

Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority

Statement to Public Housing Residents, Housing Choice Voucher Participants, Section 8 Property Owners, and General Public on the Federal Government Shutdown

Friday, January 11, 2019

As the Federal government shut down continues the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRHA) continues to advocate for our residents, program participants, and partners. Although the shutdown is ongoing, HUD has ensured payments for critical programs like the Public Housing Operating Fund and Housing Choice Voucher Program for January and February. This funding will allow our agency to make payments to landlords participating in the Housing Choice Voucher program, conduct routine maintenance to protect residents of public housing, and maintain administrative operations.

However, we have recently learned that HUD will not have funding for the Public Housing Operating Fund or for Housing Choice Voucher payments in March if the shutdown continues much longer. This would have a particularly devastating impact on recipients of Housing Choice Vouchers, many of whom could find themselves in the situation of either having to pay the full rent due on their own or face eviction. Families should not have to face potential homelessness and a permanent mark on their credit because of the inability of Congress and the Administration to come to an agreement to reopen the government.

The Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority is prepared to use some unrestricted reserves to ensure operations continue uninterrupted if the shutdown continues beyond funding availability from HUD.

Our Executive Director and CEO, Chad Williams has joined other public housing authority executive directors in consistently advocating through local and national media outlets and directly to our Members of Congress to push for a resolution on this matter. In fact, Mr. Williams was recently interviewed by NBC News to express how the continued Federal government shutdown will affect the families we serve in a report titled: [*"How the government shutdown is hurting some of America's poorest families."*](#)

We at SNRHA would like to encourage everyone who is a champion of preserving affordable housing for the elderly, disabled and Veterans, and providing economic opportunities to working class families make their voices heard to your Congressional representatives that the continued disruption of Federal government services to fund a border wall only hurts American citizens, damages our American values, and weakens the moral standing of our nation in the world.