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**U.S. SENATOR FROM NEVADA**

***Slashing Investments in Affordable Housing and  
Neighborhood Redevelopment:  
Impact of the Trump Administration Budget in Nevada***

Staff Report from the Office of Senator Catherine Cortez Masto

# *Slashing Investments in Affordable Housing and Neighborhood Redevelopment: Impact of the Trump Administration Budget in Nevada*

## **Staff Report from the Office of Senator Catherine Cortez Masto**

### **Executive Summary**

Nevada families know all too well the challenge of affordable housing remains dire in the Silver State. Whether it is achieving the dream of homeownership, or ensuring access to safe, decent and affordable rental housing, it can be hard for Nevadans to secure the housing they need to raise children or help seniors to age-in-place. Veterans need additional help obtaining stable housing with essential supportive services, and people living with disabilities face a critical shortfall of affordable units with the accessibility features they need to be independent. Moreover, much of the infrastructure that supports our neighborhoods is in dire need of investment – whether it’s sidewalks in need of repair, water lines that require fixing, community centers that could use a new roof, or pedestrian crosswalks where audible signals are needed to assist the visually impaired.

On Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, President Donald Trump released his budget blueprint for fiscal year 2018 (FY18).<sup>1</sup> This budget proposal starts the debate in Congress over how we fund programs within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD, for the coming fiscal year. Overall, the President has proposed cutting HUD funding by \$7.5 billion, or 15 percent, compared to the 2017 levels in the bills that Committees in the House and Senate approved last summer.

Unfortunately, the proposed budget cuts at HUD would devastate essential programs that keep roofs over the heads of some of our most vulnerable families and help our communities attract new residents and businesses. **In total, if the Trump Administration budget were enacted, Nevadans would lose at least \$39 million in block grant funds and more than 1,300 housing vouchers. These cuts would hit all parts of the state – from urban centers, to the suburbs, to our rural communities and tribal areas – and would especially harm veterans, seniors, persons with disabilities, families with children, Hispanic and African-American households and Native Americans. What’s more, these cuts would come at a time when there is already a shortage of more than 85,000 affordable housing units for the extremely low-income Nevada families that need them.**<sup>2</sup> Finally, this report’s assessment of cuts likely underestimates the total harm posed to Nevada, as the early budget blueprint does not include key details about many HUD programs, including those related to homelessness and fair housing, to name just two.

Slashing these programs both ignores the needs of families and is short-sighted when it comes to economic growth. Indeed, every dollar invested in affordable housing infrastructure

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<sup>1</sup> President Donald Trump’s Budget Blueprint for Fiscal Year 2018. Available at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget>

<sup>2</sup> See the National Low Income Housing Coalition’s 2017 State Housing Profile for Nevada. Available at: [http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/SHP\\_NV.pdf](http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/SHP_NV.pdf); note that very low-income households are defined as those earning at or below 50 percent of area median income.

boosts local economies by attracting further private sources of funding, lifts the earnings of residents, increases local tax revenues and supports job creation and retention.<sup>3</sup> It is not an exaggeration to say that if the President's budget cuts are enacted, homelessness will likely increase; families will go unaided when their housing is filled with mold or lead; home repair programs for seniors will be downsized; financial literacy and mentoring programs for youth may disappear; support services to elders living with Alzheimer's may be defunded; and economic growth of our cities, rural areas and tribal communities will be impeded.

The following staff report describes an early assessment of the impact of the President's proposed budget on the State of Nevada. As the budget process proceeds, Senator Cortez Masto and her office will continue our outreach to constituents and local organizations to understand the effects of the proposed budget cuts on the Silver State.

