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NAHRO SIGNS LETTER WITH COALITION OF HOUSING ADVOCATES TO URGE FOR A BALANCED APPROACH TO DEFICIT REDUCTION

Tax Expenditures, Revenue Must Be Considered If Debt Deal is to Spare Those in Greatest Need

Washington, D.C. (August 30, 2011) – Deficit reduction proposals must not harm low income Americans or ask them to bear the extraordinary burden of the national debt. This is the message that the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) and 40 other national organizations expressed in a letter to the members of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, known as the “super committee.” This Congressional committee is charged with achieving further deficit reduction as part of the debt ceiling agreement enacted in early August.

“It is a very precarious time, in terms of funding, for the future of housing and community development programs,” said NAHRO Chief Executive Officer Saul N. Ramirez, Jr. “These programs not only benefit our nation’s most vulnerable population (elderly, disabled and working poor) but they also stimulate the economy and act as a job creator.”

Further cuts to non-defense discretionary spending could decimate federal housing and community development programs. In its letter, the Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF) states that these programs “have powerful impacts on individual and community well-being, not only directly by supporting stable housing for vulnerable people, but also through their effects on economic growth, education, employability, community health, and job creation, particularly for those at the bottom of the economic ladder who have been hardest hit by the recession.”

The full text of the letter can be found:

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ABOUT NAHRO
The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, established in 1933, is a membership organization of over 20,000 housing and community development agencies and professionals throughout the United States whose mission is to create affordable housing and safe, viable communities that enhance the quality of life for all Americans, especially those of low- and moderate-income. NAHRO’s membership administers more than 3 million housing units for 7.6 million people.

ABOUT CHCDF
The Campaign for Housing and Community Development Funding (CHCDF) is an education, strategy and action hub for national organizations dedicated to adequate federal housing and community development funding for lower-income families and communities. CHCDF’s members represent a full continuum of national housing and community development organizations, including faith-based, private sector, financial/intermediary, public sector and advocacy groups.