

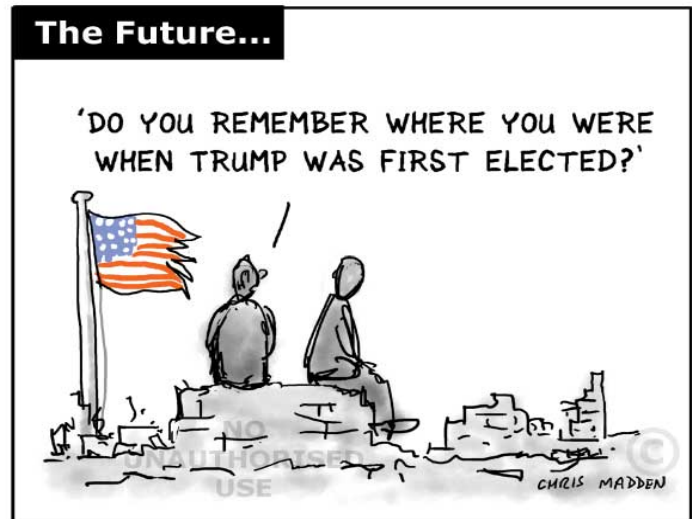
# Stop Trump's Budget Cuts! Save Our Homes!

NAHT Background Piece 3/18/17

Donald Trump started out as a slumlord blocking people of color from his federally subsidized real estate empire.

Now, will the Slumlord in Chief throw 12 million seniors, differently abled people, children and parents out on the street?

**Trump's proposal for FY 2018.** Tea Party extremist Mick Mulvaney, Trump's Budget Director, released Trump's "discretionary" budget proposal for FY 2018 on March 16. Trump's 2018 budget for HUD calls for elimination of \$4 billion in CDBG, HOME and other grants to cities; deep cuts to Public Housing Operating (13% cut) and grants for repairs (32% cut); and \$900 million in cuts to the Section 8 Voucher program below current levels--resulting in 200,000 fewer Vouchers next year, a 10% cut.



***"There's a lot of programs that simply cannot justify their existence, and that's where we zeroed in," Trump's Budget Director Mulvaney said, referring specifically to HUD (Politico 3/16/17).***

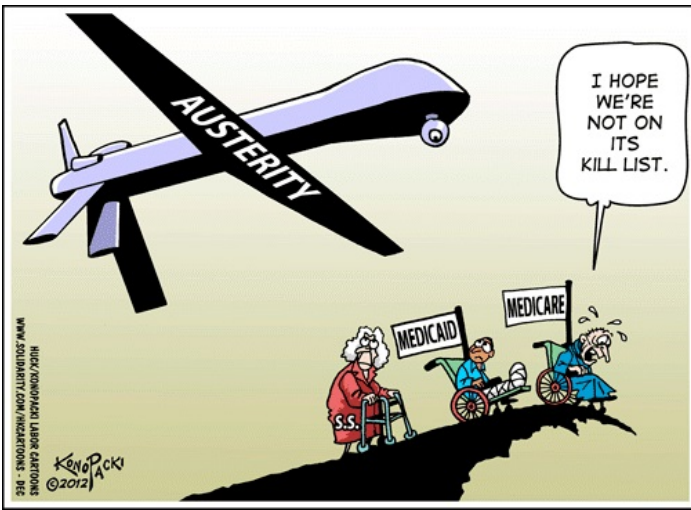
Rather than addressing the nation's deep and growing crisis in affordable housing, Trump's proposals will only add to mass displacement, homelessness, and misery. Trump's promised repeal of HUD Fair Housing regulations will ensure that people of color, differently abled tenants, women and other vulnerable and historically oppressed groups particularly suffer the vicious consequences of these cuts.

## Will Trump embrace the Heritage Foundation 10 year plan to end federal rent subsidies?

Trump's HUD proposals are in line with the extremist "Freedom Caucus/Heritage Foundation" budget Mulvaney supported in the House last year. The Heritage proposal called for elimination of CDBG, HOME and Choice Neighborhood grants; Trump's budget follows suit. Heritage also called for "block grants" of HUD rental housing programs, which aid 5 million households, to the states, with 10% annual cuts for 10 years until federal funding is eliminated. Unless hard-pressed, mostly Republican states pick up the \$35+ billion tab, 12 million more people will be out on the street.

The proposed cuts for Section 8 Vouchers--200,000, or 10% of the current number-- and for Public Housing Operating Funds (13%) are consistent with the first year cuts envisioned by the Heritage Foundation. It remains to be seen whether Trump's "full" budget later this spring, will embrace this 10 year plan.

**Stop Trump's "Death Budget".** Overall, Trump is proposing a \$54 billion increase in Pentagon spending in 2018, by taking away \$54 billion from virtually every "safety net" program that keep Americans secure--such as housing and heating assistance, clean air and water, education and job training, legal services to fight unjust evictions, and more. And Trump has called for immediate increases--\$30 billion for Pentagon war spending, plus \$15 billion for "border security" and the "Wall"--at the expense of vital safety net programs THIS YEAR.



Worse, Republicans have proposed the repeal of the Affordable Care Act, including deep cuts to Medicaid in order to pay for \$900 billion in tax cuts for the wealthy, drug, and insurance companies. According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the Republican “Trumpscare” proposals would slash 24 million people from the healthcare rolls in the next decade--14 million next year--and increase insurance payments for millions, particularly people aged 50 to 64. Tens of thousands will die needlessly if Trumpscare and the Republican “Death Budget” is passed by Congress.

Congressional Republicans are also sharpening their knives to cut Medicare and Social Security later this spring, while joining Trump to slash corporate tax rates and further reduce

taxes on billionaires. As a Tea Party extremist in the House and co-founder of the right wing “Freedom Caucus”, Mulvaney was a strident supporter of massive cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and Food Stamps.

Although Trump has “promised” to not cut Social Security and Medicare, he has already broken his promise to not cut Medicaid in the Trumpscare proposal before Congress. If carried out, Trump’s massive tax cuts for the 1% along with increased Pentagon and infrastructure spending will only squeeze housing and other vital programs that serve lower income people.

In addition to accelerated purchase of the F-35 fighter--the “plane that doesn’t fly”--and a new generation of nuclear weapons, Trump has proposed jumps in “border security,” privatized prisons, militarized police, and the Wall, all criminalizing immigrants, Moslems and people of color while subsidizing division and hate among the American people. In Mulvaney’s words, “No question this is a hard power budget. It is not a soft power budget.” **The Republican “Death Budget” is a recipe for austerity, war, inequality, racism, and fear.**

**Tell Congress: “The Peoples Budget Does It!”** There is an alternative to the Republican “Death Budget.” The “Peoples Budget” proposed by the Congressional Progressive Caucus each year, presents an alternative vision to invest in housing, jobs and \$2 trillion for infrastructure; ensure clean air and water and renewable energy; increase, not cut, Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid; strengthen, not repeal, the Affordable Care Act; fund, not privatize, public education; end corporate tax loopholes, tax the 1%, and redirect wasteful Pentagon spending to meet domestic needs. **The Peoples Budget offers prosperity, peace and hope for our future, not austerity, war, and inequality.**

NAHT is encouraging local affiliates and allies to press House members to vote YES on the Peoples Budget, when it is introduced! The Peoples Budget will be offered as an amendment to the Ryan Republican Budget Resolution, expected after March 27, 2017. The last time a vote was taken, in 2015, 96 Representatives voted “Yes!” on the Peoples Budget. **Send a message to Trump: Demand that all House Members vote “Yes!” this year, on the Peoples Budget!**