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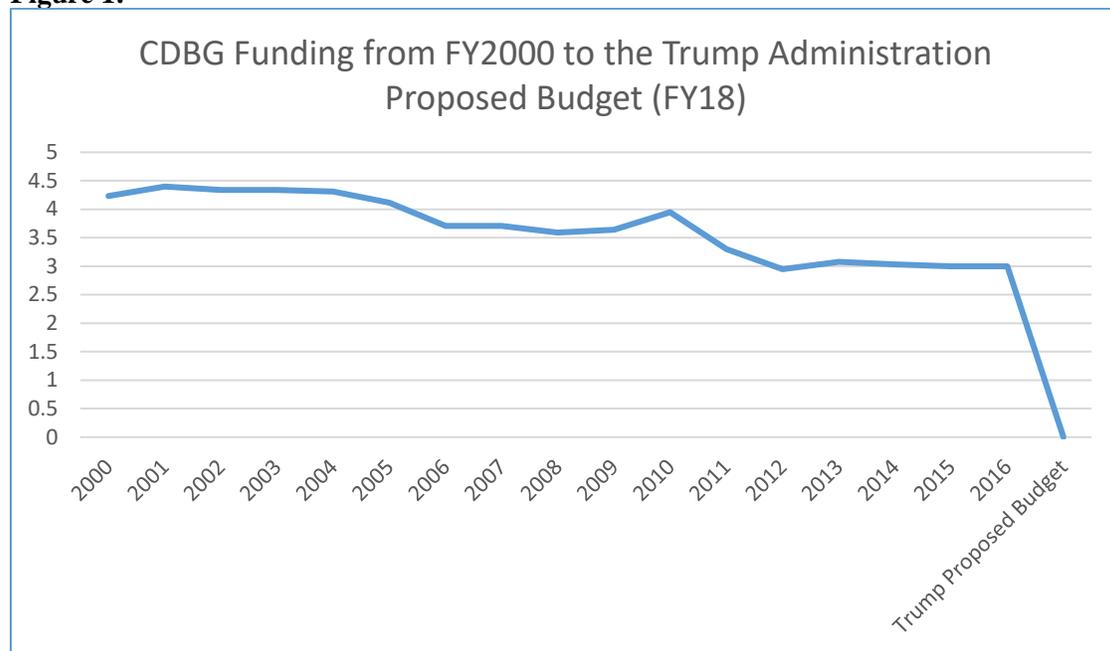
<sup>3</sup> National Association of Home Builders. "The Economic Impact of Home Building in a Typical Local Area." 2015. Washington, D.C. Available at: [https://www.nahb.org/~media/Sites/NAHB/Economic%20studies/1-REPORT\\_local\\_20150318115955.ashx?la=en](https://www.nahb.org/~media/Sites/NAHB/Economic%20studies/1-REPORT_local_20150318115955.ashx?la=en).

## The Trump Budget Eliminates Neighborhood Investments

President Trump’s FY18 budget proposed zeroing out the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. CDBG empowers cities, counties, and states – whether urban, suburban or rural – to invest in locally-driven projects that spur private investment and address housing and economic development challenges. CDBG creates jobs, makes essential infrastructure projects possible, and addresses unique housing needs that benefit elderly, disabled, and economically-vulnerable households. The Trump Administration is considering the *complete elimination* of this vital economic development program.

Funding for CDBG has already deteriorated in recent years, with funding in fiscal year 2016 (FY16) 40 percent lower than in the year 2000. Figure 1 documents how the Trump Administration budget would make a bad situation even worse.

**Figure 1:**



Source: staff analysis of historical appropriations data provided by the Congressional Research Service

In FY16, the State of Nevada received a total of \$19,987,856 in CDBG funds. Below is a table of funding levels to Nevada grantees in FY16. Note that larger cities and counties in the state receive direct grants from HUD, while other areas of the State are served via distributions made from the State of Nevada, based on community input and evaluations of local need.

Figure 2:

<b>CDBG Grants in Nevada Eliminated by the Trump Administration Proposed FY18 Budget</b>		
<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Grant Amount (FY2016)</b>	<b>Grant Amount Proposed (FY18)</b>
State of Nevada	\$2,434,790	\$0
Clark County	\$6,795,246	\$0
Las Vegas	\$4,700,847	\$0
Reno	\$1,949,397	\$0
North Las Vegas	\$1,867,792	\$0
Henderson	\$1,246,416	\$0
Sparks	\$624,852	\$0
Carson City	\$368,516	\$0
<b>Total Nevada Grants</b>	<b>\$19,987,856</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Source: staff analysis of HUD data

Current CDBG grantees use funding for a number of critical economic development, housing and public service purposes in Nevada communities. Below summarizes a few key projects in each jurisdiction from their most recent Action Plans submitted to HUD, in order to highlight the types of investments that would be defunded under the Trump Administration’s proposed FY18 budget. The projects listed are by no means exhaustive, but are meant to provide examples of how CDBG funds are invested in Nevada.<sup>4</sup>

