



National Alliance to  
**END HOMELESSNESS**

# The President's FY 2018 Budget Request

**Speakers:**

Steve Berg

Julie Klein

Noelle Porter

Jared Thompson

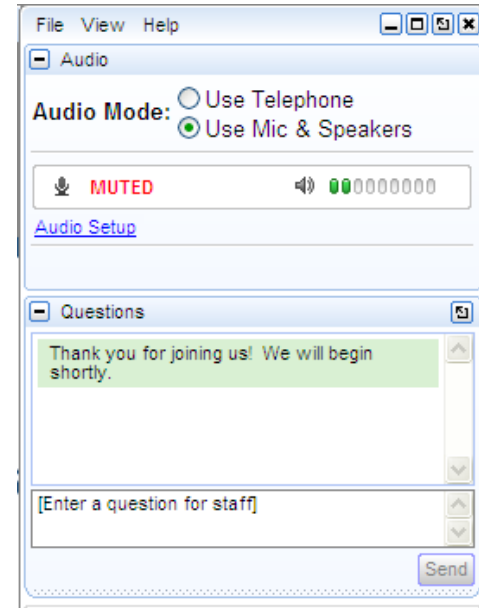
**Webinar materials:** [http://cqrcengage.com/naeh/homelessness\\_programs](http://cqrcengage.com/naeh/homelessness_programs)

# Introductory Logistics

**\*\*Submit Questions!**

Lines are muted to facilitate this call.

A recording of this webinar will be posted online / emailed in the next few days



If you have questions during the webinar, submit them in the question box on your control panel. We will answer as many questions as possible at the end of the webinar.

# Today's Agenda

- Introduction
- Federal Budget and Appropriations Process
- FY 2018 Budget and Policy Outlook
- The President's FY 2018 Budget:  
Top 3 Alliance Priorities
- Getting Involved in Advocacy to Prevent and  
End Homelessness
- Q&A

Resources to Reference During Webinar:

[http://cqrcengage.com/naeh/homelessness\\_programs](http://cqrcengage.com/naeh/homelessness_programs)

# Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

- President's Budget was released Tuesday
- Congress makes the decisions, and word from Congress is that their budget will be much different
- Our challenge is to help Congress produce a budget that will drive progress to end homelessness
  - Kicks off annual federal budget and appropriations work

# Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

- What should Advocates know about this process this year?
  - Mandatory versus discretionary spending
    - This budget proposal includes many relevant proposals on the mandatory side

