

NEW ENGLAND HOUSING NETWORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Looking Towards an Uncertain Future:
Building Support for Affordable Housing
in a Time of Economic Distress

Friday, December 7, 2012

8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Sheraton Framingham Hotel

Framingham, MA

Lead Agencies:

- CT Connecticut Housing Coalition
- MA Citizens' Housing and Planning Association
- ME Maine Affordable Housing Coalition
- NH Housing Action New Hampshire
- RI Housing Action Coalition of Rhode Island
- VT Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition

CONFERENCE AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Conference Agenda at a Glance

8:30 a.m.

Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Welcome

Plenary Sessions:

- *Perspectives from the Regional U.S. Administrators*
- *Perspectives from the National Housing Advocacy Groups*

11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops

12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 - 2:45 p.m.

Afternoon Plenary:

Exploring the Intersection of Housing and Health Care, Public Education, and Economic Independence

3:00 - 3:45 p.m.

Planning Groups:

Formulating New England Approaches to Housing and Health, Education, and Economic Independence

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The incoming Administration and Congress will immediately have to deal with critical budget questions. Will the devastating sequestration cuts be allowed to move forward? What will happen to programs for which level funding really means a reduction in services? Is there anything that can derail us from the path towards a budget cliff for the housing and community development programs which provide safe living conditions for millions of people across our country? How can we develop relationships with allies in other areas, such as health care, public education, and economic independence, so that we can convey the importance of housing as a underlying factor to success?

Join housing advocates, developers, housing authorities, government officials, tenants, lenders, service providers, attorneys, and many others involved in the creation, management, and preservation of affordable housing from all six New England states for a one-day conference dealing with issues critical to our region. Conference participants will learn the latest information from national and local experts, share information on affordable housing and community development initiatives in each of our states, and learn how the current economic crisis will impact our efforts.

Our day will include plenary sessions featuring key Administration officials and national advocacy organizations; a choice of a specialized workshop; and an opportunity to engage with advocates in allied fields of health care, public education, and economic independence.

About the New England Housing Network:

The New England Housing Network is a coalition of affordable housing and community development organizations from the six New England states. The Network works on joint activities to preserve and expand the supply of affordable housing in New England.



9:00 - 9:10 a.m.

Welcome

Joseph Flatley, President, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association and President and CEO, Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation

9:10 - 10:00 a.m.

Plenary Session: Perspectives from the U.S. Regional Administrators

Having access to safe and affordable housing is a key to success for many individuals and families. This means that housing, health care, environmental, and transportation agencies must understand the importance of working together to create effective and efficient programs that cross sectors. This plenary will bring together the regional administrators who are responsible for implementing key federal programs in New England.

Moderator: *Benjamin Frost, Director, Public Affairs, New Hampshire Housing*

Barbara Fields, New England Regional Administrator, HUD

Curt Spaulding, Environmental Protection Agency New England, Regional Administrator

Mary Beth Mello, U.S. Department of Transportation, Regional Administrator, FTA Region 1

Betsy Rosenfeld, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Acting Regional Health Administrator, Region 1

10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Plenary Session: Perspectives from the National Housing Advocacy Groups

What do national housing advocates predict will happen with the federal budget and what will be the impact on housing and community development programs? Should we be bracing for sequestration, or will there be another solution proposed before cuts take effect? What can we in New England do to support reasonable budget approaches and promote legislation which can provide new tools to create and preserve affordable housing?

Moderator: *Cindy Rowe, Director, New England Housing Network*

Barbara Burnham, Vice President for Federal Policy, Local Initiatives Support Corporation

Sheila Crowley, President, National Low Income Housing Coalition

Chris Estes, President and CEO, National Housing Conference

Peter Lawrence, Senior Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs, Enterprise Community Partners

Barbara Sard, Vice President for Federal Policy, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

11:15 – 11:30 a.m.