- State of Nevada:** business counseling and training to low-income microenterprise owners throughout rural Nevada; housing and support services to homeless individuals in Lyon County; planning and site development for a food pantry in Carson Valley; installing new waterlines, valves, and hydrants to increase water pressure in Caliente; increasing system capacity and providing a loop system water main in Ely; purchase of a new service vehicle for Esmerelda County; eliminating blighted structures from the Hawthorne, Mina and Luning, and Walker Lake areas; purchase of a minivan in Nye County to transport senior citizens and Medicaid clients to their out-of-town medical appointments; hydroponic and aquaculture technology to determine feasibility of the industry for Wells; single-family home renovation in rural Nevada to address safety hazards, energy efficiency, and accessibility; and water infrastructure planning and support in Mineral County.

<sup>4</sup> 2016 Action Plans for Nevada CDBG grantees can be found on HUD’s website. Available at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/consolidated-plan/con-plans-aaps-capers/>

- **Clark County (with North Las Vegas):** public service projects including services for the homeless, people with disabilities, youth, and infants; expansion of a Catholic Charities Food Facility; support of the Nevada Partners Workforce Development Center and the Boulder Highway Collaborative Service Campus; replacing old water lines; expansion of an existing workforce development center by providing occupational skills training in the area of hospitality and STEM fields, particularly areas of unmanned aerial systems, healthcare, film production, and pre-apprenticeship training; funding to design and construct a ball field; and sidewalk improvements and adding ramps to aid accessibility.
- **Las Vegas:** outreach and prevention of homelessness among veterans; affordable housing preservation and maintenance for seniors; support services to seniors with Alzheimer’s and their family caregivers (support groups, education, expansion of their helpline, family care consultation); mentoring and financial literacy for youth; independent living assistance for blind or visually impaired individuals; and intervention and treatment services for low- and moderate-income women, children and families who are the victims of sexual assault and abuse and/or domestic violence.
- **Reno:** operation of a men’s, women’s and family shelter; pedestrian and sidewalk improvements; community center building repair; and rehabilitation of non-profit housing.
- **Henderson:** sidewalk improvements including streetlight, curb, driveway repairs, as well as making public areas accessible to individuals with disabilities; child care services; emergency home repair programs; first-time homebuyer downpayment assistance; and transitional services for homeless individuals.
- **Sparks:** fair housing trainings; sidewalk replacement, curb and gutter replacement, road improvement and implementation of accessibility features; and housing rehabilitation.
- **Carson City:** comprehensive mental health treatment and case management for Carson City youth; on-site life skills and on-the-job training opportunities to Carson City residents; and improvements to the City-owned Centennial Park Archery Range to allow access to persons with disabilities.

## **The Trump Budget Slashes Affordable Housing Funding**

In addition to cutting community development funding, the Trump Administration’s proposed FY18 budget blueprint makes deep cuts to critical housing programs. Though the

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<sup>5</sup> The City of North Las Vegas is a member of the HUD Consolidated Plan Consortium in Clark County and receives its CDBG funds through the Consortium. Mesquite and Boulder City are also members of the Consortium and Clark County serves as the lead agency. The Cities of Las Vegas and Henderson informally participate in the Consortium for planning purposes, but do not receive their funding through the Consortium. See: [http://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com/docs/NLS/Application\\_Guidelines\\_2015-2017.pdf](http://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com/docs/NLS/Application_Guidelines_2015-2017.pdf).

foreclosure crisis peaked in 2008, its legacy continues to cast a long shadow over Nevada’s housing market. In that year, Nevada had the highest foreclosure rate in the nation, with more than 77,000 homes facing possible repossession.<sup>6</sup> Indeed, the State led the nation in terms of the foreclosure rate for 62 straight months – or more than five years – during the recession.<sup>7</sup> Distress in the housing market was so dire that by 2010, around 70 percent of Nevada homeowners were “underwater” on their homes – meaning they owed more on their mortgages than the current value of the property.<sup>8</sup> This “negative equity” not only wiped out families’ accumulated wealth, but also limited mobility, as it is difficult for a family “underwater” on their mortgage to sell their house and move. All told, the homeownership rate in Nevada fell twelve percentage points from the first quarter of 2007 to the first quarter of 2016, from 65.9 percent to 53.9 percent.<sup>9</sup>

