Community Empowerment and Development without Displacement

## Call Senator Durbin Today! Ensure National Housing Trust Fund Dollars

December 11, 2009

As you know legislation that could provide \$1 billion for the National Housing Trust Fund could pass this year. On Dec. 1 and 2, along with several other affordable housing advocacy groups, we sought to create a blizzard of phone calls to Senate and House offices. Thank you for your work helping ensure capitalization of the NHTF!

The ball is now in our court in Illinois as Senator Richard Durbin is a key decision maker regarding NHTF funding. <u>Please call Senator Durbin today and tell his staff that you</u> <u>support including NHTF funding in the FY10 Department of Defense appropriations bill.</u>

Investing \$1 billion in the National Housing Trust Fund would result in \$43 million in economic stimulus in the state of Illinois. Nationally it would create over 15,000 construction jobs and 3,800 permanent jobs.

For the congressional switchboard (toll-free call-in number) call 877-210-5351. You can reach Senator Durbin's office directly at 202-224-2152.

## Current Status of NHTF Funding

The House and Senate have until December 18 to enact the FY10 Department of Defense appropriations bill. This is a "must pass" bill. House and Senate housing leaders are in agreement to attach the NHTF funding proposal.

Congress will adjourn for 2009 after it enacts the FY10 defense spending bill. There will not be another opportunity to enact NHTF funding until mid to late 2010.

If you can make one call to Senator Durbin, we believe we can secure NHTF funding and move forward in 2010 to allocate these precious resources for the production and preservation of affordable housing in early 2010.

More information on the NHTF is available at <u>http://www.nhtf.org</u>.

For more information about this or other federal policy issues that impact affordable housing, call Rachel Johnston at 312-663-3936.