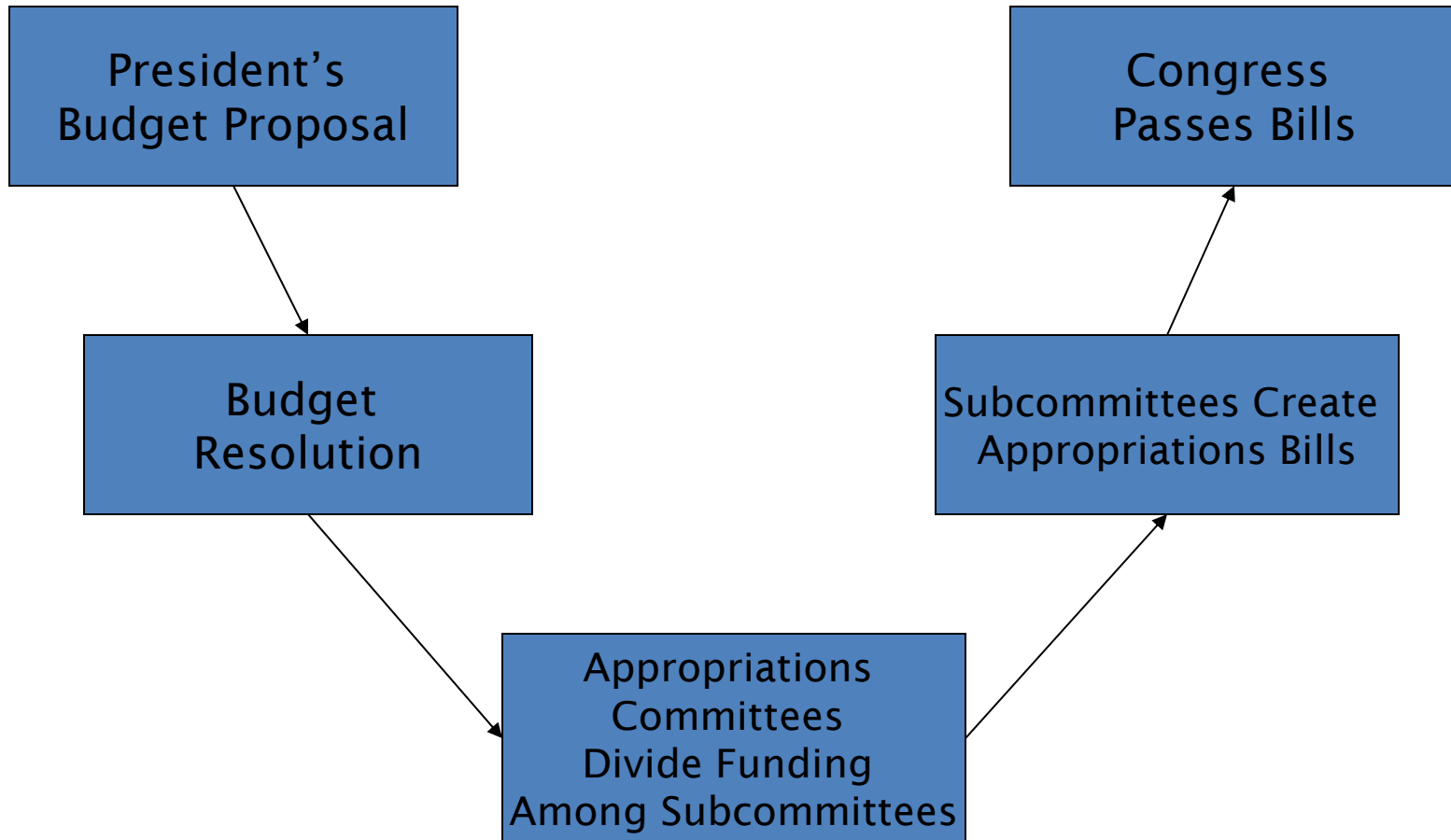
# Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

- House and Senate hold hearings and draft their proposals – Budget Resolutions
  - These set spending levels for the House and Senate Appropriations Committees
- This year, spending caps return to levels set in 2011 Budget Control Act – for nondefense, a tiny increase from 2017, insufficient to cover increased costs

# Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

- Possibility of another budget deal
- Likely would raise both defense and nondefense caps
- Likely would not come until after attempts to pass appropriations bills based on the existing caps
- Similar to two years ago

# From Proposal to Passing Congress: Appropriations





# Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

- President's Budget is NOT law
- Congress ultimately decides funding levels
- They rely on YOU to make good decisions
- Need to understand impact of funding on programs and people in their district

# FY 2018 Budget and Policy Outlook

- HUD Homeless Assistance cut back to FY 2016 levels
- Massive cuts in a range of antipoverty programs including housing, health care
- VA held harmless, as are most small targeted homelessness programs

# McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants

- Largest federal program targeted to ending homelessness in the US
- Grants include:
  - Competitive Continuum of Care (CoC) Program
  - Formula-based Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)
- Funding incentivizes evidence-based, Housing First solutions

# Administration Budget Proposal – McKinney-Vento

- The President's FY 2018 Budget proposes the following cuts to McKinney-Vento Accounts:
  - CoC Program: \$1.988 billion – a **\$295 million decrease** from FY 2017
  - ESG: \$255 million, a **\$15 million decrease** from FY 2017
  - The National Homelessness Data Analysis project: \$7 million, a **\$5 million decrease** from FY 2017

# McKinney-Vento – Impact

- These proposed cuts could lead to as many as 25,000 people becoming newly homeless

# Medicaid

- 50 year history of providing health care coverage for elderly people or people with disabilities
  - Since the implementation of the ACA, many states have expanded the reach of Medicaid to serve people living in extreme poverty
- Since the expansion, Medicaid has also become a key payer for services in supportive housing