Break



1) Beyond Appropriations: Changes and Opportunities in Housing Policy

As practitioners and advocates, we often focus on the funding side of what's happening in Washington. However, there are major changes in tax policy and housing finance under discussion in Washington and around the country which could lead to sweeping changes in housing opportunities for our communities. This panel will take a timely and relevant look at the future of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, the mortgage interest deduction, the Low Income Housing Tax Credit and other key housing policy concerns, with a focus on the likely impact of the 2012 elections.

Moderator:

Greg Payne, Coordinator, Maine Affordable Housing Coalition (ME)

Speakers:

Sheila Crowley, President and CEO, National Low Income Housing Coalition

Joseph Flatley, President and CEO, Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation

Thomas J. Coté, Assistant Director, New York State Association for Affordable Housing

2) Sustainable Communities: New England Takes on Connecting Housing, Transportation and Local Economies

Every New England state has received grant support from HUD's Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities to connect housing to jobs, foster local innovation and support a clean energy economy. This workshop will provide an overview of the New England projects and explore common challenges and best practices. In addition, participants will discuss concerns about future federal funding for this program and brainstorm opportunities to continue to foster this work long-term.

Moderator:

Elissa Margolin, Director, Housing Action NH

Speakers:

Neal Allen, Executive Director, Greater Portland Council of Governments (ME)

Charles Baker, Executive Director, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (VT)

Tim Brennan, Executive Director, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (MA/CT)

Barbara Burnham, Vice President for Federal Policy, Local Initiatives Support Corporation

Marc Draisen, Executive Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MA)

Kevin Flynn, Associate Director, Rhode Island Division of Planning

Christine Walker, Executive Director, Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (NH)

3) Section 8 in an Age of Shrinking Resources

Section 8 Rental Assistance is the nation's largest, and one of its most successful low-income housing programs. Over 260,000 New England households receive some form of assistance. Given the realities of the federal deficit and significant underfunding proposed for FY 13 by both the House and the Obama Administration, what is the future of Tenant and Project Based Rental Assistance? What are the prospects for legislative reform through the Affordable Housing and Self-Sufficiency Improvement Act (AHSSIA)? How are local PHAs dealing with reduced administrative fees and reduced Fair Market Rents? How could a new proposal for a renter's tax credit complement Section 8 in an era of shrinking resources? Come hear details about what lies ahead for Section 8, both in the form of legislative changes and funding realities.

Moderator: *Erhard Mahnke*, Coordinator, Vermont Affordable Housing Coalition

Speakers:

Joe D'Ascoli, Director of Rental Assistance, Springfield Housing Authority (MA)

Barbara Sard, Vice President for Federal Policy, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

4) Public Housing: A Perfect Storm

Cash-strapped Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) are used to doing more with less, but some changes on the horizon signal a “sea change” in the way PHAs will deliver housing. From the Rental Assistance Demonstration to Operating Reserve offsets to a growing emphasis on resident participation, there is a new normal emerging. To remain vibrant and effective, PHAs must both resist harmful changes and embrace those that can advance their missions. This workshop will examine the trends and highlight new ways PHAs can “ride the tide” of change.

Moderator: *Betsy Crum*, Executive Director, Connecticut Housing Coalition

Speakers:

Patrick Costigan, Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary, HUD

Michael Myatt, Executive Director, Bangor Housing Authority (ME)

Vincent O'Donnell, Vice President, Affordable Housing Preservation Initiative, Local Initiatives Support Corporation

5) Supportive Housing – Best Practices, New Challenges, and Opportunities

Supportive housing is a proven success for ending homelessness and creating community inclusion for people with disabilities. While the needs have grown, waiting lists for services and shrinking resources have posed threats to the ability to create this important resource. However, these threats have spawned the creation of new models with broader applicability. Some new tools include the new streamlined HUD 811 which will allow supportive housing to be better integrated to LIHTC affordable housing developments, opportunities presented with Medicaid expansion and the Affordable Care Act, and the use of technology to keep people successful in their homes with dramatically less intrusive staffing. This workshop will discuss effective models for serving people who are homeless, people who are elderly, people with developmental/intellectual disabilities, and people with mental illness/substance abuse issues.

