

NEW ENGLAND HOUSING NETWORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Thinking Boldly:
Innovative Approaches to
New England's Affordable
Housing Challenges



Special Guest Speaker: Barney Frank

Friday, December 12, 2014, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Sheraton Needham Hotel, Needham, 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



New England HOUSING NETWORK

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.

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

- 8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Remarks from Congressman Barney Frank
- 9:30 a.m. National Advocates Plenary
- 10:30 a.m. Fighting the Rise in Homelessness - 100,000 Homes Plenary
- 11:30 a.m. Changing the Message Plenary
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch and Health and Housing Plenary
- 2:15 p.m. Afternoon Workshops

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

What can we expect from the Administration and Congress with respect to housing policy and funding this term? How can we use the tools we have to confront problems such as chronic homelessness? Are there innovative ways for us to think about sustainability and health and housing issues? Should we be changing the way we talk about housing needs to our national and local officials and the press? These are some of the questions we will confront at the 2014 New England Housing Network conference.

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 hear the latest information from national and local experts, and share innovative ideas on affordable housing and community development initiatives.

Our day will include plenary sessions featuring an overview of federal budget and legislative concerns, chronic homelessness, and messaging; a lunch plenary featuring Medicaid Officials from all six New England states; a choice of a specialized workshop; and the opportunity to engage with advocates across our six state region.

MORNING SESSIONS

9:00 a.m. – **WELCOME**

9:10 a.m.

*Chrystal Kornegay, President and CEO, Urban Edge
President, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA)*

9:10 a.m. – **SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:**

9:30 a.m.

*Congressman Barney Frank (Retired)
Chairman, House Financial Services Committee 2007-2011*

Barney Frank served as a Massachusetts Congressman for sixteen terms, holding office from 1981 - 2013. As Chair of the House Financial Services Committee, he was a primary author of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, signed into law in July 2010, which was designed to overhaul the financial sector to prevent another devastating sub-prime mortgage crisis. Congressman Frank was also a leading advocate for the successful creation of the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund. A survey of Capital Hill staffers named him the "brainiest," "funniest," and "most eloquent" member of the House.

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

9:30 a.m. – **PERSPECTIVES FROM THE NATIONAL ADVOCATES**

10:30 a.m.

How will the mid-term Congressional elections impact housing and community development programs? What can housing advocates accomplish in the last two years of the Obama Administration? Our national experts will share with us their thoughts on how we can have an impact on upcoming federal budget and legislative issues.

Moderator:

Greg Payne, Coordinator, Maine Affordable Housing Coalition

Speakers:

Joe Belden, Deputy Executive Director, Housing Assistance Council

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

Linda Couch, Senior Vice President for Policy, National Low Income Housing Coalition

Chris Estes, President and CEO, National Housing Conference

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

Diane Yentel, Vice President of Public Policy, Enterprise Community Partners

10:30 a.m. – **BREAK**

10:40 a.m.

MORNING SESSIONS

10:40 a.m. – **FIGHTING THE RISE IN HOMELESSNESS – THE 100,000 HOMES CAMPAIGN**
11:30 a.m.

Homelessness in America is a public health emergency; the mortality rate for street homelessness is on par with some forms of cancer, cutting a person's lifespan by an average of 25 years. The 100,000 Homes campaign was launched four years ago as a focused effort to end chronic homelessness across the country. By July 2014, this effort was a great success, resulting in 105,580 total individuals housed, including 31,171 Veterans. As the National Field Organizer, Linda Kaufman was one of the key players in this victory. Now the work continues with a goal of completing ending homelessness for the most vulnerable. In what will be an inspiring and invigorating plenary, Linda will show us how we can get there.

Speaker: *Linda Kaufman, National Movement Manager, Community Solutions*

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

11:30 a.m. – **CHANGING THE MESSAGING: BRINGING ATTENTION TO THE NEED FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING**
12:30 p.m.

Creating support and maintaining funding for affordable housing and community development is a challenge nationally and on the state and local levels. National groups have been working to develop strategies on the most effective ways we can talk about the pressing need for housing, and how this ties to a more comprehensive conversation around poverty and safety net programs.

Come hear what our national allies have discovered in their polling and research efforts, and how we can apply this to our advocacy and education campaigns.

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

Speakers:

Allie Carter, Director of Digital Strategy, Center for Community Change

Chris Estes, President and CEO, National Housing Conference

Regan Lachapelle, Senior Communications Associate, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

LUNCHEON PLENARY SESSION

12:30 p.m. – **CREATING A WIN-WIN SITUATION:**
2:00 p.m.

