Human Development

Summer Board and Leadership Meeting
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown
Columbus Room
Indianapolis, Indiana
June 25-27, 2019
Tuesday, June 25, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. | ONSITE REGISTRATION  
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown  
Registration Desk 1, Second Floor |
| 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. | JOINT WELCOME RECEPTION  
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown  
350 West Maryland Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
Marriott Ballrooms 1-4, Second Floor |

Wednesday, June 26, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. | BREAKFAST  
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown  
Conner's Kitchen + Bar |
|             | *Please retrieve your breakfast voucher from Registration Desk 1 on the second floor* |
| 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | FEDERAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MOBILE WORKSHOPS  
IndyGo Construction of the Red Line 13-Mile Bus Transit |

NLC will get an early insider view of the state-of-the-art transit line getting ready to serve the densest corridor in the state of Indiana, connecting more than 60,000 residents to more than 150,000 jobs and hitting two of the city’s trendiest neighborhoods - Broad Ripple and Fountain Square - while also bringing equitable access for all through new fare programs and upgraded zoning.

This workshop’s leaders will share their development story, what design elements make bus rapid transit a great choice, how user experience is coming first, and how they leveraged federal funds with local goals to rollout the Red Line. The tour will be led by Bryan Luellen, Vice President of Public Affairs and Communications for IndyGo.
Shuttle pick up will begin at 8:45 a.m. outside of the Indianapolis Marriott along Maryland Street

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | **JOINT LUNCH (COMMITTEES, BOARD & COUNCILS)**  
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown  
Marriott Ballroom 6  
  - Chris Pilkerton  
    Acting Administrator, US Small Business Administration  
  Chris Pilkerton from the US Small Business Administration (SBA) has been invited to speak to our meeting attendees about Opportunity Zones. Specifically, he will discuss ways that Opportunity Zones can foster economic mobility for residents, the role of the SBA in assisting local leaders and entrepreneurs in creating economic development in Opportunity Zones, and how the SBA can assist with economic development in distressed communities that have not been designated Opportunity Zones. |
| 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. | **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown  
Room Columbus  
  - The Honorable Robin Arredondo-Savage, Chair  
    Councilmember, City of Tempe, Arizona  
  Councilmember Arredondo-Savage will welcome the committee and provide an update from the NLC Board of Directors meeting. |
| 1:30 p.m. – 1:40 p.m. | **WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND MEETING OVERVIEW**  
  - The Honorable Robin Arredondo-Savage, Chair  
    Councilmember, City of Tempe, Arizona  
  Councilmember Arredondo-Savage will welcome the committee and provide an update from the NLC Board of Directors meeting. |
| 1:40 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. | **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT POLICY CONVERSATION**  
  - Katie Spiker  
    Director of Government Affairs, National Skills Coalition  
  Committee members will hear from congressional staff and workforce policy professionals around the status of reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and engage in a conversation regarding priorities for NLC. Members should come prepared for the conversations with what’s working well and what isn’t working as well as it pertains to WIOA implementation in their communities. The result of this conversation will be NLC’s advocacy plan surrounding reauthorization. |
| 2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | **ICE CREAM BREAK**  
Indianapolis Marriott Downtown  
Marriott Ballroom 1-4 Foyer |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m.</td>
<td>NLC PRESENTATION: MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE AND HOMELESSNESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Kitty Hsu Dana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Health Policy Advisor, Institute for Youth, Education and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Families, National League of Cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Committee members will hear about the work NLC is conducting to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>explore city-level approaches to address mental health, substance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>use, and homelessness as it relates to emergency response and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>crisis stabilization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15 p.m.-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>BEST PRACTICES PRESENTATION: BATTLING OPIOID ADDICTION IN INDIANAPOLIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(JOINT SESSION WITH PSCP COMMITTEE – MARRIOTT BALLROOM 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Daniel P. O'Donnell, MD, FAEMS, FACEP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Director, Indianapolis Emergency Medical Services (IEMS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Committee members will hear from Deputy Chief O'Donnell about how</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the City of Indianapolis has been engaged in addressing the needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>of those with opioid addiction and other substance use disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in the county.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>HOST CITY EVENING OUT EVENT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eiteljorg Museum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>500 W Washington Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indianapolis, IN 46204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Walkable from Marriott Hotel, printed directions available at</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>registration</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thursday, June 27, 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>JOINT BREAKFAST (COMMITTEES, BOARD &amp; COUNCILS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indianapolis Marriott Downtown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marriott Ballroom 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Megan Corey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Senior Executive Director, Digital Engagement, Marketing &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Communications, National League of Cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NLC’s Director of Digital Engagement, Marketing &amp; Communications will</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>give a brief presentation about how NLC is spreading the “love”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>across the country this summer through the Love My City campaign—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and how you can get your own community involved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
*Indianapolis Marriott Downtown*  
*Columbus Room* |
| 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. | NLC FEDERAL ADVOCACY UPDATE  
- Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman  
  Program Director, Human Development, Federal Advocacy, National League of Cities  
Committee members will hear an update on NLC’s legislative priorities, as well as issues before Congress, the Administration, and the Courts. |
| 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | HD POLICY DISCUSSION AND RESOLUTIONS REVIEW  
Committee members will review and vote on changes to the current 2019 resolutions and discuss any changes to policy. Committee members will also discuss new proposed resolutions. |
| 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | LOOKING AHEAD: AUGUST RECESS ADVOCACY AND SEPTEMBER FLY-IN  
Committee members will learn about NLC’s August Recess advocacy plans and how they can effectively engage in in-district advocacy during this time. Committee members will also discuss plans for the September Fly-in and other ways members can be involved in advocating for infrastructure investment. Finally, committee members will hear and update on NLC’s plans for engaging in the 2020 presidential election. |
| 12:00 p.m. | FEDERAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE LUNCH  
*Indianapolis Marriott Downtown*  
*Marriott Ballroom 6* |
| 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. | FEDERAL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE MOBILE WORKSHOP: FULL CIRCLE AT CENTRAL STATE  
*Bus loads in front of hotel, along Maryland Street, and will leave promptly at 1:00 P.M.*  
Steve Glickman, co-founder of the Economic Innovation Group who originally envisioned the Opportunity Zone program, has said “Indianapolis has probably a set of the most attractive [Opportunity] Zones in the country. When you compare the zones to each other, Indianapolis scores really well.”  
NLC members remaining in Indianapolis following their committee meetings will be able to see what sets Indianapolis apart. City officials will join us via...
bus to the Central State campus (a short 7-minute drive from downtown Indianapolis) where participants will have the opportunity to tour the campus, learn about the financing of various completed and ongoing projects (e.g., infrastructure, diverse housing initiatives, adaptive reuse), and browse some of the unique retailers on site.

A bustling 150-acre mixed-use campus on the near west side of Indianapolis, Central State is the former site of the Central State Hospital, built in 1848 and originally referred to as the “Central Indiana Hospital for the Insane.” Strongly influenced by the “Kirkbride Plan,” it is apparent once on campus that the facilities and grounds were designed with light and nature at the forefront. Many of the original buildings have been saved, reimagined, and repurposed through a strategic vision of building and fostering an art + design-focused community. Occupants include People for Urban Progress, Indiana Medical History Museum, Ignition Arts, and United State of Indiana with more on the way!

Located along IndyGo’s upcoming Blue Line – BRT route, and with diverse housing options, ample greenspace, a public charter school, and the city’s Mounted Patrol unit, Central State is poised to be a creative, connected, and welcoming anchor for the near westside and its residents for years to come!

Walking is encouraged once on campus, though the Mansion Café is centrally located and offers light snacks and beverages.

Attachments:
- HD January 2019 Call Notes
- HD Congressional City Conference Meeting Notes
- HD 2019 National Municipal Policy Chapter
- National Service Suggested Language
- Workforce Development Policy Conversation Questions
- BUILDs Act Letter of Support
- NLC Policy Development and Advocacy Process
- HD 2019 Roster

Next HD Committee Meeting:
City Summit
San Antonio, Texas
November 20-23, 2019
Human Development Federal Advocacy Committee  
January 2019 Conference Call

Dial-In Number: 267-930-4000  
Password: 280 426 503

Agenda

I. Committee Welcome – Councilmember Arredondo-Savage, HD Chair  
   a. Introduction of Committee Leadership  
   b. HD Committee Duties and Responsibilities

II. Washington Update – Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman  
   a. FY19 Funding  
   b. Letter to Congress re: infrastructure

III. 2019 Policy Agenda Conversation – Councilmember Arredondo-Savage  
   a. Main Focus  
      i. Workforce  
      ii. Opioids/Substance Abuse  
      iii. PTSD  
   b. Other Areas of Interest  
      i. Immigration  
         1. The Committee provided significant edits to the resolution over the last two years. Are there additional areas that need to be addressed at our meeting in June?  
      ii. Census  
         1. Falls within FAIR Committee. What areas does HD want to ask FAIR to ensure are included in their advocacy?  
      iii. Housing  
         1. Falls within CED Committee. Mayor Freeman-Wilson also has a housing taskforce this year. Are these things that this committee wants to ensure are passed along to these groups?