As families were hard-hit by the foreclosure crisis, they were pushed into the rental market, meaning more families were competing for a slowly-growing set of rental units. According to data from 2015, only 39 units of affordable housing in Nevada are on the market for every 100 very low-income people that seek to rent.<sup>10</sup> For extremely low-income people, that number plummets to only 15 units in Nevada for every 100 renter households.<sup>11</sup> Meanwhile, as more and more families sought out affordable rental housing, HUD assistance to Nevada families struggling in the rental market actually decreased. Figure 3 documents how HUD rental assistance to both all households and families with children in Nevada has decreased from 2004 to 2015. While the Nevada population was growing by 25 percent, HUD assistance to all households in the state decreased by around 1.13 percent and HUD assistance to families with children decreased by around 15 percent.

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<sup>6</sup> Wargo, Buck. “Nevada Remains First in Foreclosures in 2008.” *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, January 23, 2009. Available at: <https://lasvegassun.com/news/2009/jan/23/nevada-remains-first-foreclosures-2008/>

<sup>7</sup> Green, Steve. “Nevada Retakes Top Spot as State with the Highest Foreclosure Rate.” *Vegas, Inc.* May 16, 2012. Available at: <https://www.vegasinc.com/business/tourism/2012/may/16/nevada-retakes-top-spot-state-highest-foreclosure-/>

<sup>8</sup> Green, Steve. “Nearly 70 Percent of LV Homeowners Underwater on Mortgage.” *Las Vegas Sun*, November 30, 2009. Available at: <http://m.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/nov/30/report-nearly-70-percent-lv-homeowners-underwater-/>

<sup>9</sup> United States Census Bureau, Homeownership Rates by State: 2005-Present. Available at: <https://www.census.gov/housing/hvs/data/rates.html>

<sup>10</sup> *Supra* note 1

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.* Note that extremely low-income households are defined as those earning at or below 30 percent of area median income.

**Figure 3:**

<b>HUD Rental Assistance Going to Families with Children, 2004 - 2015</b>			
<b>NV, Total HUD Rental Assistance</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Households Receiving Assistance</b>	<b>Households with Kids</b>	<b>Share with Kids</b>
<b>2004</b>	21,128	10,760	50.93%
<b>2005</b>	20,792	10,537	50.68%
<b>2006</b>	19,864	9,765	49.16%
<b>2007</b>	19,959	10,031	50.26%
<b>2008</b>	20,495	9,940	48.50%
<b>2009</b>	20,224	9,823	48.57%
<b>2010</b>	20,663	9,850	47.67%
<b>2011</b>	21,175	10,116	47.77%
<b>2012</b>	21,540	9,941	46.15%
<b>2013</b>	19,882	9,323	46.89%
<b>2014</b>	20,632	9,332	45.23%
<b>2015</b>	20,853	9,349	44.83%

Notes: Families with children have at least one member under age 18 living in the home. All programs includes all HUD programs with subsidies whose value varies based on the tenant's income except Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS/HIV and McKinney-Vento permanent housing.

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis of Department of Housing and Urban Development Picture of Subsidized Households. Missing values were interpolated using data from other years.

### ***Housing Choice Voucher Program***

President Trump's FY18 budget would make a difficult situation even worse. The Housing Choice Voucher program is the federal government's major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and people with disabilities in the housing market. The program helps these individuals and families afford safe, decent, and sanitary rental housing in the private market. Figure 4 outlines the proposed cuts to the Housing Choice Voucher program in Nevada. Note that the Trump Administration proposed budget would slash the number of vouchers available by about 10 percent. Without voucher funding, many of these households would see their housing costs skyrocket, may be forced to use emergency shelters, or may end up on the street.

