HUD “Mixed Status” Immigrant Families Proposed Rule Talking Points for Comment Letters
June 2019

Adding the perspective and values of philanthropy on this issue is an important part of efforts to oppose the proposed HUD rule on prohibiting “mixed status” immigrant families from public or subsidized housing. It is crucial for the Administration to hear from its private sector partners that they do not support this proposal and learn of the impacts it will have on communities funders are supporting. Below are high-level sample talking points that can be used to supplement the comment template from the Keep Families Together campaign.

- Philanthropy has a voice and is collectively determined to make achieving better outcomes for all individuals and families at risk of experiencing homelessness a bipartisan priority.

- This proposed rule is in direct conflict with our mission statement/values of [insert mission statement here].

- This proposed rule would mainly affect people of color, who are already at a higher risk of experiencing homelessness and currently make up a disproportional percentage of the homeless population, thus making this rule a contributor to the vast racial inequities in our country.

- This proposed rule stands to affect nearly X households in our state/the states and communities we support. (See this chart from the Keep Families Together campaign for data).

- Despite belief from the Administration, philanthropy will not be able to fill the funding gaps for the ongoing housing needs of those forced in to housing instability or homelessness because of this rule.

- Through public-private partnerships, our mutual investments make progress on ending housing instability and homelessness. However, this proposal directly puts families and children at risk of experiencing homelessness in our local community and in others across the country, thus adding to the current homelessness crisis and reducing the impact of public-private partnerships.

- If the rule becomes finalized, it could alter decisions to invest in communities and undermine the continued success we've had in our efforts to serve and protect our neighbors from housing instability and homelessness.
• The truth is that the ripple effects this rule will have on families will create needs that our grantees cannot absorb. This would cause a diversion in funds from other strategic investments and ultimately hurt not only our community, but the country as a whole.

• The philanthropic community calls on our partners at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to rescind this proposed rule and protect children and families from housing instability and homelessness in our communities.

Per recommendation from our national advocacy partners, we encourage you to use these talking points and edit to make them as unique to your organization, communities, and/or state as possible. Your comment letter will be most valuable if you ensure that at least 30% of your it consists of original content.

If you have questions about the talking points, or would like help in crafting unique messaging to include with your public comment, feel free to reach out to Amanda Andere at amanda@funderstogether.org.