Moderator: *Cullen Ryan*, Executive Director, Community Housing of Maine

Speakers:

Michelle Brophy, Director, Rhode Island Interagency Council on Homelessness

Sarah Gallagher, Director, CT Program, Corporation for Supportive Housing

Jeanie Shattuck, Senior Policy Analyst, Enterprise Community Partners

6) Foreclosures and Neighborhood Stabilization

Foreclosures have disrupted lives and destabilized neighborhoods throughout New England. After four years, the foreclosure crisis is not over, but new efforts are under way to assist impacted homeowners and communities. This panel will address ways our states and community partners are acquiring, rehabilitating and reoccupying foreclosed properties, as well as the potential use of new sources of funding from the attorney generals' national settlement to encourage community stabilization.

Moderator: *Joan Carty*, President and CEO, Housing Development Fund (CT)

Speakers:

Chris Estes, President and CEO, National Housing Conference

Peter Lawrence, Senior Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs, Enterprise Community Partners

Carol Marine, Program Manager, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (MA)

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Lunch

Lunch Speaker: *Pamela Hughes Patenaude*, Director, Housing Policy, Bipartisan Policy Center

1:30 - 2:45 p.m.

Afternoon Plenary:

Exploring the Intersection of Housing and Health Care, Public Education, and Economic Independence

Having access to affordable and safe housing is a key to success. Without a stable home, providing health care, a quality public education, and the ability to begin down the road of economic independence is much more difficult, if not impossible. This afternoon plenary will explore the work of the MacArthur Foundation in exploring these areas, and provide insights from national researchers and advocates about the impact of having a secure home.

Introduction: *Brenda Clement*, Executive Director, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association

Facilitator: *Ianna Kachoris*, Program Officer for Housing, MacArthur Foundation

Speakers:

Jeffrey Lubell, Executive Director, Center for Housing Policy

Rebecca Morley, Executive Director, National Center for Healthy Housing

Richard Rothstein, Research Associate, Economic Policy Institute, and Senior Fellow, Chief Justice Earl Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy, University of California (Berkeley) School of Law

3:00 - 3:45 p.m.

Planning Groups: *Formulating New England Approaches to Housing and Health, Education, and Economic Independence*

How can we in New England pursue relationships between housing and the topics we have explored as part of the plenary? Are there specific ways we can work together that will result in better and increased housing options? These planning groups will focus on discussing the next steps in thinking about how we can support our shared agendas throughout the region.

Education: *Angela Romans*, Senior Advisor on Education, Office of Mayor Angel Taveres (Providence, RI)

Facilitator: *Jessica Buhler*, Board Member, Housing Action Coalition - RI

Health Care: *Dr. Megan Sandel*, Interim Executive Director, National Center for Medical Legal Partnership

Facilitator: *Kenn Sassorossi*, Vice President for Partner Relations, Housing Vermont

Economic Independence: *Melissa Jones*, Program Officer, Resilient Communities/Resilient Families and Community Safety Initiatives, Boston LISC

Facilitator: *Tanya Kubas-Meyer*, Secretary, Housing Action Coalition - RI

From the East

Follow the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90) West to Exit 12.
Bear Left after the toll (turns into Route 9 West towards Framingham).
Stay in the right lane. The hotel is the first building on the right.