**Figure 4:**

<b>Trump Budget Cuts for Housing Vouchers in Nevada</b>	
<b>Number of Housing Choice Vouchers (rounded)</b>	<b>Vouchers Lost Due to Proposed Trump Administration Proposed Budget (FY18)</b>
14,500	1,377

Source: estimate from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities; available at: <http://www.cbpp.org/blog/trump-budget-will-increase-homelessness-end-federal-role-in-community-development>

***Public Housing Funding***

Figure 5 outlines the cuts that would hit public housing in Nevada under the Trump Administration proposed FY18 budget. HUD funding supports the operation of, and repairs to, 3,633 units in the Silver State. Without adequate operating funding, Nevada rental units will not benefit from routine maintenance, service coordinators for elderly renters will go unfunded, insurance and energy costs may not be covered, and anti-drug and anti-crime measures may be eliminated, among other priorities. And without adequate capital funding, seniors, people with disabilities and families residing in Nevada will suffer from unsafe and unsanitary housing conditions. For example, if the public housing capital fund is not properly maintained, mold will go untreated, lead abatement may not occur, roof leaks will persist, residents will suffer from faulty electrical systems or water lines, and broken lights and locks will create safety hazards, to name just a few issues.

**Figure 5:**

<b>Public Housing Funding Eliminated by the Trump Administration Proposed FY18 Budget</b>			
	<b>Grant Amount (FY16)</b>	<b>Grant Amount (FY18 Proposed)</b>	<b>Funding Cut Under the Trump Administration Budget</b>
Operating Fund	\$16,549,000	\$11,576,025.50	\$4,972,974.50
Capital Fund	\$4,658,000	\$3,258,271	\$1,399,729
<b>Total Cuts</b>			<b>\$6,372,703.50</b>

Source: staff analysis of data from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

## ***HOME Investment Partnerships Program***

President Trump’s FY18 budget proposes zeroing out the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). The HOME program is the primary Federal funding source that allows states and local governments to create and sustain affordable housing for low-income individuals and families. In FY16, the State of Nevada received a total of \$8,931,309 in HOME funds. Below is a table of funding levels to Nevada grantees in FY16. Note that larger cities and counties in the state receive direct grants from HUD, while other areas of the state are served via distributions made from the State of Nevada, based on community input and evaluations of local need. The Trump Administration is considering the *complete elimination* of this vital economic development program.

**Figure 6:**

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Grant Amount (FY16)</b>	<b>Grant Amount (Proposed FY18)</b>
Nevada	\$3,023,400	\$0
Clark County	\$2,768,135	\$0
Las Vegas	\$1,568,602	\$0
Reno	\$1,096,544	\$0
Henderson	\$474,628	\$0
<b>Total Nevada Grants</b>	<b>\$8,931,309</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Source: staff analysis of HUD data

Current HOME grantees use funding for a number of critical housing priorities in Nevada communities. Below summarizes a few key projects in each jurisdiction from their most recent Action Plans submitted to HUD, in order to highlight the types of investments that would be defunded under the Trump Administration’s proposed FY18 budget. The projects are by no means exhaustive, but are meant to provide examples of how HOME funds are invested in Nevada.<sup>12</sup>

- **State of Nevada:** the State’s 2016 Action Plan indicated that they anticipated the development of three new properties in the state. These are proposed to include a senior property, a family property and a transitional housing development.
- **Clark County:** new construction of senior housing, including a 120 unit and 105 unit projects; new construction of a 96 unit family development; housing rehabilitation; and homebuyer assistance.

<sup>12</sup> 2016 Action Plans for Nevada HOME grantees can be found on HUD’s website. Available at: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/consolidated-plan/con-plans-aaps-capers/>

- **Las Vegas:** homebuyer assistance and rehabilitation grants; multifamily rental housing construction and rehabilitation; and tenant-based rental assistance.
- **Reno:** construction of 40-unit multi-family workforce rental housing with 11 HOME-assisted units; units will include those set-aside for residents with special needs and will include a preference for veterans; construction of 230 units for seniors, with 11 HOME-assisted units; construction of 574 mixed-income units, with 155 reserved for affordable housing. Of the affordable units, 11 will be HOME-assisted.
- **Henderson:** first-time homebuyer downpayment assistance; home rehabilitation grants; multi-unit affordable housing development and single-unit/single-family affordable housing serving low to moderate-income families or seniors.

