

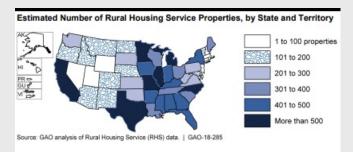
Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Lawsuit

On Tuesday, May 8, The National Fair Housing Alliance, the Texas Low Income Housing Information Service, and Texas Appleseed <u>filed suit</u> against HUD for suddenly suspending a key component of AFFH Rule implementation via a January notice. NHLP is currently drafting an amicus brief in support of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, *NFHA v. Carson.* Since the lawsuit was filed, HUD withdrew its January suspension notice; however it also withdrew a crucial



document containing the questions local governments need to complete their fair housing analyses outlined in the AFFH Rule. NHLP's Renee Williams was <u>quoted</u> saying that <u>these</u> <u>new notices</u> would have essentially "the same effect," as AFFH Rule implementation is still delayed.

GAO Reports on Looming Preservation Crisis in Rural Housing



The Government Accountability
Office (GAO) just released a
report on the long-term
affordability of rural housing
units supported by the U.S.
Department of Agriculture's
Rural Housing Service (RHS).
The GAO found that over 90% of
RHS properties (approximately

407,000 units nationwide) could lose their affordability restrictions and convert to market rate housing by 2050. The GAO also found that RHS has few safeguards in place to prevent the loss of these homes and limited capacity to track this impending crisis. Among its suggestions, the GAO recommended that Congress grant RHS the authority to continue providing rental assistance to low-income residents in these properties after the RHS loan has been repaid ("mortgage maturity"). NHLP is supporting a recently introduced bill that would do just that. For more information on how to save these affordable rural homes in your community, please see NHLP's Advocate's Guide to Rural Housing Preservation.

Emerging Issues



The campaign against HUD benefit cuts and work requirements continues in full force. NHLP is making visits in Washington and we need you to contact your local congresspeople. NHLP

Of Note

NHLP has two articles in the most recent version of the

AFFORDABLE HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LAW

ABA's <u>Journal of Affordable Housing and</u>
<u>Community Development Law</u>. Deborah
Thrope writes about mobility and choice in the

has developed a toolkit to advocate against the rent increases, benefit cuts and work requirements in the administration's proposal. The Council of Large Public Housing Authorities recently issued their opposition to the proposal.

Nuisance ordinances are a growing problem around the country as localities enact policies that result in evictions and are used disproportionately (or intentionally) against domestic violence survivors, people with disabilities, people of color and other protected groups. NHLP has a project on nuisance ordinances and has developed this one page fact sheet.



The Senate has confirmed Brian Montgomery as the new **Assistant Secretary of Housing** and HUD and Commissioner of the Housing Finance

Agency. Montgomery held the same position under President George W. Bush.



The New York Times did an extensive series on evictions and weakened rent

regulations in New York City and the role these have played in creating housing instability and homelessness.

The President's administration has introduced a rescission proposal. Rescission is a procedure that could allow for funding to be cut from the previously passed budget. While the proposal is unlikely to pass Congress, the included funds cannot be spent until the time for congressional action passes. This may hold up funds for RAD conversions and rural rental

Housing Choice Voucher Program and Renee Williams and Kara Brodfuehrer write about promoting desegregation in the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program.



NHLP is holding a Federal Housing Programs 101 training for summer law

clerks and other advocates. The training will be on June 4 starting at 10:00 am PT. Register here.

New York has a great new resource for residents in RAD developments. The Resident Handbook was developed by The Legal Aid Society, Enterprise Community Partners and Community Service Society.

The Anti-Discrimination Center has released a set of interactive maps



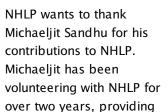
that show housing segregation down to the census block level and demonstrate the extent to which segregation pervades our nation.

How inclusive is your city? The Urban Institute has



ranked the largest 274 cities based on their definition of inclusion. The cities are mapped and the user can track inclusion over time.

assistance until the fall.





critical research behind some of our comment letters and publications. He has been in a Ph.D. program at Berkeley and is now off to Harvard Law.



Your support helps sustain NHLP's work. Please donate today!