From the West

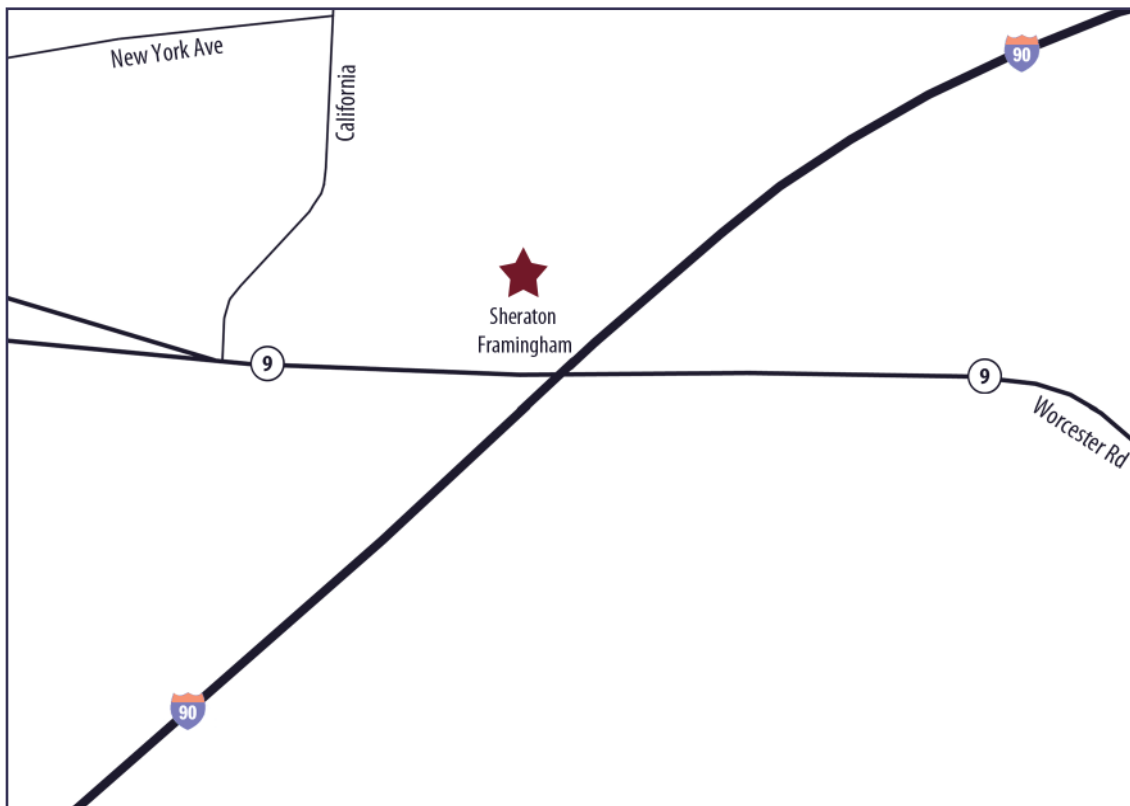
Follow the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate 90) East to Exit 12.
Bear left after the toll (turns into Route 9 West towards Framingham).
Stay in the right lane. The hotel is the first building on the right.

From the South

Take Interstate 95 North to Exit 6B (Interstate 495 North towards Worcester).
Continue on I-495 North for about 25 miles. Take Exit 22 (Massachusetts Turnpike/Interstate 90 East) towards Boston.
Follow the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90) East to Exit 12.
Bear left after the toll (turns into Route 9 West towards Framingham).
Stay in the right lane. The hotel is the first building on the right.

From the North

Take Interstate 93 South to Exit 37B (Interstate 95 South/Route 128 South towards Waltham).
Follow I-95/Rte. 128 South to Exit 25 (Interstate 90 West/Massachusetts Turnpike).
From the Massachusetts Turnpike take Exit 12 and bear left after the toll (turns into Route 9 West towards Framingham).
Stay in the right lane. The hotel is the first building on the right.



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Conference fee: \$85.00

We encourage you to register online at <http://www.chapa.org/event/new-england-housing-network-annual-conference>.

If registering by mail, please photocopy and send a separate registration form for each person attending.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I will attend the following workshop: _____

Enclosed is my conference registration fee of \$85.00.

Please make check(s) payable to: CHAPA, 18 Tremont Street, Suite 401, Boston, MA 02108

Credit cards are also accepted. Type of Credit Card (check one):

MasterCard Visa American Express

Credit card number: _____

Expiration date: _____

For more information, contact CHAPA at:

Tel: 617-742-0820

Fax: 617-742-3953

PLEASE NOTE: No refunds will be granted to anyone who registers, but fails to attend the conference or who cancels after November 28, 2012.