IV. HD 2019 Committee Meetings  
      i. The Human Development Committee will meet on Sunday, March 10th from 1:30-4:30 p.m.  
   b. Summer Board and Leadership Meeting, Indianapolis, IN, June 25-27  
   c. September Fly-In, Washington, D.C., Dates TBD  
   d. City Summit, San Antonio, TX, November 20-23
Committee Duties and Responsibilities
NLC’s seven Federal Advocacy Committees, together with NLC’s leadership and the Federal Advocacy team, play a key role in all NLC advocacy efforts. Comprised of local officials from NLC member cities, towns and villages across the country, the Committees play a central role in developing the organization’s federal policy positions, which are the foundation of our advocacy efforts, and leading our advocacy on the Hill and within the Administration. Combined, these federal policy positions make up the National Municipal Policy, which is a statement of goals, policies, and program objectives that are reviewed annually by the NLC membership.

The Human Development (HD) Committee is responsible for developing policy positions on issues involving social services, children and learning, poverty and income support, employment and workforce development, equal opportunity, Social Security and seniors, individuals with disabilities, public health care, mental health parity, and immigration reform.

As a member of the Committee you are expected to:

- Attend three meetings per year (Congressional City Conference, Summer Leadership Meeting and City Summit).
- Participate in calls and provide feedback from the perspective of your city.
- Take action on federal advocacy initiatives as determined by NLC, which can include: calling your member of congress, sending a letter, writing a blog, providing congressional testimony, etc.
- Provide feedback and guidance on the policies and resolutions in NLC’s National Municipal Policy.
Summary
Human Development Federal Advocacy Committee
Congressional City Conference – Washington, D.C.
March 10, 2019


Guest Attendance: M. Zylla, G. Hunt, V. Johnson, K. Davis

NLC Staff: Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman, Program Director for Human Development, Federal Advocacy, martinez-ruckman@nlc.org

Meeting Goals: To discuss the Committee’s priorities of PTSC, opioids and workforce development.

Summary:
Welcome, Introductions and Meeting Overview
Committee Chair Arredondo-Savage welcomed members to the Congressional City Conference meeting and thanked the co-chairs of the committee, West Hollywood, California Councilmember Lindsey Horvath and Charlotte, North Carolina Councilmember LaWana Mayfield.

Chair Arredondo-Savage provided an update of the meeting’s agenda as well as asked all members in attendance to introduce themselves. This was the first meeting of the Committee for 2019 and we welcomed many new members.

The Chair reviewed the top issues for the committee for the coming year:
   i. Workforce
   ii. Opioids/Substance Abuse
   iii. PTSD

Joint Discussion on First Responder Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
The HD Committee met jointly with the Public Safety and Crime Prevention Committee (PSCP) to discuss the joint priority of PTSD. The Committee was briefed by the Fairfax County (VA) Police Department and updated on the challenges and stresses faced by local law enforcement. In June, the Committee will have another joint conversation with the PSCP Committee to think through NLC’s federal asks as it pertains to PTSD.
Conversation on Opioids and Labor-HHS Appropriations
The Committee heard from Jeff Reczek, professional staff member for Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO) on the Senate Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS and Education. Jeff shared the Committee’s priorities for Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations and asked NLC members to share their challenges as it pertains to opioids funding, particularly the STOR/STR funds. NLC continues to advocate to ensure that these funds make it down to the local level. If your member of congress is a Labor-HHS appropriator, please be in touch with Stephanie to help us with this message. In terms of timing, members of the Senate subcommittee must submit their priorities for the upcoming fiscal year by the end of April. It is NLC’s goal to get at least two members to champion our suggested language, along with Senator Blunt’s leadership.

Overview of the 2019 Federal Advocacy Priorities
Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman, the Committee’s Federal Advocacy lobbyist, briefed members on current actions in Washington, including the Fiscal Year 2020 budget and appropriations process, disaster preparedness, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program proposed rule and the Census. Stephanie highlighted the recent meetings on Capitol Hill in regards to opioids and ensuring that funds which are appropriated by Congress make it down to the local level. We also must work to ensure that the Committee is actively engaged on infrastructure this year as it pertains to workforce needs and NLC’s priorities in the Rebuild with Us campaign.

2019 HD Committee Meetings
The next full committee meeting will be in Indianapolis, IN for the Summer Board and Leadership Forum. The HD Committee will meet on Wednesday, June 26th from 1:30-5 p.m. and Thursday, June 27th from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. There is no charge for attendance but members must be registered and secure the hotel rooms.

Additional meetings for the year include:
   a. September Fly-In, Washington, D.C., Dates TBD
   b. City Summit, San Antonio, TX, November 20-23

Contact Information
- Chair Robin Arredondo-Savage
  - Robin_Arredondo-Savage@tempe.gov
- Staff: Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman, Program Director for Human Development
  - martinez-ruckman@nlc.org; 202-626-3098
4.00 Introduction

The National League of Cities (NLC) believes that the cornerstone of the federal government’s comprehensive human development strategy should be the self-sufficiency of every individual. Through policy recommendations and legislative action, the federal government should:

- Establish a coordinated system of social services;
- Establish and implement a national policy on children and youth;
- Fully fund federally-mandated programs;
- Fund services designed to prevent unwed teenage pregnancy and eliminate poverty;
- Promote full employment;
- Promote equal opportunity efforts in education, employment, and social services;
- Provide a floor of financial support for seniors and persons with disabilities through Social Security;
- Provide assistance to individuals with disabilities;
- Ensure that all Americans have access to adequate physical and mental health care;
- Establish a federal block grant program to enhance our public health system;
- Implement comprehensive immigration reform; and Support efforts to ensure that cultural resources are accessible to all citizens.

4.01 Social Services

NLC believes that the federal government should give special emphasis to social service funds for the nation’s most vulnerable populations. Within this framework, the federal government should allow state and local governments to determine the types of services most appropriate to meet each community’s needs. The federal government should:

- Increase funding for the Social Services Block Grant and other federal block grants that help local communities provide social services;
- Provide coordination, flexibility, and oversight, in full partnership with local officials;
- Ensure that all community-based organizations, including faith-based, that receive federal funds comply with all legal and constitutional civil rights requirements; and
- Focus on assisting senior citizens, individuals with disabilities, children, immigrants and refugees, and homeless individuals.

A. Funding

The federal government should provide sufficient and flexible federal funding to local communities for quality and responsive human services programs. This includes adequate funding of the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG), which helps serve many of the needs of special populations, the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), which was designed to reduce poverty.

B. Coordination

The federal government should create a coordinated system of administration and delivery of human services to avoid fragmenting services at the local level where public and private services are delivered. The federal government should include local officials in the planning, monitoring, evaluating, and decision-making on federal policies and programs. Federal regulations governing social services should be sufficiently flexible so that local government can ensure that programs meet local needs.
C. Program Evaluation
Social services programs should be evaluated on the basis of well-defined performance standards that relate to program administration and participant development, as well as on the basis of the numbers served or placed in programs.

D. Faith-Based Organizations
NLC believes that any faith-based organization or system of assistance and service delivery should be required to maintain critical safe guards to ensure the separation of church and state and adhere to all civil rights statutes and constitutional protections when hiring employees and providing services to clients. In addition, faith-based organizations should be required to meet the same accountability standards as any other service provider.

E. Special Populations
NLC supports federal efforts to focus funding and program services on special populations including:
- Senior Citizens (see also HD Section 4.06, Seniors and Social Security);
- Individuals with Disabilities (see also HD Section 4.07, Individuals with Disabilities);
- Children (see also HD Section 4.02, Children and Learning);
- Immigrants and Refugees (see also HD Section 4.09, Immigration and Refugees); and
- Homeless Individuals (NLC Resolution #2016-13).

4.02 Children and Learning
Cities and their elected leaders play a critical role in education. While local elected officials rarely control their local education agencies, local elected officials have a huge state in educational outcomes and the impact those outcomes have on the local economy and workforce. In addition, local elected officials have significant influence and can mobilize important resources to the benefit of local school systems.

NLC supports all efforts to create effective and comprehensive early childhood development programs and high quality education systems that ultimately provide individuals with the skills needed to secure meaningful employment and lifetime skills.

NLC believes that the federal government, through funding and program support, should work the states and local communities to improve education in the United States. To ensure school readiness for all students, the federal government should ensure that local communities have sufficient resources to support families, and children and youth from ages zero to 18 years.

Working with local leaders and schools, the federal government should:
- Establish and implement a national policy on children and youth, which is coordinated, holistic, and focused on prevention;
- Provide a comprehensive array of services that foster appropriate early childhood development;
- Ensure that high-quality, safe, and affordable child care is available to all children who need it;
- Adequately fund Head Start and Early Head Start;
- Fully fund all federally-mandated education acts; and
- Provide resources to local communities to help individual students meet performance standards. and
- Provide resources for pilot programs to more effectively involve parents, strengthen families, and bring communities into our schools.
A. Early Childhood Development
NLC supports early childhood development programs that have the greatest potential for enriching a young child’s life in the long term. Such programs should include:
- Health and nutrition for proper development;
- Parent training and support, including flexible child care arrangements; and
- Appropriate early learning experiences that focus on play-based learning, which develops a child’s intelligence through experimentation and fosters collaboration with others.