### *Native American Housing Block Grant*

The Native American Housing Block Grant (NAHBG) program is a vital resource for tribal governments to address the dire housing conditions in Indian Country. Native Americans are twice as likely to live in poverty compared to the rest of the nation.<sup>13</sup> The number of households on reservation lands with severe housing burdens, which spend more than 50 percent of their income on housing, has risen 46 percent over the past decade.<sup>14</sup> According to the U.S. Census American Community Survey for 2006 – 2010, 15.9 percent of homes on American Indian reservations and off-reservation trust land are overcrowded, compared to 2.2 percent of households nationwide.<sup>15</sup> As a result, the housing challenges on tribal lands are daunting, and access to affordable housing remains in a critical state for many tribes.

While President Trump’s FY18 budget blueprint did not provide enough granular detail to estimate the level of cuts to Native American housing programs, an estimate suggests the cuts will deeply slash programs that serve tribal communities. According to a copy of the budget obtained by the *Washington Post*, the Trump Administration is proposing a cut of \$150 million or 23 percent, to housing programs that serve Native Americans.<sup>16</sup> If that 23 percent cut were applied across all grantees, tribes located in Nevada would face total cuts of more than \$3.5 million. Figure 7 depicts the estimated cuts on a tribe-by-tribe basis.

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<sup>13</sup> Krogstad, Manuel Jens. “One-in-Four Native Americans and Alaska Natives are Living in Poverty.” *Pew Research Center*, June 13, 2014. Available at: <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/06/13/1-in-4-native-americans-and-alaska-natives-are-living-in-poverty/>

<sup>14</sup> Pindus, Nancy et al. “Housing Needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives in Tribal Areas: A Report from the Assessment of American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Housing Needs.” HUD Office of Policy Development & Research, January 19, 2017. Available at: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/publications/HNAIHousingNeeds.html>

<sup>15</sup> Id

<sup>16</sup> DelReal, Jose A. “Trump Budget Asks for \$6 Billion in Cuts, Drops Development Grants.” *Washington Post*, March 16, 2017. Available at: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-budget-asks-for-6-billion-in-hud-cuts-drops-development-grants/2017/03/15/1b157338-09a0-11e7-b77c-0047d15a24e0\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.238318c0628a](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-budget-asks-for-6-billion-in-hud-cuts-drops-development-grants/2017/03/15/1b157338-09a0-11e7-b77c-0047d15a24e0_story.html?utm_term=.238318c0628a)

**Figure 7:**

<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Grant Amount (FY16)</b>	<b>Grant Amount (Proposed FY18)</b>	<b>Funding Cut Under Trump Administration Budget</b>
Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribe	\$2,109,255	\$1,624,126	\$485,129
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	\$489,454	\$376,880	\$112,574
Ely Shoshone Tribe	\$642,912	\$495,042	\$147,870
Fallon Reservation - Paiute Shoshone Tribe	\$1,465,238	\$1,128,233	\$337,005
Fort McDermitt Paiute - Shoshone Tribe	\$553,334	\$426,067	\$127,267
Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indians	\$50,282	\$38,717	\$11,565
Lovelock Paiute Tribe	\$151,431	\$116,602	\$34,829
Moapa Band of Paiute Indians	\$393,849	\$303,264	\$90,585
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	\$1,603,739	\$1,234,879	\$368,860
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	\$1,348,953	\$1,038,694	\$310,259
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe	\$50,282	\$38,717	\$11,565
Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone	\$1,298,792	\$1,000,070	\$298,722
Walker River Paiute Tribe	\$2,295,575	\$1,767,593	\$527,982
Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California	\$1,753,050	\$1,349,849	\$403,202
Winnemucca Indian Colony	\$50,282	\$38,717	\$11,565
Yerington Paiute Tribe	\$757,724	\$583,447	\$174,277
Yomba-Shoshone Tribe	\$293,516	\$226,007	\$67,509
<b>Total Funding Cut to Nevada Tribes</b>			<b>\$3,520,764</b>

Source: staff analysis of HUD data

### ***U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness***

In addition to deep funding cuts, the Trump Administration budget has proposed eliminating the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), an interagency collaborative body first created by President Reagan in 1987. USICH has, since its founding thirty years ago, traditionally received strong bipartisan support for its work within the executive branch reviewing the effectiveness of federal activities and programs to assist people experiencing homelessness, promoting better coordination among agency programs, and informing state and local governments and public and private sector organizations about the availability of federal homeless assistance.<sup>17</sup> USICH works across sixteen separate federal agencies – including HUD, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Agriculture and others – to ensure that federal resources are working in tandem to advance the goal of ending homelessness. For example, USICH helped to

