

A BLUEPRINT FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

The President's Budget Proposal and What You Can Do
About It



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Logistics

- Lines are muted to facilitate this call
- A recording of this webinar will be posted online and emailed in the next few days
- Please submit your questions
 - 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
- The President's FY2019 Budget
 - Top Alliance funding priorities
 - A blueprint for Administration policy priorities in 2019
 - Defending against harmful proposals
- Engaging in Advocacy to prevent and End Homelessness
 - FY2018 Appropriations – our final push
 - FY2019 Priorities
- Q&A

Resources to reference during the webinar:

<http://cqrcengage.com/naeh>



As with last year's President's Budget, this year's includes some of the **largest proposed cuts** to social programs and the safety net by any president in decades.

... The policy changes included would **dramatically reduce the programs' effectiveness.**

Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

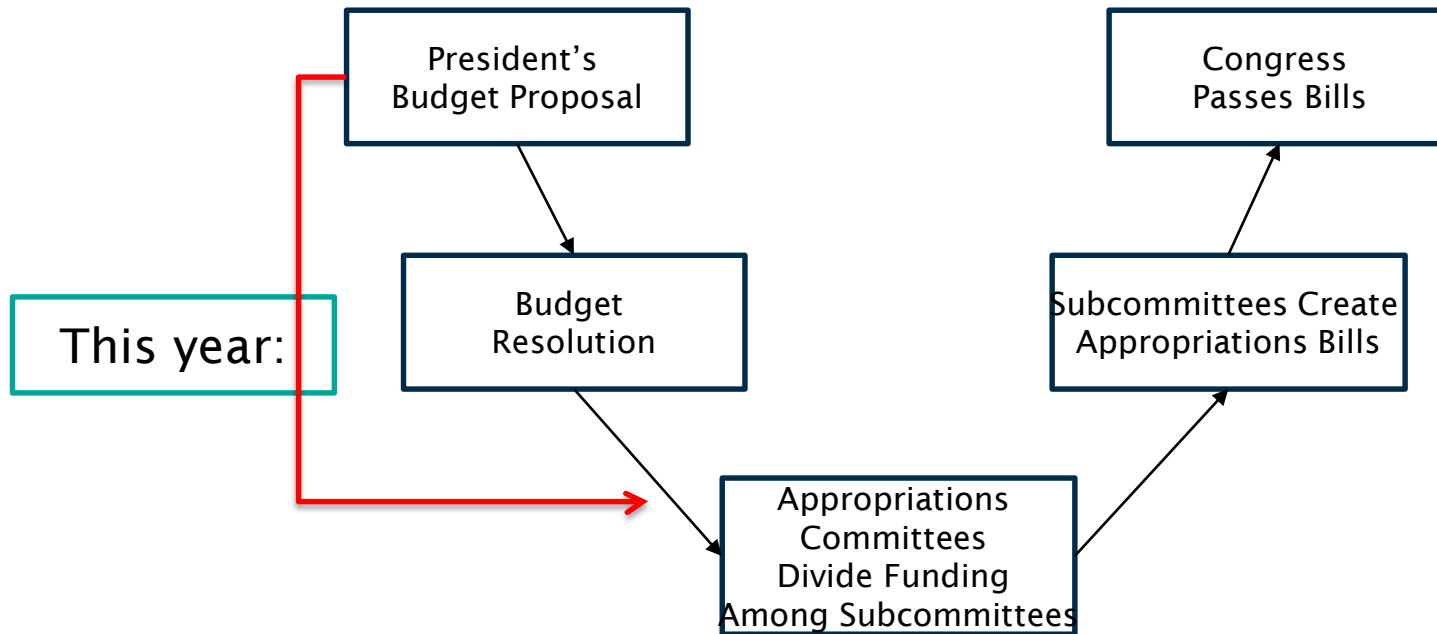
- President's Budget was released Monday, February 12th
 - **It is important to note that Congress has not yet passed a final budget for 2018, and we are committed to advocating for maximum funding before the deadline of March 23rd
- The President's Budget is NOT law
- Congress ultimately makes spending decisions, and it's clear they're ready to spend more than the President has asked for

Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

- Our challenge is to help Congress produce a budget that will continue, and even accelerate, progress toward ending homelessness
 - Congress needs to understand the impact of any spending decisions on the programs and people in their districts
 - Today's presentation is a kick-off to the Alliance's 2019 budget and appropriations advocacy as Congress gets to work drafting a spending bill

Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

- In a typical year:



Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

- The budget deal signed Friday, February 9th repealed sequestration levels for 2 years, and secured \$131 billion in additional non-defense discretionary spending
 - Our goal is to get Congress to spend these available dollars on homeless services and affordable housing!
- Appropriations Subcommittees will use this new budget resolution to set spending levels for all of the functional categories (e.g., housing)

Federal Budget and Appropriations Process

- Where are we now?
 - A final spending bill for FY2018 is not yet complete but the current Continuing Resolution expires on March 23rd
 - For 2019, the President has proposed
 - An **overall 42.3% cut** to all non-defense discretionary spending
 - **20.1% cut to Section 8** housing assistance by 2028
 - Reforms to Medicaid including a **22.5% reduction in Medicaid Expansion spending** by 2028
 - Congress will begin drafting appropriations bills for FY2019 with an *aim* of passing these bills in June or July
 - FY2019 begins on October 1st

The President's FY2019 Budget

- The President's Budget [proposal](#) includes:
 - Flat funding for homelessness assistance from FY2017 levels
 - Startling cuts to antipoverty programs including housing, health care, food stamps, and employment and training
 - A continued commitment to dismantling the Affordable Care Act
 - Significant policy reform proposals to further limit assistance to vulnerable Americans

The President's FY2019 Budget – McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Grants

- The president requests \$2.4 billion for McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Grants (HAG)
 - This represents flat funding from the enacted FY2017 level
 - Grants include:
 - Competitive Continuum of Care (CoC) Program
 - Formula-based Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)
 - Funding for these programs incentivizes evidence-based interventions

The President's FY2019 Budget – McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Grants

- Flat funding the HAG does not address
 - Rising rents
 - Reported increases in inflow to the homeless services system
 - Increases in homelessness in some high-rent urban areas
- This would result in an increase in homelessness in communities across the country
 - **The Alliance will publish our FY2019 request following the release of the final FY2018 budget.

The President's FY2019 Budget – Affordable Housing

- Proposed cuts would cut Section 8 housing by \$47 billion over 10 years
 - Initial 2019 cuts are \$900 million less than HUD estimates is necessary to renew existing vouchers in 2018, and could immediately impact about 200,000 households
- The President proposes eliminating the National Housing Trust Fund
 - We need to preserve this \$219 million, including Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac funding, toward development of additional affordable housing
- Cuts public housing funding by \$3 billion, or 47%, in 2019
 - Public housing already faces more than \$26 billion in repair needs to existing infrastructure
 - This will sharply accelerate the loss of available and acceptable affordable units

The President's FY2019 Budget – 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
 - Medicaid has also become a key payer for services in supportive housing
- The President continues to push for a repeal of the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid Expansion in states
 - Proposed cuts would reduce mandatory Medicaid spending by \$675 billion in before 2028

The President's FY2019 Budget – Deeper Cuts Beyond Appropriations

- Block Granting
 - Proposes block granting Medicaid payments to states
 - Proposes cuts to the existing TANF block grant
- Work Requirements
 - The budget proposes legislative reforms that impose work requirements on recipients of social service programs including Medicaid and housing assistance
 - CBPP has published [excellent resources](#) on how harmful these policies would be
- Rent Reform
 - Leaked HUD legislative proposals indicate that these reforms would increase rent burden for vulnerable families, especially those with elderly and disabled members

Advocacy

- Congress needs to hear from constituents to know that ending homelessness is important to the people they represent.
- As voters and important members of their communities, YOUR voice can influence their decisions.
- You can reach your Members of Congress in a number of ways:
 1. Call and Emails
 2. Social Media
 3. Meeting and Events in Your District
 4. Visiting their DC Office (Capitol Hill Day!)
- The Alliance is ready to help with all of this

Advocacy: Finishing the Job on the FY2018 Budget

- The first, and most important thing we need to do to protect against the threats to our programs in FY2019 is to **secure as much funding as possible for homeless assistance in the final FY2018** spending bills
- We have until March 23rd before Congress will finalize FY2018 appropriations
 - That is **4 more weeks** to have our voices heard!!

Our Top Priority: Secure \$2.6 billion for McKinney

[You Can Take Action Using Our Simple Tools](#)

Advocacy – Staying Engaged in 2018

Your advocacy over the last year has been phenomenal!

- Once we get what we need for FY 2018, we will shift focus to defending against the threats posed by the President's proposal
- The Good News: We know Congress is willing to spend more. We can demand the increases we need for our programs, not just fight cuts.
 - [Make sure you are signed up for our advocacy alerts](#)
 - We will let you know about important moments and opportunities, and give you the resources and tools to succeed

Questions?

Stay in Touch

- [Sign up for advocacy alerts here](#)
- Have questions or want to get more involved?
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