To achieve this, NLC urges the federal government to provide increased funding and programmatic flexibility, technical assistance and policies that support collaboration and participation across the federal, state and local levels so that local governments are able to provide for early childhood education for all children. This funding should be used for pre- and post-natal health and social services and nutritional assistance so that children ages zero to six develop properly, and parenting skills programs for mothers, fathers, and other caregivers.

NLC urges the federal government to provide direct funding to cities for parenting programs in their communities.

Furthermore, NLC urges the federal government to:
- Increase funding for the Child Care Development Block Grant to ensure that all families can find accessible and affordable child care;
- Ensure that the child care services are comprehensive, incorporating preventive and protective services for child abuse and neglect, early and periodic health screenings, nutritional programs, educational enrichment, and appropriate interventions for children with special needs;
- Create minimum federal standards for high-quality, safe and affordable child care;
- Provide supplemental funds to states to improve the quality of their child care providers;
- Support research on best practices and effective service delivery; and Provide incentives such as training grants, capital improvement funds, liability protection, etc. to encourage home care providers to come into compliance with existing or new regulations.
- NLC also recommends that the federal government;
- Provide tax incentives to businesses to provide child care facilities at worksites and to subsidize the child care costs of their employees;
- Encourage public-private partnerships through matching funds and financial incentives;
- Educate employers on the economic benefits of providing child care; and
- Urge the Small Business Administration (SBA) to view child care as a legitimate business and make available low-interest loans to those interested in starting day care services.

Further, NLC urges the federal government to strengthen child care and early learning systems by bridging gaps between child care and early learning providers and supporting policies within Head Start that foster collaboration with early education programs and child care.

B. Early Childhood Learning
NLC strongly supports quality, early childhood learning programs for all children, including federally-subsidized, quality, early childhood learning programs for at-risk and low-income children. NLC urges the federal government to:
 Increase funds for the expansion of services provided by early childhood programs that have proven to be cost effective; 

 Provide incentives to the private sector to become more involved in early childhood and early learning activities; 

 Provide support for development and evaluation of education approaches for pre-school children; and 

 Preserve the federal-to-local Head Start funding structure that empowers local collaboration and decision-making.

C. School-Age Children
NLC support comprehensive programs to raise student achievement. NLC supports Title I of the ESEA, which enables schools serving disadvantaged children to meet their unique educational needs. NLA also supports federal efforts around after-school, summer and year round youth employment, and vocational programs that are linked to staying in school.

The federal government should increase funding for programs that support students who have dropped-out of school so they can return to school easily or move into the employment sector effectively. In addition, for students who are not actively pursuing education beyond high school, NLC supports continued federal investment in research and local programs, including vocational programs that help students to transition from school to work.

NLC also supports immigrant integration through education by teaching all students to speak, read and write in English. Therefore, NLC urges the federal government to:

- Provide sufficient funding to assist local communities help Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and English Language Learners (ELL) students through bilingual teachers, appropriate lessons, and other needed services;
- Continue to implement flexible policies based on different communities’ needs; and
- Continue to allow states to give some school districts time-limited waivers regarding assessments of students who are new immigrants.

D. Family and Community Education Programs
NLC supports federal initiatives that encourage and reinforce family involvement in school programs, such as the Communities in Schools program, which makes comprehensive human services like healthcare, family literacy, mentoring, and family counseling programs available at neighborhood schools.

E. Safe Schools
NLC also believes that widespread bullying and harassment—including bullying based on sexual orientation or gender identity—result in poor grades, lower academic achievement, high rates of absenteeism, and a lack of safety within schools, that lead to poor individual and school scores, higher dropout rates, and student suicides. Therefore, NLC urges Congress and the Administration to pass and sign into law legislation that would address the problem of bullying and harassment in America’s schools. The legislation should require that local school districts and their schools to:

- Adopt comprehensive and effective student conduct policies that include clear prohibitions regarding all bullying and harassment, including bullying and harassment based on sexual orientation and gender identity;
- Create effective prevention strategies and professional development programs designed to help school personnel
meaningfully address issues associated with bullying and harassment; and

• Implement procedures to maintain and report data regarding incidents of bullying and harassment in order to inform the development of effective federal, state, and local policies that address these issues.

F. Post-Secondary Education
In order to adequately prepare young people to enter the world-of-work, it may be necessary for some to obtain a post-secondary school degree. To ensure a smooth transition from high school to post-secondary school, NLC supports those college preparation programs, authorized by the Higher Education Act, that help to bridge the transition from high school to college. For example, GEAR UP, Upward Bound, Talent Search, Student Support Services, and Educational Opportunity Centers are all good examples of federal programs that are exclusively targeted at providing college awareness for underserved middle- and high school students. These programs provide critical information about college admissions and student financial aid to disadvantaged students, and their funding should be increased.

G. Public Libraries
Finally, NLC believes that public libraries are educational institutions that provide critical education services to the community. Therefore, NLC urges the federal government to designate public libraries as educational institutions able to qualify for broader sources of funding.

4.03 Poverty Reduction and Income Support
NLC believes that all levels of government should work to eliminate poverty, ensure a basic quality of life for all Americans, and promote self-sufficiency. To achieve this, the federal government should provide comprehensive and coordinated services to families in need that take into account regional and local differences. In addition, all programs should be administered in an effective and cost efficient manner that incorporates the capacities of all levels of government.

A. Poverty Reduction
NLC supports federal efforts to encourage employment that reduces dependence on welfare. However, NLC urges Congress to review and improve the 1996 welfare reform law by:

• Changing the central focus of TANF from welfare caseload reduction to poverty reduction;
• Eliminating unfunded mandates;
• Eliminating arbitrary time limits for necessary work supports, such as transportation, child care, and housing supplements;
• Including in the definition of work participation in support services, work study, and the pursuit of educational attainment;
• Providing incentives for strong workable contingency plans that would be implemented during recessions; and
• Allowing legal immigrants to receive welfare benefits.

B. Education and Skills Development
NLC urges Congress to permit individuals to use their welfare grants for education and skills training. Allowable activities should include basic and remedial education, with an emphasis on literacy; vocational, technical, and higher education; English language training; work experience; job search and placement assistance; affordable day care; health insurance; substance abuse treatment; entrepreneurial opportunities; and transportation.
The federal government should provide adequate funding to help individuals make the transition from welfare to work by:

- Meeting the diverse and often complex needs of families and children;
- Providing families and children with choices of avenues to self-sufficiency; and
- Recognizing that some families have multiple barriers to employment and providing realistic time frames based on assessments.

Therefore NLC urges Congress to:

- Facilitate better coordination of services offered under existing federally supported financial aid programs for the disadvantaged with the educational needs of citizens qualifying for TANF;
- Target low-income workers for job training and transitional jobs, if appropriate; and
- Recognize that some individuals who suffer from physical disabilities, health limitations, or mental health disorders may not be able to work under any circumstance and should receive sufficient financial support to maintain an adequate standard of living.

As part of the federal government’s efforts to reduce poverty and lower welfare caseloads, the federal government should require states to use whatever mechanisms that are legal and necessary, including Social Security numbers and state tax records, to track people leaving welfare to determine how many have jobs paying enough to sustain self-sufficiency.

The federal government must increase the EITC to relieve more low-income workers of tax obligations and provide larger refunds to those who qualify. In addition, the federal government should support working families by increasing the minimum wage.

C. Supportive Services

The federal government should provide sufficient funding so that essential supportive services can be continued for a period of time after job placement and until wages increase to a family sustaining level.

D. Homelessness

NLC believes that the rate of homelessness in America reflects fundamental deficiencies in our ability to meet basic human needs. To respond to this, NLC calls upon the federal government to fund and support a seamless, comprehensive system of services designed to prevent homelessness and to provide housing to those individuals and families who are homeless. When necessary, the federal government should fund a comprehensive array of services for homeless individuals and families in need of emergency or transitional services. The federal government should:

- Expand the emergency and transitional food and shelter programs;
- Expand programs that provide emergency health services;
- Expand access to additional mental health services;
- Fund social services, especially outreach and counseling services;
- Provide transportation, life skills, education, job training, career counseling, and job placement services;
- Expand federal funding for programs such as HOME and CDBG and, where able, allocate federal funds directly to cities;
- Improve access to federal assistance programs such as Medicaid,
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, etc.; and

- Develop a unique set of services and programs to aid and assist homeless veterans.

*See also CED section 3.06 Housing (C)(7), Providing Transitional Housing and Comprehensive Services for the Homeless*

### E. Change the Federal Poverty Level

NLC calls upon the federal government to create new federal poverty guidelines that accurately reflect the regional costs of goods and services and the spending needs of individuals and families. The current poverty guidelines were created in the early nineteen-sixties, are outdated, and too low, and do not accurately account for all Americans living in actual poverty.

