

## Sample Outline: Meeting with Lawmakers – August 2018

### 1. Introductions

- Thank the staff members for their time and offer to exchange business cards
- Introduce yourself personally: Connections to the legislator’s state or district are valuable
- Introduce yourself professionally: What brings you to the Hill? What does your daily work consist of and why is it important for the state / district?

### 2. Background Info

- What affordable housing programs are you involved in? (HVC, PBRA, LIHTC, Rural)
- How many units do you have and where, and whom do they serve?
- Why do you care / why should the legislator care about affordable housing?

### 3. Program Needs / Ask

- **Fiscal Year 2019 Funding for Affordable Housing and Community Development Programs:** Thanks to leaders in Congress for increasing investments in fiscal year 2018 – let’s keep up the momentum for fiscal year 2019 (refer to NAHMA factsheet for specific \$\$ numbers)
  - **Prevent** full-year stop gap funding (Continuing Resolutions) that are harmful to families and industry in affordable housing
  - **Enact** robust, full-year funding bills for HUD and USDA housing and community development
- **Strengthen the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC):** The LIHTC is critical for both industry and community. Ask legislators to continue enhancing the LIHTC by supporting the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act (H.R. 1661 and S. 548)
  - **Enact** enhancing provisions, such as a permanent 4% credit rate and further credit expansion
- **NAHMA Policy Platform:** Refer to our “policy platform” for talking points on addressing senior housing, preserving the rural portfolio, and recovering from disasters
- **Programs Needs Specific to Your Properties:** Highlight items of particular importance for your portfolio, such as support for rural infrastructure or service coordinators, etc.

### 4. Next Steps / Follow-Up Items

- Make a follow-up plan, like sending additional information about your discussion; letting staff in the DC office know next time you are in town; or inviting the legislator for a property tour or event
- Send a quick thank you email following your visit and stay in touch with the staff
- Fill out NAHMA’s “Activity Submission Form” to earn points for the AHMA Challenge. If you are not participating in the challenge, fill out the “Share your Advocacy Story” form to help us coordinate national outreach efforts.