IMPROVING HOUSING, IMPROVING HEALTH CARE

Excessive housing costs, homelessness and poor housing quality exert a high medical toll. Subsidized housing is home to some of the nation's poorest households, many elderly and/or disabled, yet the potential of affordable housing based interventions to improve health remains largely untapped. Solutions depend on understanding the interaction among behavioral, clinical, policy, systems, occupational and environmental determinants of health. In this plenary session, Medicaid officials from throughout New England will discuss how changes to our health care financing system create new incentives for our sectors to work together to address both issues of housing and health care.

Moderator: *Brenda Clement, Executive Director, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA)*

Speakers:

Lori Collins, Deputy Commissioner, Policy, Fiscal & Support Services Division, Department of Vermont Health Access

Deidre Gifford, MD, MPH, Director of Policy and Innovation, Executive Office, Rhode Island Health and Human Services

Kate McEvoy, Director, Division of Health Services, State of Connecticut Department of Social Services

Corinne Altman Moore, Director of Policy, MassHealth

Stefanie Nadeau, Director, Office of MaineCare Services, Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Lisabritt Solsky, Esq., Deputy Director, Office of Medicaid Business and Policy, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services



AFTERNOON CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

2:15 p.m. – (SELECT ONE) Afternoon Workshops with National and
3:30 p.m. Regional Speakers to discuss:

1) TAKING A “DEEPER DIVE” INTO FEDERAL BUDGET AND LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Our national allies will be on hand for a more in-depth conversation about your public policy questions. This session will focus on how we can work on the state and regional levels to have an impact on housing and community development policy.

Moderator: Amy Rainone, Director, Intergovernmental Relations, Rhode Island Housing

Speakers:

Joe Belden, Deputy Executive Director, Housing Assistance Council

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

Linda Couch, Senior Vice President for Policy, National Low Income Housing Coalition

Chris Estes, President and CEO, National Housing Conference

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

Diane Yentel, Vice President of Public Policy, Enterprise Community Partners

2) COMBATING THE RISE IN HOMELESSNESS

Ending chronic homelessness by 2015 is a challenge, but appears increasingly doable, with a number of cities already achieving success. One of the more promising ways to expedite the eradication of chronic homelessness is blending homeless populations into traditional Low Income Housing Tax Credit properties. We will hear from panelists who have done this and analyzed the results. Find out what they learned works (and what doesn't), as we use our most successful housing tools as vehicles to end chronic homelessness in New England. This workshop will also touch on various current topics, including Coordinated Assessments and other HEARTH Act expectations, housing successes with homeless Veterans, and the Olmstead decision.

Moderator: Elissa Margolin, Director, Housing Action New Hampshire

Speakers:

Betsy Crum, Executive Director, Connecticut Housing Coalition

Michele Harlan, Community Mental Health Program Administrator, New Hampshire Division of Community Based Care Services, Bureau of Behavioral Health

Linda Kaufman, National Movement Manager, Community Solutions

Cullen Ryan, Executive Director, Community Housing of Maine

Lisa Stewart, Associate, Technical Assistance Collaborative

AFTERNOON CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

3) MAXIMIZING RESOURCES BY IMPLEMENTING SUSTAINABLE OPERATIONS

The goal of this workshop is to provide the audience with tools to plan, develop and operate sustainable, affordable multi-family housing. Speakers will share perspectives on rural and urban preservation strategies; energy monitoring; and property and asset management all within the context of sustainability. Financing, retrofit options and various “green” rating systems will also be discussed.

Moderator: *Laura Buxbaum, Director, Housing Resource and Policy Development, CEI*

Speakers:

Ray Demers, Program Officer, Green Communities - Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.

Caroline Edwards, Project Manager, Urban Edge

Elisabeth Kulas, Executive Director, Housing Trust of Rutland County

Dan Teague, Director, Business Development, WegoWise

4) THE INTERSECTION OF HEALTH AND HOUSING

Community development and housing organizations have long understood that there is a connection between safe, quality affordable housing and the physical and emotional well-being of their residents. Health care providers have also been acutely aware of their limitations in providing treatment to individuals residing in inadequate housing and unsafe environments. The Affordable Care Act’s performance-based payment system, and its requirements for tri-annual community health needs assessments, creates a framework for both sectors to collaborate. In addition, programs such as HUD’s Choice Neighborhoods, as well as state public health initiatives, are designed to stimulate cross-sector collaborations. This workshop will explore how community development and other non-profit organizations have partnered with health care institutions, the tools and resources they are using, and how they are changing their organizational frameworks to support these efforts.