### 4.04 Employment

NLC believes that the federal government should maintain an economic environment that promotes job creation and job access. To support America’s workers and employers, the federal government should:

- Create incentives for meaningful jobs in areas of high unemployment;
- Make work pay by setting the minimum wage and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) at levels that in combination allow families to support themselves above the poverty level; and
- Protect the financial integrity of the Unemployment Insurance program and maintain the Employment Service, which is responsible for distributing unemployment checks and providing job placement services.
- Increase access to critical technology infrastructure such as high-speed broadband necessary for jobs now and in the future.

#### A. Workforce Development

The federal government should provide resources for a range of services; including basic educational and job skills training for welfare recipients, structurally unemployed individuals, dislocated workers, and at-risk youth, and job placement services for all Americans to ensure that all Americans have access to higher paying and higher skills jobs.

To ensure that these goals and objectives are met, Congress should fully fund workforce development programs like the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) and should:

- Allow cities and towns working individually or together to utilize funds in ways that reflect the local workforce, available jobs, and the needs of the business community;
- Ensure that a portion of the funds are targeted to those most in need: persons living in poverty, those who are structurally unemployed and are not likely to return to their previous jobs, ex-offenders, and disconnected youth who are at-risk of long-term poverty;
- Establish workforce development areas that are based on regional economies rather than arbitrary measures such as population or political boundaries;
- Prohibit states from diverting all federal funds toward those who are already employed or job ready rather than those in greatest need;
- Ensure that local elected officials play a significant role in the planning, development, and implementation of regionally-based workforce development programs;
- Encourage collaboration between governments, education agencies including community colleges, organized labor, and the private sector to provide job skills training that meets the needs of workers and employers alike;
• Provide two-year base funding so that programs may provide long-term training and services across program years; and
• Allow local governments and workforce development programs to use a variety of training approaches including, but not limited to: individual training accounts, classroom training, and on-the-job training.
• Encourage greater use of apprenticeship programs with access to funding for local programs.
• Establish a permanent summer jobs program for young people ages 14 through 24 that is designed to provide youth, including economically disadvantaged and disconnected, youth with paid jobs that provide measurable world-of-work training and job skills development as well as wrap-around supports to engage them in the workforce system and learn the responsibilities and soft-skills that lead to better jobs;
• Expand the Pell Grant program to cover needed workforce skills training for short-term and certificate training programs;
• Ensure access to affordable, high-quality childcare and portable benefits system to ensure all those able to engage in the workforce are able.

When the federal government closes military bases or major federal facilities, the federal government should provide direct assistance to ensure that individuals receive the retraining and job placement assistance they need.

B. Job Creation
To reduce poverty, the federal government should provide resources to help local communities address the shortage of living wage jobs.

In addition, the federal government should assist in areas of high unemployment to promote job creation, including tax credits and other incentives to business and industry to locate new jobs in those areas.

NLC also supports transitional jobs, or public sector jobs that are designed to provide individuals with temporary employment that will lead to full-time permanent employment after a period of classroom, on-the-job, and other types of training consistent with permanent, full-time employment. The President and Congress should establish a national infrastructure program with the goal of stimulating job growth, retraining the workforce, and boosting local economies.

C. Job Elimination
When employers downsize, relocate or close businesses they should be required to give advance notice to employees and the local government in which the business resides so that appropriate preparations may be made to meet the needs of the dislocated workers.

Therefore, NLC supports federal laws that require public and private sector employers to:
• Provide advance notice of relocations, reductions in workforce or business closings;
• Consult with local municipal officials so that the individuals and communities affected can plan for needed adjustments; and
• Create incentives for individuals to be re-skilled/re-trained to obtain further employment within the local community; and
• Make supplemental financial contributions to support the unemployment insurance fund to assist in worker transition.
D. Wages and Benefits
NLC urges the federal government to increase the minimum wage and Earned Income Tax Credit to levels that, in combination, allow families to support themselves above the poverty level. NLC opposes a federal sub-minimum wage for youth and supports a minimum wage for all workers regardless of age, sex or job classification.

NLC urges the federal government to review the impact of any wage and overtime rule on cities and towns and to adjust the implementation as is necessary so as not to have an unintended impact on municipal budgets.

NLC opposes any wage and overtime rules that would have automatic updates without purposeful Congressional or Administrative study and action.

E. Family and Medical Leave
NLC supports a minimum of 12 weeks leave in the event of a family illness or other life changing event requiring the employee to be away from his or her workplace, or to take care of a family member.

4.05 Equal Opportunity
NLC believes that the federal government should uphold fundamental principles of equality and the rule of law, and address, by enforcing the laws, acts of bias, bigotry and racism.

To ensure equal opportunity for all, the federal government should:
• Enforce civil rights laws and eliminate discrimination with regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation or any social barriers or physical disadvantage;
• Promote and encourage efforts in employment, delivery of services, and health care to ensure that every person is considered only with regard to individual need or merit; and
• Take current action to remedy past discrimination.
• Develop and disseminate legal standards that will provide clear guidance on the use of mechanisms to address present or past racial discrimination;
• Promote diversity;
• Provide all employers with information on how to adopt and carry out effective affirmative action programs; and
• Expand opportunities in federal and local procurement for people of color, women, and individuals with disabilities.

4.06 Seniors and Social Security
NLC believes that the federal government should ensure that all seniors have:
• A floor of financial support which would provide an adequate standard of living;
• An opportunity for employment free from discriminatory practices because of age;
• Suitable housing;
• An appropriate level of physical and mental health services;
• Ready access to effective social services;
• Appropriate institutional care when required;
• A life and death with dignity;
• Information about available supportive services; and
• Supportive services that enable seniors to age in place.

A. Aging in Place
NLC believes that the federal government should take the lead in planning, research and development of a universal and comprehensive approach to aging in America that includes programs that will enable senior citizens to “age in place” and enjoy their elderly years in the comfort, safety, dignity and familiarity of their own homes. In
support of this effort, NLC urges the federal government to enact tax policies that take into account costs associated with aging in place, elder care and senior homesteading and establish programs that reduce homecare costs, increase the quality of care, reduce reliance on nursing homes, address mental capacity and mobility, provide transportation and accessibility services, create a continuum of housing options, and increase access to broadband and internet services to improve healthcare and social networking.

B. Social Security
The Social Security system should provide participants with a floor of financial support upon retirement or disability which should be supplemented the participants’ private savings, pension and other federal and state programs based on eligibility.

NLC urges the federal government to maintain the current benefits structure and the current method of establishing cost-of-living adjustments (COLA). Should changes in any aspect of the Social Security system be necessary, those changes should be phased in over time and should be designed so that they do not impact those who currently are receiving benefits or are likely to receive benefits within a five-year window.

NLC also believes that the federal government should take into account the number and types of non-traditional families that are emerging and ensure that these families receive the same types of retirement benefits as traditional families, particularly with regard to dependents and survivors.

NLC also believes that the federal government should initiate programs of enforcement and education for employers and employers so that domestic workers and others who may have traditionally worked in the cash economy are not disadvantaged or disqualified from receiving Social Security benefits.

4.07 Individuals with Disabilities
The federal government should address the range of needs of individuals with disabilities so that they may fully integrate into society. However, any local assistance mandated by the federal government should be reasonable in its requirements and expectations, and when possible, fully funded by the federal government.

The federal government should:
• Adopt clear rules for cities to follow regarding accessibility for persons with disabilities;
• Provide financial resources directly to cities to help with the costs of compliance;
• Increase its support to allow persons with disabilities to achieve the maximum degree of self-sufficiency; and
• Fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

A. City Liability
Federal law should require that individuals with grievances should first exhaust the local and state grievance procedures before they can initiate a hearing process with the federal government.

B. Self-Sufficiency
The federal government should increase its efforts to provide funding for employment, social services and housing programs for disabled persons. These efforts should include financial incentives for self-sufficiency.

C. Education
NLC fully supports the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its implementation, and urges the federal
government to fully fund the commitment it made in 1975 to fund 40 percent of the per-pupil cost of services required by this Act.

4.08 Health

NLC supports universal access to health care. Universal access will improve standard health indicators such as infant mortality, life expectancy, and immunization rates of the young against preventable diseases. It can also eliminate disparities in treatment.

NLC believes that the federal government should:

- Control costs and reduce the rate of growth in health care expenditures and coverage costs;
- Ensure universal health care coverage;
- Maintain and improve Medicaid, Medicare, and the State-Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and promote school health clinics to expand access and availability of health care;
- Address disease management;
- Assist localities better align health care needs and resources;
- Reimburse localities fully for the costs of services provided to Medicare, Medicaid, Tri-Care and Veterans Administration patients;
- Adequately fund a federal block grant program to enhance our public health planning, capacity building, and disaster response systems;
- Assist local public health departments to better address infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and influenza, and increase the number of health services personnel employed;
- Adequately fund community health centers, which play a critical role in providing uninsured and underinsured individuals with health care services; and
- Apply the same laws and rules concerning health care coverage and insurance to cities and town as to any other employer.

