



March 11, 2020

The Honorable Mazie Hirono
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Cory Booker
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
478 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Grace Meng
2209 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

Dear all,

Thank you for your leadership in introducing the "*Pathway to Stable and Affordable Housing for All Act*," which would effectively end homelessness through full funding for rental assistance, robust investments in the national Housing Trust Fund, and expanded funding for homelessness programs. As you know, rental housing affordability has worsened dramatically over the past 15 years, and more families than ever are struggling to pay the rent and make ends meet. More than 500,000 people experience homelessness on any given night, and three in four households eligible for federal housing assistance are turned away due to chronic underfunding. **This legislation will help elevate the issue of affordable homes as a national priority and spark a much-needed conversation about overdue federal action.**

We are the Steering Committee of [Opportunity Starts at Home](#), an unprecedented multi-sector campaign that is building a broad movement in support of federal policies that meet the housing needs of the nation's lowest income people. We come from a wide range of sectors, each with our own perspectives and concerns. Yet we all believe that our own goals are inextricably linked to whether people have access to stable, affordable homes. Research is clear that when people have stable, affordable homes, outcomes improve in health, education, food security, economic mobility and growth, civil rights, criminal justice, and more. Together, the campaign is working to advance federal policies that 1) significantly increase rental assistance, 2) significantly expand the supply of deeply affordable housing, and 3) prevent housing instability through emergency financial assistance for households experiencing unexpected economic shocks.

Your efforts demonstrate that ambitious solutions are well within our nation's reach and merit serious, ongoing deliberation. **The Opportunity Starts at Home campaign is pleased to support the "*Pathway to Stable and Affordable Housing for All Act*" and we look forward to working with you to advance this legislation in Congress.**

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mike Koprowski, National Campaign Director, at mkoprowski@nlihc.org.

Sincerely,

Catholic Charities USA
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Children's Defense Fund
Children's HealthWatch
Community Catalyst
Food Research & Action Center
JustLeadershipUSA
NAACP
National Alliance to End Homelessness

National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association of Community Health Centers
National Association of Social Workers
National Education Association
National League of Cities
National LGBTQ Task Force
National Low Income Housing Coalition
National Women's Law Center
UnidosUS