Moderator: *Deborah Boatright, Regional Vice President, NeighborWorks*

Speakers:

Stacey Chacker, Director, Asthma Regional Council, New England

Nancy Eldridge, Executive Director, Cathedral Square Corporation

Jeanne Pinado, CEO and Executive Director, Madison Park Development Corporation

Vin Tufo, Executive Director, Charter Oak Communities

AFTERNOON CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

5) REFRAMING HOUSING: MESSAGES FOR EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY

As housing advocates, we understand the positive impact affordable homes have on education, health, the economy, and communities as a whole. Even so, only one out of every four people in need of housing assistance receives it, waiting lists are long, and budget cuts have left even more families without stable homes. At this session, you'll hear from national housing communication experts on communications techniques and tested messages that can elevate our work on the local and national agenda, and have the opportunity to put these new techniques into practice.

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

Speakers:

Amy Clark, Director of Marketing and Communications, National Housing Conference

Regan Lachapelle, Senior Communications Associate, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

EVENT SPONSORS

GOLD LEVEL:



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HOUSING MINISTRIES OF
NEW ENGLAND

FRIENDS:

- ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION
- VERMONT HOUSING AND CONSERVATION BOARD

HOTEL DIRECTIONS

Directions to the [Sheraton Needham Hotel](#), (800) 325-3535
100 Cabot Street, Needham, MA 02494

A limited number of overnight hotel rooms are available at a reduced group rate. To reserve a hotel room for Thursday, December 11th at the group rate of \$159.00, please call (800) 325-3535 before November 20, 2014.

FROM WEST

Follow the Massachusetts Turnpike East (Interstate 90 East) to I-95/Route 128 South. Travel south on I-95/Route 128 until you come to Exit 19A. Turn right at the first set of lights. Drive 200 yards and turn right before the blue and white Sheraton sign.

FROM SOUTH

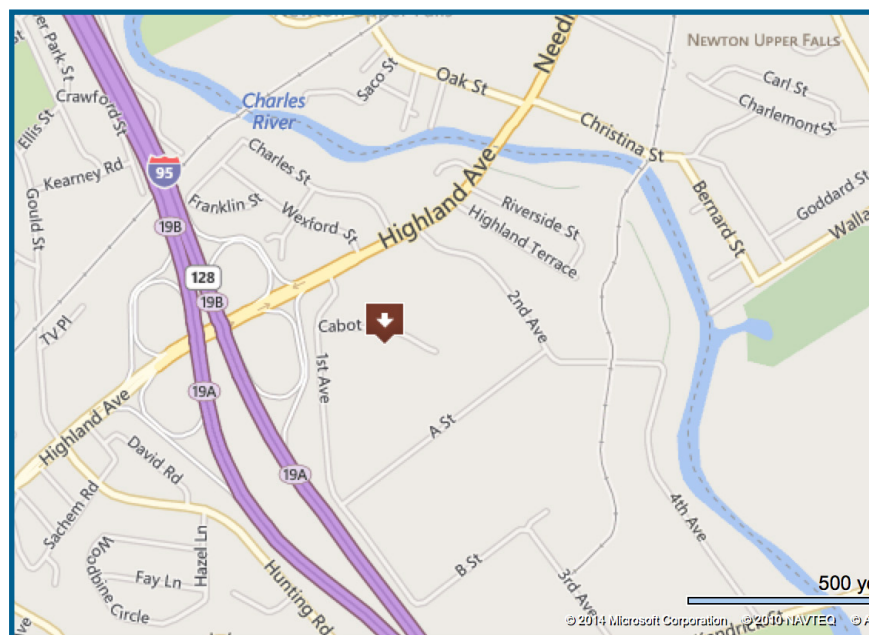
Follow I-95/Route 128 North to Exit 19A. Turn right at the first set of lights. Drive 200 yards and turn right before the blue and white Sheraton sign.

FROM BOSTON LOGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Follow the Massachusetts Turnpike West (Interstate 90 West) to Interstate 95/Route 128 South to Exit 19A. Turn right at first light onto 2nd Avenue. Drive 200 yards and turn right before the blue and white Sheraton sign.

FROM NORTH

Follow Interstate 95/Route 128 South to Exit 19A. Turn right at the first set of lights. Drive 200 yards and turn right before the blue and white Sheraton sign.



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

We encourage you to register online at:

www.chapa.org/event/new-england-housing-network-conference-Dec-12-2014

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 afternoon 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: _____



New England
HOUSING NETWORK

Registration Deadline:
Friday, November 28,
2014

Conference fee: \$85.00

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, 2014.