In addition, NLC urges the federal government to:

- Fund block grant and categorical grant programs for health, such as the Maternal and Child Health Services Program, the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant, funding for community health centers and health programs for Native Americans, Migrants and Refugees;
- Require employers to cover the costs of health insurance for laid off workers and their dependents, as well as the creation of subsidized health insurance pools for workers without employment-based coverage;
- Provide funding for programs which offer transitional care and home health care services;
- Expand preventive health care programs for the poor; and
- Pay the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) premiums for people with catastrophic terminal illnesses who have left their jobs and cannot afford to pay the health insurance premium.

A. Elimination of Disparities

NLC urges Congress and the Administration to address the disparities in health care access and treatment between racial and ethnic minority population groups and Caucasians by following the recommendations of the National Institutes of Medicine, the National Healthcare Disparities Report and the President’s New Freedom Commission report. In addition, Congress should adopt legislation and the Administration should develop an administrative initiatives and education campaign that addresses and increases the awareness of the general public, health care providers, insurance companies,
and policymakers about physical and mental health disparities based on race and ethnicity, including but not limited to the C.W., Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program so that it remains the single point of access for patients who require matching adult donors and umbilical cord blood.

B. National Health and Wellness Strategy
NLC urges the federal government to partner with cities and towns to improve the health of all Americans, but not to result in unfunded mandates. This should be done by developing a cross-sector, integrated national strategy that identifies priorities for improving the health of Americans and provides to cities and towns the support that is needed to create healthy and safe communities, expand clinical and community-based preventive services, empower people to make healthy choices, and eliminate health disparities. Examples of this include Let’s Move and Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) Cities which have as their goal reducing obesity and improving the overall health and wellness of city and town residents and employees. Specifically, NLC urges the federal government to address the significant problems faced in maintaining clean air, water, and land, and to focus on designing and promoting affordable, accessible, safe and health housing; strengthening local health departments so that they are able to provide essential services; integrating health criteria into decision making; and using health goals and objectives as benchmarks for existing conditions and as targets for future actions.

C. School-Based Health Clinics
NLC supports the use and growth of school-based clinics, which often help both students and local community members obtain a comprehensive array of individualized services that address physical, emotional, and social needs.

D. Local Official Involvement
NLC urges the federal government to recognize that local officials should be involved in the assessment and design of an economic and comprehensive public and personal health services delivery system. Any federal effort to aid states in implementing disaster planning should include a requirement that the states include local officials in the planning process. The federal government should encourage city officials to actively participate in projecting and certifying the need for facilities and in evaluating the performance of existing facilities in meeting city health needs. After a public health threat, terrorist attack, or natural disaster, the federal government should communicate quickly and effectively with local governments about public health activities and requirements.

E. Metropolitan Medical Response System
NLC supports the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) program and urges Congress to reauthorize, increase funding, and expand MMRS to work with additional cities and cover broader geographic areas. This would ensure that all cities have a coordinated response system in place with the necessary equipment and training to respond to bioterrorist events and other disasters.

F. Vaccination Stockpiles
The federal government should accelerate development and procurement of all vaccines and those pharmaceuticals needed to control and treat biological threats, such as smallpox and anthrax. Local health officials should have the ability to quickly access appropriate medical supplies and vaccines through the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile Program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
G. Infectious Diseases
A pandemic of any type would cause serious problems worldwide and overwhelm the public safety, health and medical infrastructure, education facilities, public institutions, and private businesses of American cities and towns. The federal government, in coordination with the international community, should further develop and coordinate a comprehensive research and containment strategy that involves commitments of federal funding, supplies, equipment, training, expertise, personnel, countermeasures, and public health measures.

Specific attention should also be placed on the transmission of zoonotic diseases, those that are transmitted from animals to humans, which researchers now believe contributes to no fewer than 2.2 million deaths each year and is becoming an increasingly serious problem resulting from environmental change and increased travel among and between nations.

NLC urges the federal government to put in place effective methods for controlling the spread of zoonotic diseases and to invest in education and training so that city public health officials are prepared to address such outbreaks.

H. Substance Abuse
The federal government should maintain the definition of substance use disorders as illnesses and should ensure that there are enough facilities for those who need substance use disorder treatment, including children and infants who are born with prenatal substance exposure. According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH, 2014), 21.2 million Americans needed treatment for a substance use disorder. However, only about 2.5 million people received the specialized treatment they needed.

Additionally, the federal government should provide education and support services for families involved in the recovery process including culturally sensitive community supports and adequate resources to mitigate the impact of intergenerational trauma caused by substance abuse in the home.

Resources should include:
- Accessible, affordable detoxification centers that facilitates entry into long-term treatment and recovery.
- Education and support for family members impacted by the dysfunction associated with substance use, including how adverse childhood experiences increase risk for substance use.
- Community supports, including assistance with basic needs, that ensure individuals and families have the necessary resources to mitigate the stress that can lead to relapse.

I. Protecting the Nation’s Blood Supply
NLC remains deeply concerned about the potential for local, regional and national blood shortages that can occur when certain types of men are prohibited from donating blood. Therefore, NLC joins with the American Red Cross, the American Association of Blood Banks and America’s blood centers in asking that the Food and Drug Administration address the potential for blood shortages by issuing guidelines that ensure that anyone who is healthy enough to give blood is able to do so regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

J. Mental Health
The federal government should ensure that the civil and constitutional rights of persons with mental health conditions and substance use disorders are protected. In addition, the
The federal government should provide trauma-informed funding and support to local communities to increase protective factors that promote resilience in children and families without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, ability or gender identity.

NLC supports mental health parity and the provision of comprehensive services to address mental health needs for persons with general mental health conditions, serious mental health diagnoses, and substance use disorders. Whether at the federal, state or local levels, there should be effective plans for preventing, diagnosing, and treating mental health conditions and substance use disorders that reflect the parity between mental and physical health. Mental health and substance use disorder services should be accessible and equal to physical health services. These services should also provide support and stabilization to family systems.

The Federal government should:

• Embed behavioral health supports in existing community centers to promote integrated systems of health care and stress reduction.

• Recognize trauma as a major public health threat and offer mandated trauma-awareness trainings for all entities receiving federal funding.

• Incentivize screenings for social determinants of health including Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) screenings understanding that adversity in childhood impacts healthy brain development and increases risk for disease and early death.

• Acknowledge the significant return on investment in early childhood programs and supports for children and families including home visitation, parenting education, and affordable, high quality preschool. These programs allow service providers to identify environmental risks that can lead to substance use disorders and mental health conditions.

K. Tobacco

Any revenues raised by increasing federal excise taxes should be earmarked for health services and tobacco control activities. Any federal legislation on tobacco should not preempt stronger state and local tobacco control laws or remedies.

4.09 Immigration and Refugees

When admitted through a well-regulated system, immigrants strengthen the United States by creating economic growth, increasing America’s scientific and cultural resources, strengthening our ties with other nations, fulfilling humanitarian commitments, and supporting family ties and that are necessary to build strong communities.

The federal government should take immediate responsibility for decisions made regarding the influx and settlement of immigrants into the United States. Immigration and refugee policy are set at the national level, and our entire nation feels the effects of federal immigration policy.

The federal government should:

• Provide an appropriate, legal means of immigration, as is determined to be necessary and effective for the United States, for foreign nationals who want to work here temporarily, become legal permanent residents, or gain citizenship;

• Provide local governments with financial and technical assistance to alleviate the local impact of new immigrants, including the costs of providing social services, health care, education, language services, refugee resettlement and civic integration;
• Enforce current immigration laws consistently and vigorously to eliminate illegal entry at the borders, visa overstays, working without proper documentation, and employing undocumented workers;
• Increase enforcement of visa overstays through the full implementation and staffing of the US-VISIT and SEVIS programs;
• Avoid conscription of local personnel, such as police officers, fire inspectors, educators, health personnel and social service personnel into federal service because the federal government has not adequately funded and staffed its immigration enforcement agencies;
• Avoid transferring responsibility for enforcing U.S. immigration laws to local personnel by making undocumented status a criminal offense;
• Increase federal capacity and infrastructure to enforce the laws and provide efficient means for foreign nationals to obtain legal authorization for temporary visas or legal permanent residency;
• Establish an affordable process whereby undocumented immigrant currently living in the United States may earn legalized status through payment of appropriate fees and back taxes, background checks, absence of criminal or gang activity, consistent work history, and meeting English and civics requirements;
• Establish a process whereby once the documentation process has begun, individuals are permitted to obtain a driver’s license or other official identification card;
• Establish a process whereby those immigrants who have earned such legal status should also be able to apply for expedited citizenship through additional processes, as appropriate and practical, if they do not move ahead of applicants with proper documentation waiting to adjust their status or those waiting on lists in their home countries;
• Adopt legislation like the “Dream Act” that can facilitate state efforts to offer in-state tuition to undocumented students and provide certain students with a path to U.S. citizenship;
• Provide an accessible, effective system to ensure that businesses are able to hire foreign workers legally without excessive bureaucratic red tape and that all foreign workers are authorized and documented; and
• Provide same-sex couples with equal rights of immigration sponsorship as opposite-sex couples and amend current law to allow lawful permanent residents to sponsor the permanent partner for legal residence in the United States provided they are over 18 years of age, financially interdependent with the sponsoring individual, not married or in a permanent partnership with anyone other than the sponsoring individual and is not a first, second, or third-degree blood relation.