# Administration Budget Proposal –Medicaid

- FY 2018 budget reflects a small increase in mandatory spending
  - \$29 million to address health care cost inflation
- Proposal directs future cuts to begin in FY 2020 by changing the structure of Medicaid payments
- Result is \$616 billion cut over 10 years

# Medicaid and the American Health Care Act

- The President's proposed cuts are meant to be made *in addition* to any cuts in future health care reform legislation
- The American Health Care Act (AHCA) which passed the House earlier this month, proposed cuts to Medicaid spending by **at least \$800 billion** over 10 years
- Combined, these reforms would cut Medicaid spending **in half** by 2027



# Medicaid - Impact

- Estimates suggest that at least 14 million Americans' health care coverage will be jeopardized immediately
  - The most profound impact will be felt by those who have gained Medicaid coverage under the ACA

# Affordable Housing – President's Budget

- Downsizes Section 8 by approximately 250,000
- Eliminates National Housing Trust Fund
- Severe cuts to public housing

# Affordable Housing – What we need

- Housing Choice Vouchers – enough to renew all existing vouchers
- National Housing Trust Fund – preserve intact, including funding from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac
- Public Housing – enough to preserve existing capacity

# ADVOCACY: What is it?

- Advocacy: “the active support of an idea or cause”
  - Ranges from general issue education to lobbying around specific legislation
- Federal, state, local levels of government
  - Alliance focuses on federal advocacy

# FEDERAL ADVOCACY: Why is it important?

- Homeless assistance programs rely on federal funding to operate
  - Local capacity to end homelessness depends on programs like the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants

# FEDERAL ADVOCACY: Why is it important?

- Congress relies on constituents for information
  - YOU are the experts on this issue!
  - Up to YOU to give people experiencing homelessness a stronger voice in the political process
    - Involve clients to directly advocate as much as possible

# Take Action: McKinney-Vento

- **Call and Email** Your Members of Congress
  - Thank you for the \$133 million increase in FY 2017!
  - Please reject the President's budget cuts that would cause 25,000 more people to be homeless
  - Please support a \$217 million increase to \$2.6 billion for McKinney in FY 2018! This would allow us to house approximately 40,000 more people than in FY 2017.

<http://cqrcengage.com/naeh/advocacy?0>

# Take Action: McKinney-Vento

- Broad Community Support is Critical!
  - Local and state elected officials (Mayors, City Council Members, Governor)
  - Other public officials (Agency department heads, Police, Schools, etc.)
  - Private sector partners
  - Faith-based partners



# Take Action: McKinney-Vento

- Ask Community Leaders to **Sign on to a Letter** to your Congressional Delegation
  - 1) Tailor the Sign On Letter Template
  - 2) Reach Out to Community Leaders & Ask them to sign on
  - 3) Email it to your congressional offices
    - We can help find contact information!
  - 4) Let us know that you sent your letter
  - 5) Bring your letter to Capitol Hill Day

<http://cqrcengage.com/naeh/advocacy?0>

# Take Action: Medicaid

- Protect Medicaid – Ask Your Senators to reject the House-passed American Health Care Act (that would repeal the Affordable Care Act)  
<http://familiesusa.org/initiatives/protecting-medicaid>

# Take Action: Affordable Housing

- Increase Funding for Affordable Housing – Urge Congress to Lift Spending Caps!

<https://nlihc.wufoo.com/forms/urge-congress-lift-spending-caps-fund-thud-bill/>

- Protect the Housing Trust Fund

<http://cqrcengage.com/nlihc/app/sign-petition?0&engagementId=297914>

# Sustained Advocacy in 2017

- Join our Advocacy Update list
- FY 2018 Homelessness Funding Campaign

[http://cqrcengage.com/naeh/homelessness\\_programs](http://cqrcengage.com/naeh/homelessness_programs)

- Emails and Calls to your Congressional Delegation
- Community Sign On Letter
- Capitol Hill Day
- Site Visits, In-district meetings, & Town Halls

# Question and Answers

Have more questions? Want to get involved?

Julie Klein

[jklein@naeh.org](mailto:jklein@naeh.org) / (202) 942-8281

Or

Jared Thompson

[jthompson@naeh.org](mailto:jthompson@naeh.org) / (202) 942-8294