

Keep Families Together

Mitigating the Impact of Proposed Federal Restrictions on Mixed-Status Households as a Funder

What to Know About the Administration's Mixed-Status Rule

Tens of thousands of families with mixed immigration statuses—primarily low-income, immigrant households with U.S.-citizen children—face renewed risk of losing their federal housing assistance if the Trump Administration's [proposed rule banning mixed-status households from HUD programs](#) is adopted. Mixed-status families receiving HUD assistance, whose average annual income is \$18,000, would face immediate threats of eviction, homelessness, deportation, and family separation without rapid, locally coordinated interventions.

Immigrants are our coworkers, neighbors, friends, and family; they are essential to our communities and help us grow stronger together. **The renewed mixed-status ban would be one of the most severe removals of housing supports for immigrant communities in decades.** This moment carries heightened stakes due to the compounding impacts of housing funding cuts, punitive approaches to homelessness, and intensified ICE enforcement and data sharing.

Policies that force our community members into the shadows weaken our communities and harm us all.



Submit Public Comment to Oppose the Rule Change

Alliance for Housing Justice and a coalition of organizations created a portal to make submitting your public comment easy. [Click here to submit public comment opposing the rule change.](#)

Currently, mixed-status families retain the right to live together in HUD-assisted housing as long as one family member is a U.S. citizen or has an eligible immigration status, and the family receives pro-rated rental assistance that covers only eligible family members. Other family members are under no legal obligation to share their immigration status with their HUD housing operator.

The proposed rule shows the administration's intent to separate immigrant families by disallowing newcomers to live in HUD-assisted homes with their eligible family members, like [attempts in 2019](#) that was ultimately withdrawn.

Why This Matters Now

- A revived HUD rule would bar mixed-status households from receiving any rental assistance, eliminating prorated aid that currently protects tens of thousands of children, including DACA recipients, people with Temporary Protected Status, and more.
- Nearly [80,000 people in 25,000 households](#)—**most of whom are citizen children and people of color**—would lose support or face forced separation to remain eligible according to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.
- The rule's documentation requirements would also jeopardize many eligible citizens and immigrants who lack paperwork, compounding the risk of displacement.
- Combined with heightened immigration enforcement, mixed-status communities are experiencing unprecedented fear, instability, gaps in accurate information, and barriers to accessing services.

The following highlights key risks and recommended actions based on analysis conducted by the Turner Center for Housing Innovation, "[Pathways to Support Mixed-Status Immigrant Families Receiving Federal Housing Assistance](#)." This analysis was informed by research, review of the previously proposed rule, and extensive stakeholder engagement.

Key Risks for Impacted Households

- Sudden housing instability or homelessness due to unaffordable rents without vouchers or project-based assistance.
- Family separation when eligible children or adults must leave their homes to retain assistance.
- Loss of stability for children, including health, school attendance, and long-term well-being.
- Increased exposure to enforcement, particularly as public housing authorities (PHAs) and landlords navigate shifting rules.

What Impacted Households Will Need

- **Immediate legal aid:** rights education, tenant protections, immigration risk counseling, and emergency family planning/guardianship support.
- **Short-term rental supports:** rapid re-housing, shallow subsidies, and local/state voucher programs to replace lost HUD assistance.
- **Flexible one-time cash assistance:** to cover moving costs, deposits, and gap periods—evidence shows even modest amounts (<\$10,000) dramatically reduce the risk of homelessness.
- **Housing navigation services:** help locating units, completing applications, negotiating with landlords, and securing new leases.

Community Best Practices for Effective Response

- Partner with trusted community organizations—schools, churches, legal aid providers, and immigrant-serving community-based organizations (CBOs)—who can reach families despite fear of enforcement.
- Multilingual, culturally adapted outreach (written, audio, visual) available in multiple languages.
- Service programs should use streamlined, low-documentation applications for new assistance services and allow simple opt-in for current HUD-assisted households
- Work with PHAs and landlords to prevent evictions and share accurate information on changing rules.
- Facilitate warm handoffs between PHAs and service providers to reduce service gaps and maintain school stability for children. (Rural and small PHAs may have less capacity for this.)

Opportunities for Funder Impact

- ✓ **Rapid-response grants** to immigrant-serving, community-based organizations and legal aid organizations to scale outreach, rights education, eviction prevention, and crisis navigation. If your organization is not set up to do this, the Fund for Housing and Opportunity (FHO) can facilitate rapid-response grants for foundations that wish to make a one-time contribution to its pooled [Meet the Moment](#) Fund.
- ✓ **Support for state/local rental assistance**, including Shallow Subsidies or time-limited re-housing, to replace lost HUD aid.
- ✓ **Investments in housing navigation infrastructure** that can expand quickly in response to federal changes.
- ✓ **Emergency cash assistance pools** geared toward mixed-status households at immediate risk.
- ✓ **Capacity building** for PHAs and CBOs facing simultaneous pressures from housing cuts and intensified immigration enforcement. (Metropolitan PHAs and larger communities will experience higher numbers of impacted households.)

Organizations Leading Defense Efforts and Offering Support and Information

Keep Families Together is a campaign led by the **National Housing Law Project** and **Protecting Immigrant Families**. Through advocacy, organizing, legal analysis, research, and narrative change, the Keep Families Together campaign is protecting immigrants and tenants and keeping families whole and housed.



Learn more at keep-families-together.org.

In addition, the national organizations listed below are actively working on the issue and have offered to be resources for questions, information, and opportunities to mobilize.

<p>Alliance for Housing Justice allianceforhousingjustice.org</p>	<p>Funders Together for Housing Justice funderstogether.org</p>	<p>National Housing Law Project nhlp.org</p>
<p>Center on Budget and Policy Priorities cbpp.org</p>	<p>Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees gcir.org</p>	<p>Protecting Immigrant Families Coalition pifcoalition.org</p>
<p>Fund for Housing and Opportunity housingisopportunity.org</p>	<p>National Fair Housing Alliance nationalfairhousing.org</p>	<p>Terner Center for Housing Innovation turnercenter.berkeley.edu</p>

This list is non-exhaustive. Many organizations, particularly local groups working to protect immigrant communities, are also deeply engaged in this work. We encourage funders to connect with and support organizations operating in the communities they serve.

Meeting the Moment Together

FHO is available to talk with funders about how to strategically mobilize resources in response to emerging federal threats to housing stability for mixed-status families, low-income renters, people experiencing homelessness, and communities of color. We welcome conversations about coordinated funding, rapid-response strategies, and aligning investments with on-the-ground needs.

FHO's [Meet the Moment](#) Fund enables the quick deployment of flexible resources for legal aid, eviction prevention, emergency rental assistance, and community-based partners.

Interested in contributing or coordinating with other funders?

Contact FHO Executive Director Jeanne Fekade-Sellassie:

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