4.10 Cultural Resources

NLC urges the federal government to:
• Increase direct federal funding for cultural resources; and
• Review tax laws to facilitate indirect financial support of the arts.

In addition, federal funds should be available to cities to:
• Develop public lands and facilities use of the arts;
• Provide employment in cultural services; and
• Promote the use of the arts as a stimulus to economic development.
4.11 Veterans

NLC believes that all levels of government have an obligation to support the men and women of the armed services who have made sacrifices to preserve the freedom of the American people.

In order to meet the diverse needs of veterans and their families, NLC believes the federal government should:

- Provide effective veterans’ health care;
- Support programs that provide homeless veterans with safe, affordable, and permanent housing and fund programs to eliminate root causes of veterans’ homelessness, including research, treatment, and support programs;
- Ensure that comprehensive mental health services are available to veterans and their families;
- Provide veterans with the employment and education resources needed to succeed in the 21st century workforce;
- Ensure that National Guard and Reservists have access to support services when they return from active duty; and
- Focus on the unique needs of women veterans, especially the unique health care needs of women and those women veterans who reside in rural areas.
NLC RESOLUTION #20

IN SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES FOR
DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS

WHEREAS, disadvantaged youth, specifically male students of color, including African-Americans, Latinos and Pacific Islanders as well as immigrants, face unacceptably high dropout rates, low graduation rates and widening achievement gaps between themselves and those who graduate; and

WHEREAS, parents, educators, business and community leaders, local elected officials, state elected officials, and federal policymakers must put the educational needs of all school-age children first, but especially those of potential and actual dropouts, so that all children have the education and skills they need to adequately contribute to American society; and

WHEREAS, putting the interests of children first means using every educational tool at our disposal to improve the quality of education, and making every educational option available so that otherwise disadvantaged students are successful in school and society at-large, including investing in teacher quality and professional development efforts in communities with high poverty; and

WHEREAS, 90 percent of a child’s brain development has occurred by age five and for every dollar that is invested in high-quality early childhood programs for disadvantaged children, we can expect a 13 percent return on investment annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National League of Cities (NLC) calls upon the federal government to make the necessary investments in education, especially those targeted at early childhood education, reducing dropout rates, increasing graduation rates and addressing the achievement gap, to ensure that all children obtain the best education possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC supports increased educational opportunities for all children, especially those who are disadvantaged, and supports scholarship tax credits and opportunity scholarship programs to help all disadvantaged students succeed in school.
NLC RESOLUTION #21

IN SUPPORT OF ACTION BY THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) TO ADDRESS VIOLENCE AMONG AND AGAINST YOUNG AFRICAN-AMERICAN MALES

WHEREAS, young men, generally, and African-American males, specifically, are dying at an alarming rate due to homicides, 13 times higher than non-Hispanic white youth\(^1\), and is the number one cause of death for 15-24-year-old African American males\(^2\), and

WHEREAS, research documents that daily exposure to violence among men, generally, and African-American males, specifically, impacts traumatically and forever changes the lives of these youths\(^3\); and

WHEREAS, beginning as early as 1979 with the landmark Surgeon General’s report Healthy People: The Surgeon General's Report on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, the consequences of violent behavior on the health of children and young adults was documented\(^4\); and

WHEREAS, the loss of African American males in the community because of homicide and high rates of incarceration further impacts the community by reducing the number of males who may serve as role models for young African-American males\(^5\); and

WHEREAS, increased federal, state and local attention to this matter can help reduce the violence that plagues many young males, generally, and African-American males, specifically.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National League of Cities calls upon the United States Congress to direct the Centers for Disease Control, whose primary responsibilities are to monitor public health; detect and investigate health problems, foster safe and healthy environments, and implement prevention strategies, to monitor, detect, and prevent violence among young males, generally, and young African-American males, specifically; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Centers for Disease Control, develop a holistic intervention designed to address the health-related aspects and implications of violence among young males, generally, and young African-American males, specifically; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Centers for Disease Control develop short- and long-term health care strategies to bring back health to the African-American community in a way that promotes the longevity of African-American males; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Congress and the President increase funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the federal budget to support data and indicators that will inform local strategy in cities and towns across our country as they address the issue of violence among young men, generally, and African-American males, specifically, in their communities.
NLC RESOLUTION #22

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO END VETERAN AND CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

WHEREAS, the women and men who have sacrificed for our country through military service, and their families, should be honored with a safe place to call home; and

WHEREAS, people experiencing chronic homelessness are our most disabled, disadvantaged and vulnerable citizens and most likely to die on the streets of our communities; and

WHEREAS, federal partners through the leadership of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) and, as outlined in Home Together, have agreed to address the issue of homelessness in a strategic manner, addressing Veteran and chronic homelessness as distinct subpopulations; and

WHEREAS, NLC and more than 500 elected officials across 42 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico have shown their commitment to Veteran homelessness by accepting the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness with the support of federal partners at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and USICH as well as national partners at the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH), National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV), and Community Solutions; and

WHEREAS, local communities are on the front lines of the response to Veteran and chronic homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the specific focus on Veteran homelessness, the leadership of local officials, the availability of federal programs and technical assistance supports have led to a 47 percent decline in Veteran homelessness since 2010; and

WHEREAS, the progress on Veteran homelessness has helped national and local stakeholders learn lessons that are improving the quality of life for everyone in the community, housed and homeless alike; and

WHEREAS, the 19 percent reduction in chronic homelessness since 2011 nationally comes despite an increase in homelessness by 3 percent in major city Continuum of Care programs, which account for 48 percent of all homeless people in the United States; and

WHEREAS, homelessness in many cities has reached crisis proportions leading to an increase in the prevalence of homeless encampments and emergency declarations; and

WHEREAS, city officials cannot implement known best-practices, nor reach the goal of “functional zero” on Veteran or chronic homelessness as defined by the criteria and benchmarks designated by federal partners without the necessary federal resources; and
WHEREAS, communities cannot make sustained progress across all homeless subpopulations without an increase in new affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, city leaders recognize their ability to create local regulatory environments that can promote the development of new affordable housing, but without an increase in federal resources the overall shortage of affordable housing will not only continue, but further be exacerbated; and

WHEREAS, NLC endorses and encourages local communities to develop and implement plans to end homelessness that include the field-tested, evidence-based national innovations such as client assessments and prioritization tools to direct resources to those most in need, the development of a community shared and unified by-name-list, Housing First/Rapid Re-housing strategies among all community partners, and the engagement of local landlords to house Veterans and the chronically homeless who are using federal housing program supports.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NLC, to maintain the progress made on veteran homelessness, urges Congress to permanently authorize the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program at the level of no less than $500,000,000; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC opposes the unfunded mandate proposed in H.R. 1511 and S. 611 requiring communities to serve families living in “doubled up” situations through the Continuum of Care program without additional resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that non-Veteran specific resources funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Labor receive funding as appropriated in Fiscal Year 2019 Senate appropriations language; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC supports the 50 percent expansion of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program’s authorization as outlined in S. 548, the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act of 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC affirms the value of USICH and urges Congress to maintain funding levels at no less than $3.6 million; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC supports the bipartisan goal of S. 3231 to assess the impact of the nation’s affordable housing crisis.
NLC RESOLUTION #23

IN SUPPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

WHEREAS, historically, the cities and towns of the United States are a cultural mosaic of multiple cultures and nationalities based on our nation’s history of welcoming immigrants; and

WHEREAS, when admitted through a well-regulated, timely and efficient system, immigrants strengthen the United States by creating economic opportunities, increasing America’s scientific and cultural resources, strengthening our ties with other nations, fulfilling humanitarian commitments, and supporting family ties and family values that are necessary to build strong communities; and

WHEREAS, failure on the part of the federal government to secure the borders, track visa recipients in the interior, or enforce worksite laws allows illegal immigration to thrive, with an estimated 11.3 million residents, 3.5% of the nation’s population, living and working in the United States without legal authorization or proper documentation1; and

WHEREAS, since 2009, there have been an average of 350,000 new unauthorized immigrants to the United States each year2; and

WHEREAS, the worksite enforcement program does not adequately deter employers who willingly hire unauthorized workers because they face little likelihood that the federal government will investigate, fine, or criminally prosecute them; and it does not help employers who genuinely want to follow the law because their employee verification efforts are hindered by the extensive use of fraudulent documents; and

WHEREAS, the lack of infrastructure and capacity at the federal level makes the federal government unable to adequately track the entry and exit of visitors and temporary workers, and it creates unacceptable application backlogs and long delays, which provide strong disincentives for foreign nationals to abide by the legal means to enter or remain in the country; and

WHEREAS, 177,828 workers in 20153, equal to about half of the undocumented seasonal workers in the United States4, used the current temporary, unskilled worker programs (the H2-A and H2-B visas); and

---

2 Jeffrey S. Passel and D’Vera Cohn, “Unauthorized immigrant population stable for half a decade,” Pew Research Center (July 2015)
WHEREAS, the current immigration system inadequately addresses the growing numbers of individuals wishing entrance to the United States through a temporary work visa program or as legal permanent residents; and

WHEREAS, roughly two-thirds of undocumented adult immigrants have lived in the United States for ten years or more, 1 million unauthorized immigrants are children, and another 4.5 million U.S.-citizen children have at least one undocumented parent; and these families are forced to live “underground,” unable to get drivers’ licenses or car insurance in most states, unlikely to obtain health insurance, and afraid to report crimes to local law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, since immigrants are barred from most federal public assistance, the burden of providing social services, education, and health care falls to the state and local governments, who are increasingly feeling the fiscal impact of both legal and illegal immigrants living in their communities.

