



Lutheran Services in America

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June 26, 2007

Chairman Barney Frank
House Financial Services Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: National Housing Trust Fund

Dear Chairman Frank:

Lutheran Services in America (LSA) supports legislation establishing a National Affordable Housing Trust Fund for the production of new housing and the preservation or rehabilitation of existing housing that is affordable for people with low incomes. The goal of the proposed Trust Fund to produce, rehabilitate, and preserve 1,500,000 units of housing over the next 10 years is laudable.

LSA has identified creating and preserving affordable housing as one of the highest public policy priorities for this Congress. Lutheran social ministry organizations are leaders in developing affordable housing, particularly for elderly people and people with disabilities. LSA appreciates the opportunity to partner with the federal government to meet the housing needs of people around the country.

LSA is an alliance of national Lutheran church denominations and their health and human service providers. LSA member organizations deliver more than \$9.5 billion in services to more than six million people every year – that translates to one in 50 people in the United States. LSA members provide services in all 50 states and the Caribbean. The network of close to 300 organizations serves the elderly, children and families, people with mental and physical disabilities, refugees, victims of natural disasters and others in need. Through these efforts LSA is on the front lines of building self-sufficiency and creating hope in millions of lives.

Thank you for your commitment to address the affordable housing crisis in our nation by introducing legislation creating a National Housing Trust Fund. If LSA can be of assistance, please contact Kathy Saile at ksaile@lutheranservices.org or 202-626-7932.

Sincerely,

Kathy A. Saile

Kathy A. Saile
Associate Director of Public Policy