<sup>17</sup> U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. “Historical Overview.” December 2016. Available at: [https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset\\_library/USICH\\_History\\_2016.pdf](https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset_library/USICH_History_2016.pdf)

coordinate federal funding as it relates to ending veteran homelessness – streamlining requirements across health, housing, and other services. As a result, from 2010 to 2016, the number of veterans experiencing homelessness in the United States has been cut nearly in half.<sup>18</sup> And while many challenges remain, robust funding for mitigating veteran homelessness, combined with USICH’s coordination efforts and the tenacity of state and local housing providers, has made significant progress. For example, in November 2015, USICH, with HUD and the Department of Veterans Affairs, confirmed that Southern Nevada had effectively achieved an end to veteran homelessness.<sup>19</sup> Northern Nevada likewise has undertaken a goal of ending veteran homelessness, working to leverage public and private sources of funding and collaborate with other critical services, including job training.<sup>20</sup>

***Resident Characteristics: Nevada Households Served by HUD***

Finally, it is important to note that HUD cuts will have a disproportionate impact on our most vulnerable Nevada families. Figure 8 outlines how HUD programs in Nevada overwhelmingly serve the elderly, people with disabilities, and families with children. These families will face severe hardship if the Trump Administration budget is enacted.

**Figure 8:**

<b>Nevada HUD Programs: Serving Families with Children, the Elderly, and People with Disabilities</b>	
<b>Type of Household</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Elderly household	9
Elderly household with a disability	15
Elderly household with a disability & children	1
Families with children	38
Person with a disability	18
Person with a disability, with children	8

Source: HUD’s Resident Characteristics Report, current as of February 2017. Demographics for all assisted households in Nevada. Available at: <https://pic.hud.gov/pic/RCRPublic/rcrstate.asp>

And Figure 9 documents how HUD programs serve *all* of the diverse communities that make up the fabric of our Nevada neighborhoods.

<sup>18</sup> U.S. Department of Defense. “Veteran Homelessness Drops Nearly 50 Percent Since 2010.” August 1, 2016. Available at: <https://www.defense.gov/News/Article/Article/881729/veteran-homelessness-drops-nearly-50-percent-since-2010>

<sup>19</sup> U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. “How Southern Nevada Achieved an End to Veteran Homelessness.” January 1, 2016. Available at: <https://www.usich.gov/news/how-southern-nevada-achieved-an-end-to-veteran-homelessness>

<sup>20</sup> Higdon, Mike. “Reno Developer Converts Weekly into Affordable Housing for Veterans.” *Reno Gazette-Journal*, August 22, 2016. Available at: <http://www.rgj.com/story/money/business/2016/08/22/reno-developer-converts-weekly-into-affordable-housing-for-veterans/89117914/>

**Figure 9:**

<b>HUD Programs: Serving All Communities in Nevada</b>			
<b>Demographic Group</b>	<b>Public Housing</b>	<b>Tenant-Based Vouchers</b>	<b>Project-Based Vouchers</b>
White	39%	37%	36%
African-American	53%	60%	58%
Hispanic or Latino	19%	10%	16%
Native American or Alaska Native	1%	1%	1%
Asian	4%	1%	2%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2%	1%	1%

Source: HUD's Resident Characteristics Report, current as of February 2017. Race/ethnicity demographics for all assisted households in Nevada. Available at: <https://pic.hud.gov/pic/RCRPublic/rcrstate.asp>; percentages may add up to more than 100%, as this chart combines race and ethnicity data. Also note that this chart does not include demographics served by the Native American Housing Block Grant program

## **Conclusion**

The Trump Administration FY18 budget blueprint proposes slashing essential HUD programs that Nevada families, veterans, seniors, people with disabilities and communities of color rely on. With an already-drastic shortage of affordable rental units, and an acute need for infrastructure and neighborhood investments, now is not the time to cut more than 1,300 housing vouchers and nearly \$39 million in funding from important programs that attract jobs, catalyze private investment and support Nevadans. Senator Cortez Masto's office will continue to advocate for programs that create ladders of opportunity for low-income and other vulnerable households, and help to create and sustain a strong middle-class.