WHEREAS, with the signing on the executive order, “Affording Congress an Opportunity to Address Family Separation”, the President called for modification of the 1997 Flores v. Reno court settlement to enable Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to detain families together longer than 20 days, resulting in nearly 2,000 children having been separated from their parents in a six-week time period, many of whom are being sent to cities and facilities across the country; and

WHEREAS, with guidance from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) updating policy for the accrual of unlawful presence of those in student (F nonimmigrant), exchange visitor (J nonimmigrant) or vocational student (M nonimmigrant), visa overstay penalties will include harsher penalties impacting students and families; and

WHEREAS, with a reduced number of visas available through the H-2A program, which allows U.S. employers to bring foreign nationals to the United States to fill temporary agricultural jobs, many employers struggling to find qualified workers; and

WHEREAS, the federal government is considering expansion of its public charge rule, which would impact the way in which immigrants access means-tested government programs that promote the health and wellbeing of their families and support earnings, employment and homeownership that ultimately impact the economic vitality of cities; and

WHEREAS, there are 511,000 immigrant veterans in the United States of which, 94,000 are waiting to be naturalized and are at risk of deportation.

---

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the federal government enforce its current immigration laws consistently and vigorously to eliminate illegal entry at the borders, visa overstays, working without proper documentation, and employing undocumented workers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local personnel, such as police officers, fire inspectors, educators, health personnel and social service personnel, should not be conscripted into federal service because the federal government has not adequately funded and staffed its immigration enforcement agencies; and the federal government must not transfer the responsibility of enforcing U.S. immigration laws to local personnel by making undocumented status in the U.S. a criminal offense; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government must strengthen its worksite enforcement capacity and dramatically increase enforcement efforts at places of employment, as well as providing employers with a universal, reliable, effective, secure, non-discriminatory, and non-counterfeitable employee verification system, using the most up-to-date technology that will minimize fraud; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government must increase its capacity and infrastructure, including funding levels and number of judges, to enforce the laws and provide efficient means for foreign nationals to obtain legal authorization for visas or legal permanent residency as well as to be processed when making a border crossing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government must update its policies to provide an appropriate, streamlined legal means of immigration, as is determined to be necessary and effective for the United States, for foreign nationals that want to work here temporarily, become legal permanent residents, or gain citizenship as well as consider impacts to students and families for harsh penalty policies for visas overstays; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government should reexamine its policies regarding seasonal workers given its impact on local business and the economic vitality of cities and towns across America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC supports establishment of a process whereby undocumented immigrants currently living in the United States may earn legalized status through payment of appropriate fees and back taxes, background checks, absence of criminal or gang activity, consistent work history, and meeting English and civics requirements; and that the immigrants who have earned such legal status should also be able to apply for citizenship through additional processes, as appropriate and practical, as long as they do not move ahead of applicants with proper documentation waiting to adjust their status or those waiting on lists in their home countries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government should provide local governments with financial and technical assistance to alleviate the local impact of new immigrants, including the costs of providing social services, health care, education, language services, and civic integration; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government should ensure detention policies that do not inflict trauma upon vulnerable children and their families, creating additional financial burdens for mental health, education and family supports in cities across the country; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC opposes any further expansion of the public charge definition that would preempt cities from offering services to all residents in their communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC also supports federal legislation like the “Dream Act” that can facilitate state efforts to offer in-state tuition to undocumented students and provide certain students with a path to U.S. citizenship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, legal immigrants who have served honorably in the US Armed Forces should be given the ability to expedite their naturalization process without prejudice and should not be put at risk of being deported.
NLC RESOLUTION #24

IN SUPPORT OF A NATIONAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATING THE 13TH AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime; and

WHEREAS, in the United States Congress, the Thirteenth Amendment was passed by the Senate on April 8, 1864, and by the House on January 31, 1865; and

WHEREAS, the Thirteenth Amendment was ratified by the required number of states on December 6, 1865; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 1865, Secretary of State William H. Seward proclaimed the adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment; and

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln’s resolution to adopt the Thirteenth Amendment is celebrated as an observance on February 1st but is not a federal holiday; and

WHEREAS, liberated countries customarily celebrate their independence with a national holiday; and

WHEREAS, human freedom is an inalienable right superior to any other; and

WHEREAS, human bondage and trafficking continues to be an epidemic worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America has deployed, and continues to deploy, its armed forces to promote and establish freedom around the world; and

WHEREAS, it behooves every responsible society to celebrate human freedom and to commit to ensuring that freedom everywhere.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National League of Cities calls upon the United States Congress to declare a national holiday celebrating the adoption and enacted of the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution to be celebrated on the second Monday of December, falling between the date of its ratification and adoption.
NLC RESOLUTION #25

SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT AMONG TRANSITIONING SERVICEMEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

WHEREAS, the strength of the United States Armed Services is a matter of critical national security and is due, in part, to the maintenance of an all-volunteer force; and

WHEREAS, supporting the successful transition from service for existing military personnel is an essential component to maintaining an all-volunteer force in the future; and

WHEREAS, estimates regarding the size of military personnel levels have heretofore anticipated the United States’ Armed Services transitioning approximately 250,000 military personnel from active duty every year for the next 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the women and men who have sacrificed for our country through military service, and their families, should be honored with a safe place to call home; and

WHEREAS, these women and men must have adequate and regular education and employment opportunities that create career-establishing possibilities; and

WHEREAS, 52 cities that are a part of NLC’s Military Communities Council (MCC) represent communities adjacent to military installations which face unique challenges and opportunities due to an estimated one-third of exiting personnel remaining in these communities; and

WHEREAS, providing military personnel with an ability to complete up to 20 weeks of non-military work experience, certified industry training, internships, higher education, or other career skills programs prior to transitioning from service enhances the chance of civilian employment; and

WHEREAS, federal partners through programs such as the Department of Defense’s SkillBridge Program and the Department of the Army’s Career Skills Program facilitate post-military employment as personnel transition from service; and

WHEREAS, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) calls for the prioritization of service for all U.S. Department of Labor-funded job training programs for veterans and eligible spouses, including access to Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSG) and the National Dislocated Worker Grants (DWG) program for transitioning service members and their spouses; and

WHEREAS, the identification of service members and eligible spouses as dislocated workers, and the resulting application for DWGs, has resulted in an increase in available resources to local Workforce Development Boards in support of employment-training opportunities for transitioning military families in Washington State, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Texas, Georgia, and Colorado.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National League of Cities (NLC) in support of increasing employment opportunities for veterans, transitioning service members, and their families, urges Congress to provide increased funding to Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title I employment and training programs at the levels set forth in the House FY17 appropriations bill to provide for adequate investment in job training and adult education for this critical community and other critical populations in our nation’s cities and towns.
NLC RESOLUTION #26

IN SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO PREVENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND ASSAULT

WHEREAS, according to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men are victims of severe physical violence by an intimate partner; 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men are raped in their lifetime; 1 in 5 women report harassment by a boss and 1 in 4 were harassed by a coworker; 1 in 6 women and 1 in 19 men were stalked in their lifetime; 81% of women experienced verbal harassment; and 25% say they have received lewd texts or emails1; and

WHEREAS, approximately 3 out of every 4 employees who experience harassment never report it, and 75% of employees who spoke out against workplace mistreatment suffered some form of retaliation2; and

WHEREAS, the groundbreaking anti-assault and women’s empowerment movement #MeToo upended the public conversation around harassment issues across the world; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has recognized the importance and impact of this movement, evidenced by the introduction of 194 bills related to sexual harassment during the 115th Congress; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Senate passed S. 2952, and the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 4924, both of which call for the amendment of the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to establish protections against congressional sexual harassment and discrimination, taking clear action for harassment experienced within the halls of Congress; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Justice Department has recognized the importance and impact of this movement, evidenced by the announcement of the Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Initiative, focusing on workplace sexual harassment in the public sector3; and

WHEREAS, local governments are not immune to the challenges and threats that reports of sexual harassment can pose to workplace safety and culture as well as to the public trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National League of Cities (NLC) calls upon the federal government to take meaningful action to prevent sexual harassment for all individuals, regardless of gender or sexual orientation, and to adopt improved reporting practices as an example for cities to follow; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC supports the intention and vision of the #MeToo movement and calls on Congress to provide support to programs and initiatives that create

---

1 EEOC and CDC, National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey 2011
2 EEOC June 2016 Report
Create new section:

4.12 National and Community Service

NLC believes that federal investment in national and community service is an important way to help cities, towns and villages meet pressing needs in areas such as neighborhood revitalization and healthy, affordable housing; conservation and the environment including climate resilience and adaptation; human services; public safety and public health; and education and child/youth development.

