



July 22, 2025

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

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
Chair
THUD Appropriations Subcommittee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
Ranking Member
THUD Appropriations Subcommittee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Chair Hyde-Smith, and Ranking Member Gillibrand,

The undersigned members of the CDBG Coalition thank you for your support of HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. We are urging that the program be fully funded at \$3.3 billion in FY26 to keep up with local development needs across the country.

CDBG is a highly impactful federal program that allows States and local governments and their program partners to craft locally driven solutions to urgent community development needs in four program areas: public facilities and infrastructure, public services, affordable housing, and economic development. There is no other federal program that provides communities with the resources and flexibility to collectively address these issues.

Program benefits are seen in every state and county, where local leaders are finding innovative solutions for unique community needs. In **Maine**, this included 18 workforce housing units in Waterville and 48 affordable housing apartments in Belfast in FY24. Since the State of Maine began administering the CDBG program in 1982, it has invested over \$600 million in Maine's rural communities. In **Washington State**, \$250,000 in CDBG funds will provide continued microenterprise technical assistance to support small businesses and entrepreneurs in Okanogan County. Additionally, \$1.62 million will be used to replace HVAC systems in Ellensburg's Public Library and Community Center in 2025. Last year, the City of Olympia's Energize Olympia program worked to increase energy efficiency in 22 LMI households by providing subsidized heat pumps thanks to CDBG.

CDBG has helped to create and retain over 23,000 jobs across **Mississippi** since FY05, proving that the program is invaluable in fostering long term development. In FY25, **New**



York's Homes and Community Renewal allocated \$27 million of the State's CDBG allocation to support 31 projects in non-entitlement communities across the state. These awards included 10 community planning projects, seven public facilities, and 14 public infrastructure projects. Projects range from ADA improvements to improving wastewater treatment plants to job skills training for people with disabilities.

These are just a few examples of how grantees and their local partners use the program to craft locally driven solutions to community development needs. Additionally, the CDBG program has had a strong record of success over the past five decades. Since FY05, HUD estimates that over 2 million people have directly benefited from CDBG funded affordable housing projects and nearly 54 million people have directly benefitted from CDBG infrastructure projects alone. The program has created/retained 581,491 economic development related jobs since FY05. The CDBG program also receives a high return on investment of taxpayer dollars – every \$1.00 in CDBG investment leverages \$5.02 from other public and private sources.

We applaud and appreciate your support and recognition of the value that the CDBG program brings to communities across the nation. We look forward to partnering with the committee on continued investments in the CDBG program. Please direct any questions or requests to Vicki Watson (vwatson@ncdaonline.org), National Community Development Association, or Jenna Hampton (jhampton@coscda.org), National Council of State Community Development Agencies.

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!
Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Main Street America
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
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