Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 24, 2025

The Honorable Scott Turner
Secretary
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
415 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Turner:

We write with great concern over the recently announced changes to the Continuum of Care program which significantly cuts permanent housing funding for 2026 and disproportionately disadvantages the community who needs the support the most—putting, by some estimates, 170,000 vulnerable Americans at risk of becoming homeless.[1] While we embrace accountability in the use of taxpayers' dollars, a cut to the program without a clear plan to combat the growing housing crisis raises significant concerns.

Since its creation in 1987, the Continuum of Care program has funded local communities' efforts to combat homelessness and provided services that enable individuals to remain in stable housing and, in turn, successfully contribute to society. Recognizing that a one-size-fits-all approach did not decrease homelessness, President George W. Bush wrapped permanent supportive housing programs into the Continuum of Care program. President Bush's approach has since proven effective. In 2023, the U.S Interagency Council on Homelessness reported that permanent supportive housing—far more than imposing prerequisites to housing—provides the best outcomes in boosting employment, decreasing homelessness and improving housing stability.[2]

The CoC program provides roughly $3.6 billion annually nationwide. As the housing crisis worsens, this funding becomes all the more critical for localities across the country. According to HUD's annual homeless assessment report, homelessness in America reached the highest levels on record in 2024 due to a number of factors such as the national affordable housing crisis, rising inflation, stagnating wages among middle-and-lower-income households, public health crises, and natural disasters.[3] Without federal support for permanent supportive housing, many states and localities will be without a critical piece of the puzzle to address these crises. This will create havoc and uncertainty for communities planning their Fiscal Year 2026 budgets, kick thousands of households out of permanent supportive housing, disrupt transitional housing services, leave more individuals vulnerable to hostile conditions, and wastes taxpayer funds.

Instead of cutting a program which has the evidence to support its success, we should be working together to address the causes that leave individuals without the means to support themselves. In the spirit of collaboration, we ask the following questions to be answered by December 12, 2025:

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[1] "HUD Secretary Scott Turner Leads Monumental Reforms to Homelessness Program, Ending Biden-Era Slush Fund | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)"

[2] U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. "Maximizing the Impact of Federally Funded Housing and Supportive Services Programs." January, 2023, Report_on_Maximizing_the_Impact_of_Federally_Funded_Housing_and_Supportive_Services_Programs.pdf

[3] U.S. Department on Housing and Urban Development. "The 2024 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR to Congress) Part 1: Point-In-Time Estimates of Homelessness." December, 2024, https://www.huduser.gov/portal/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2024-AHAR-Part-1.pdf

1. What immediate plan do you have in place to ensure the thousands are not forced back into homelessness?
2. What is your plan to help states and localities fill the gap in federal funds?
3. How is HUD helping ensure the additional requirements to access government supported housing do not create barriers that make housing out of reach?
4. What evidence are you using to support your claims that the Continuum of Care program is not meeting its congressionally directed goals?
5. What community partners did you work with during the restructuring process?
6. What measurements are you using to ensure that the reallocation of funds provides better outcomes than permanent housing programs?
7. Are you committing to offset the cost for treatment services by providing more funding for Medicare and Medicaid services and substance abuse programs given the switch to a treatment first approach?
8. If this restructuring of CoC funds fails to meet the goals set by Congress, will you commit to reversing course and fund permanent supportive housing at their current levels?
9. Did you assess this plan with counsel to ensure these cuts and restructuring of programs do not run afoul of the impoundments clause?

Our hope is that we can work together to tackle the housing crisis, reduce housing instability, and be good stewards of taxpayer resources. We look forward to your responses.

Sincerely,

Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress

Nancy Pelosi
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna
Member of Congress

John Garamendi
Member of Congress

Mike Thompson
Member of Congress

Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

Cleo Fields
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici
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Gwen S. Moore
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Brittany Pettersen
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Ted W. Lieu
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Bill Foster
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Jim Himes
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Ritchie Torres
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MARK TAKANO
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Emanuel Cleaver, II
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Marilyn Strickland
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Maxwell Alejandro Frost
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Brad Sherman
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Laura Friedman
Member of Congress

Nikema Williams
Member of Congress

Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress