



**HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY STATEMENT  
Revised 01/04**

NAHRO believes the United States must have a strong community strategy that fulfills the adopted national goal of a decent, safe and affordable home for every person in America. NAHRO members are dedicated to implementing this policy by improving neighborhoods and expanding affordable housing opportunities. The public and private sectors have a role to play in making affordable rental and homeownership opportunities available in vibrant, healthy communities.

It is essential that federal, state and local elected officials, policy makers and the public at large recognize that affordable housing is critical to the economy and the well being of all communities, and it is especially critical to the millions of low- and moderate-income households in this country. For most Americans, rental housing is the stepping-stone to homeownership. Homeownership is the primary asset for most American families, and a path to homeownership should be within reach of every family wishing to purchase a home.

Quality housing gives all families, regardless of race or income, a stake in the future of their communities and results in safer communities and neighborhoods. Quality housing is also essential to sustainable communities that provide access to health care, education, good jobs and public safety.

Public and private investment, development and revitalization are essential in many neighborhoods. Adequate infrastructure supporting quality housing stock comprises fundamental building blocks for strong neighborhoods. Economic vitality requires good jobs as well as access to commercial and residential financing. Balanced land use and growth patterns must be emphasized that provide for the wise use of our land, natural assets and scarce fiscal resources.

Community development and tax incentive programs to stimulate housing and community reinvestment must be expanded to ensure decent and safe neighborhoods that reflect the values we hold true in America.

In pursuing this policy, NAHRO is committed to ensuring all members adhere to high ethical principles and act to protect the public trust. Further, NAHRO recognizes that other organizations hold similar principles and we are committed to partnering with them to improve the quality of life for all people we serve.