

U.S. DEPARTMENT of HOUSING and URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) creates strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all.

BUILDING ON HUD'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **SUPPORTING AFFORDABLE HOME FINANCING NEEDS OF AA AND NHPI HOMEOWNERS:** HUD's Federal Housing Administration (FHA) insurance facilitated affordable home financing or refinancing for 46,054 individuals and families that self-identified as AA and NHPI over FY 2021 and FY 2022. In addition, FHA issued policy changes that eliminated the requirement for lenders to obtain, as part of FHA mortgage insurance eligibility, an Employment Authorization Document for Non-Permanent Residents who are citizens of the freely associated states, which include the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.
- **EXPANDING LANGUAGE ACCESS FOR PERSONS WITH LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY:** HUD made general homebuying information available for housing counselors to use with clients in multiple languages, including Korean, Laotian, Tagalog, Chinese, and Vietnamese. In addition, the Office of Housing Counseling launched a new Interactive Voice Response (IVR) housing counseling telephonic search tool that includes an option to speak to a customer service representative in over 200 languages during business hours.
- **SUPPORTING THE HOUSING NEEDS OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN FAMILIES:** HUD made \$5 million in Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant (NHHBG) funding available under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) to provide critical rent and utility assistance to 564 low-income Native Hawaiian families. Across FY 2021 and FY 2022, HUD supported Native Hawaiian Homeownership by issuing 107 mortgage loan guarantees representing over \$30 million dollars in mortgage capital to Native Hawaiian families in FY 2021.
- **PROTECTING CIVIL RIGHTS IN HOUSING:** HUD has reached conciliation agreements in 34 housing discrimination cases in FY 2021 and FY 2022 where an AA and NHPI individual filed a complaint based on race or national origin. In May 2021, HUD reached a settlement with housing providers in California who had allegedly failed to provide language access services to Vietnamese residents.

PRIORITY PROGRAM GOALS FOR THE ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITIES

Per Executive Order 14031, HUD has identified five high-priority goals that will span the next two years. These goals will advance equity, justice, and opportunity for AA and NHPI communities.

GOAL 1

Ensure language access throughout HUD programs and train HUD staff and grantees to better serve AA and NHPI families: HUD, through its Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO), will address the language needs of the limited English proficient (LEP) AA and NHPI population by ensuring that vital and public-facing documents are translated into frequently used Asian and Pacific Islander languages; improving the provision of interpretation services; providing training and technical assistance to HUD grantees; and exploring the translation of HUD's website into Asian languages.

GOAL 2

Promote broader access to housing opportunities for the AA and NHPI communities: The Office of Housing Counseling will award grants to expand partnerships between housing counseling agencies and Minority Serving Institutions and develop a national campaign to promote the use of housing counseling services among communities of color and underserved populations, with AA and NHPI communities as a primary focus of these activities.

GOAL 3

Examine opportunities for AA and NHPI data disaggregation, data collection, and data sharing to foster improved program design and outreach: HUD will implement data disaggregation efforts to better understand the unique housing needs of AA and NHPI subgroups. HUD will also review opportunities to revise Forms 50058 and 50059 to determine whether further disaggregation for AA and NHPI subgroups is possible.

GOAL 4

Strengthen housing programs for Native Hawaiian families: The Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) will provide technical assistance for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) to implement the NHHBG program and in early 2023 issued a proposed rule change to the NHHBG regulation to clarify that NHHBG funds may be used for tenant-based or project-based rental assistance, thereby diversifying the types of affordable housing options available for Native Hawaiians.

GOAL 5

Improve the experiences of and expand opportunities for the AA and NHPI workforce: HUD will create workplace opportunities that support resource sharing and address issues in a professional and caring manner for AA and NHPI employees, including increasing recruitment activities, coordinating a series of facilitated discussions to address the resources available to protect AA and NHPI employees from workplace harassment, and understanding barriers to AA and NHPI employment at HUD.