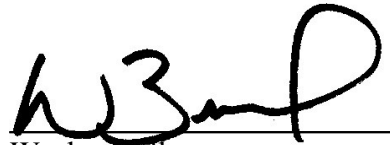
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress



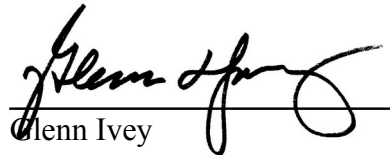
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



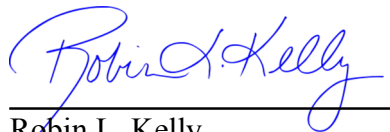
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress



Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

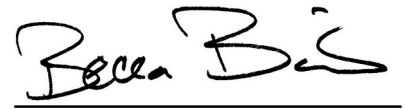



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress





Dwight Evans
Member of Congress

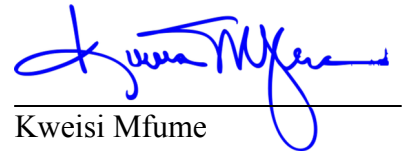

Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress

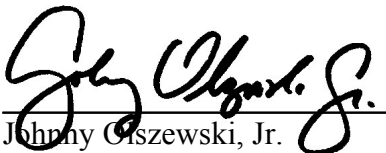

Becca Balint
Member of Congress

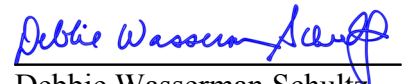

Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress

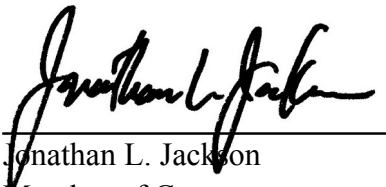

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress

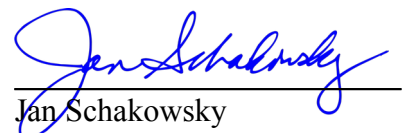

Johnny Oiszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress


Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress


Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress


Darren Soto
Member of Congress


Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress


Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



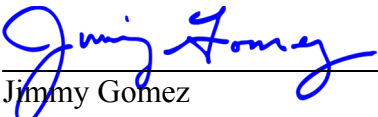
Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Ed Case
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



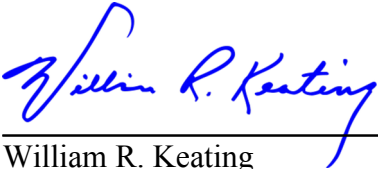
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



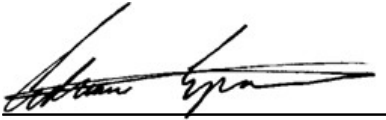
Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



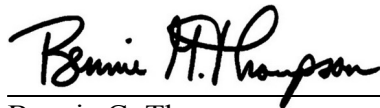
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress