



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

Housing Task Force Annual Report for 2018

2018 TOP ACTIVITIES

In 2018 the Housing Task Force continued to work to increase access to affordable, accessible, inclusive housing in the community for people with disabilities and to protect the rights guaranteed under the Fair Housing Act. Top activities included those listed below. All CCD letters and comments are available on the CCD website.

HUD Section 811 Project-Based Rental Assistance (PRA) Demonstration Program and “Mainstream” Voucher Program

Adequate funding and strong implementation of the HUD Section 811 PRA and “mainstream” voucher programs continued to be a major priority for the Housing Task Force in 2017. The Task Force submitted a statement for the record to the Senate T-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee urging adequate funding for the PRA and “mainstream” voucher programs. The Task Force also opposed work requirements proposed under the Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act.

Progress continues on leasing up the new 811 PRA units that Congress funded in FY 2012, FY 2013 and FY 2014. Additional information can be found at: <http://811resourcecenter.tacinc.org/>. Congress also provided \$86 million in new funding in the FY 2018 Omnibus. The Task Force urged HUD to move forward promptly with issuing a NOFA directing these funds to the 811 PRA program. Unfortunately, HUD ended 2018 without issuing the NOFA.

For the first time in nearly 15 years, in 2017 and 2018 Congress allocated funding for new tenant-based rental assistance under the 811 “mainstream” program – vouchers targeted to non-elderly people with disabilities. Congress funded this program between FY 1996 and FY 2002. Congress allocated \$13 million in the FY 2017 and \$385 million in FY 2018 for new mainstream vouchers for non-elderly people with disabilities. In April 2018, HUD published a NOFA to award up to \$100 million of these funds. The Task Force worked closely with the Technical Assistance Collaborative to educate potential applicants about the NOFA and encourage strong applications, including sponsoring and presenting on webinars for housing agencies and disability advocates. In September 2018, HUD awarded 2,027 vouchers to 286 public housing agencies, totaling \$98,949,908. Additional information can be found at: <http://www.tacinc.org/knowledge-resources/2017-mainstream-voucher-nofa-resource-page/>.

Fair Housing Act

The Task Force opposed a proposal reportedly floated by the HUD Secretary to remove anti-

discrimination language from the HUD mission statement. The Task Force continued to advocate for full implementation of HUD's 2015 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule. The Task Force submitted comments in March opposing HUD's effective suspension of the rule, in August supporting continued use of the disparate impact standard, and in October on a HUD Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on streamlining the AFFH rule.

Rent Increases and Work Requirements in Housing

The Task Force opposed multiple proposals to increase rents and impose work requirements in HUD-assisted housing. The Task Force coordinated a CCD-wide sign on letter opposing two draft bills, the "Making Affordable Housing Work Act", proposed by HUD, and the "Promoting Resident Opportunity through Rent Reform Act, proposed by Rep. Dennis Ross. The Task Force worked with the National Low Income Housing Coalition to oppose these proposals in press releases and statements. The Task Force also submitted comments opposing proposed rent increases and work requirements under an expansion of HUD's Moving to Work program.

Other Activities

The Task Force supported reintroduction of the Eleanor Smith Inclusive Home Design Act. The Task Force submitted comments to the Federal Housing Finance Agency on proposed "Affordable Housing Program Amendments." The Task Force opposed expansion of the definition of "homeless" for the purpose of eligibility for HUD's homeless assistance programs under the Homeless Children and Youth Act.

TASK FORCE MEETING TIME AND DAY OF MONTH:

The Task Force met on the third Thursday of each month from 12:30 to 2:00 pm.

TASK FORCE WEB PAGE:

http://c-c-d.org/rubriques.php?rub=taskforce.php&id_task=8

TASK FORCE CO-CHAIRS IN 2018:

Andrew Sperling, National Alliance on Mental Illness

T.J. Sutcliffe, The Arc of the United State