In order to support communities towards this end, NLC believes that the federal government should:

- Ensure a range of ways for municipalities to engage with national and community service programs, including as project sponsors, hosts of individual placement and crew-based programs, and participants on State Service Commissions.
- Support for engagement of the full range of city, town and village residents in full-time or part-time stipend national and community service activities, with special emphasis on involvement of disconnected youth and young adults, seniors, and veterans.
- Ensure leadership opportunities for city and town elected officials on national Days of Service.
- Provide ongoing reporting on the impact of national and community service on cities, towns and villages, and about the contributions of our communities towards advancing national and community service.
Workforce Development Policy Conversation Questions:

1) How connected are you as a local official to your local workforce board?
2) What are the top 2-3 policy changes under WIOA that have allowed your local workforce board to be more effective, relative to WIA?
3) What are the most innovative strategies your community has been able to implement under WIOA?
4) What are the top 2-3 policy changes under WIOA that have made your life harder, relative to WIA?
5) From the perspective of your state and local partners (agencies, programs, employers, etc.), how do you think they would respond to these questions?
6) How do you think the changes under WIOA have impacted the economic competitiveness of your community? Are you better able to place individuals in jobs? Can you better meet employer demand?
May 30, 2019

Dear Senators Kaine and Portman and Representatives Bonamici, Mitchell, Thompson and Langevin:

On behalf of the National League of Cities, the voice of America’s cities, towns and villages, representing more than 280 million people across the country, thank you for your leadership on the introduction of the Building U.S. Infrastructure by Leveraging Demand for Skills Act (BUILDS Act). We are pleased to endorse this legislation that would make an important investment in the skills and supports needed by our nation’s workforce to meet the growing need of infrastructure sector businesses in cities, towns and villages across America.

Cities own and maintain 55% of road miles, 50% of bridges and 95% of water infrastructure across the country. These aging infrastructure systems are in need of rebuilding and reimagining, which we hope to accomplish though a true federal-local partnership. As Congress continues to consider a broad infrastructure package that would invest in roads, bridges, water and broadband, we thank you for also recognizing that it takes a skilled workforce to build and maintain this critical investment. We cannot invest in the nation’s physical infrastructure without simultaneously investing in our human capital infrastructure.
The BUILDS Act provides for critical investment in local partnerships between business, education, human services and the workforce system to ramp-up work-based learning programs in the critical sectors that support a robust infrastructure. We know that across all of these sectors that we have a growing workforce problem. The Departments of Education and Labor project¹ that we will need to increase our infrastructure workforce by 4.6 million workers by 2022 to keep pace with current hiring needs, to say nothing of the even greater need that would result from a significant federal investment. As such, an investment in the skills training necessary to meet this need is critical.

As Congress continues to develop its priorities for an infrastructure package, we will strongly support and encourage passage of the BUILDS Act as a critical component of that investment. We look forward to partnering with you and your colleagues in support of this important work. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Stephanie Martinez-Ruckman, Program Director for Human Development at martinez-ruckman@nlc.org or 202-626-3098 if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Clarence E. Anthony
CEO and Executive Director

As a resource and advocate for more than 19,000 cities, towns and villages, the National League of Cities (NLC) brings municipal officials together to influence federal policy affecting local governments. NLC adopts positions on federal actions, programs and proposals that directly impact municipalities and formalizes those positions in the National Municipal Policy (NMP), which guides NLC’s federal advocacy efforts.

NLC divides its advocacy efforts into seven subject areas:
- Community and Economic Development
- Energy, Environment and Natural Resources
- Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations
- Human Development
- Information Technology and Communications
- Public Safety and Crime Prevention
- Transportation and Infrastructure Services

For each of the seven issue areas, a Federal Advocacy Committee advocates in support of NLC’s federal policy positions. Members of each committee serve for one calendar year, and are appointed by the NLC President.

Federal Advocacy Committees
Federal Advocacy Committee members are responsible for advocating on legislative priorities, providing input on legislative priorities, and reviewing and approving policy proposals and resolutions. Additionally, Committee members engage in networking and sharing of best practices.

Federal Advocacy Committees are comprised of local elected and appointed city and town officials from NLC member cities. NLC members must apply annually for membership to a Federal Advocacy Committee. The NLC President makes appointments for chair, vice chairs, and general membership. In addition to leading the Federal Advocacy Committees, those appointed as committee chairs will also serve on NLC’s Board of Directors during their leadership year.

At the Congressional City Conference, Federal Advocacy Committee members are called upon to advocate for NLC’s legislative priorities on Capitol Hill, as well as develop the committee’s agenda and work plan for the year. Committee members meet throughout the year to further the plan, hear from guest presenters, discuss advocacy strategies and develop specific policy amendments and resolutions. At the City Summit, committee members review and approve policy proposals and resolutions. These action items are then forwarded to NLC’s Resolutions Committee and are considered at the Annual Business Meeting, also held during the City Summit.

Advocacy
Throughout the year, committee members participate in advocacy efforts to influence the federal decision-making process, focusing on actions concerning local governments and
communities. During the Congressional City Conference, committee members have an opportunity, and are encouraged, to meet with their congressional representatives on Capitol Hill. When NLC members are involved in the legislative process and share their expertise and experiences with Congress, municipalities have a stronger national voice, affecting the outcomes of federal policy debates that impact cities and towns.
2019 Human Development (HD) Committee Roster

Chair
Robin Arredondo-Savage
Councilmember
Tempe, Ariz.

Vice Chair
Lindsey Horvath
Councilmember
West Hollywood, Calif.

Vice Chair
LaWana Mayfield
Councilmember
Charlotte, N.C.

Jay Banks, Councilmember, City of New Orleans, LA
M.Margaret Bates, Commissioner, City of Lauderhill, FL
Fabian Bedne, Councilmember, City of Nashville-Davidson, TN
Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President, City of New York City, NY
Sadie Britt, Council Member Ward 1, City of Lincoln, AL
Chris Callender, Council Member Ward 1, Village of Oakwood Village, OH
Elizabeth Carr-Hurst, Mayor, City of Fairburn, GA
Yvette Colbourne, Vice Mayor, City of Miramar, FL
Amber Corrieri, Council Member, At Large, City of Ames, IA
Shamaine Daniels, Harrisburg Council Member, City of Harrisburg, PA
Rose Glover, Mayor Pro Tem District 2, City of Greenville, NC
Blaine Griffin, Councilmember, City of Cleveland, OH
Laney Harris, Council Member Ward 2, City of Texarkana, AR
Francisco Heredia, Councilmember District 3, City of Mesa, AZ
Nathan Johnson, Mayor, City of Yankton, SD
Lioneld Jordan, Mayor, City of Fayetteville, AR
Mario King, Mayor, City of Moss Point, MS
Kacy Kostiuk, Councilmember, City of Takoma Park, MD, MD
Mike Lockhart, Council Member, City of Muscle Shoals, AL
Michelle Lyons, Councilmember, City of Bridgeport, CT
Leta Mach, Council Member, City of Greenbelt, MD
Teresa Mosqueda, Council Member, District 8, City of Seattle, WA
Valerie Nicholas, Council President Pro tem/Council Member Ward 1, City of Laurel, MD
Gregory Pettis, Mayor, City of Cathedral City, CA
Rhonda Pownell, Mayor, City of Northfield, MN
Cheryl Richardson, Councilwoman, City of Marietta, Georgia, GA
Mickey Sandifer, Councilmember, City of Shawnee, KS
Rosa Santana, Alderman, Ward 13-D, City of New Haven, CT
Sharmin Shahjahan, Trustee, Village of Hanover Park, IL
Willie Shaw, Commissioner, City of Sarasota, FL
Kristin Stephens, Councilmember, City of Fort Collins, CO
Casey Thomas, Council Member, City of Dallas, TX
Yolanda Trout-Manuel, Council Member Position 4, City of Auburn, WA
Laura Weinberg, Councilor Ward 4, City of Golden, CO
Beverly Williams, Vice Mayor, City of Lauderdale Lakes, FL