



**Alabama Caucus Agenda**  
**Friday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> – virtual**  
**9am-12pm Central (10am-1pm Eastern)**

**Via Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82014840739?pwd=VmJMNVV0VEFaUK5GQ1I1RnVsNDhBQT09>

- 1) Welcome** (Tim Thrasher) – recognition of any guests  
*AHFA - David Young, Carrie Shumaker - Leah Taylor USDA -*
- 2) Around the Horn – 30 minutes** - Tim Thrasher
- 3) Supporting Members and Partners – 30 minutes**
  - a. AHFA – Updates - David Young, Carrie Shumaker  
*Coming Nov./Early Dec. – Group Meeting on using NHTF with single family work*
  - b. Alabama Affordable Housing Association Lindsey
    - i. Status of state housing tax credit
  - c. USDA – status of FY24 and FY25 funding – Leah Taylor
  - d. Women's Affordable Housing Network – Cindy Prater, Anne Marie – National group

**CAUCUS TIME**

- 4) Fahe Membership Business – 30 minutes**
  - a. Board Elections – Jim
  - b. Review Previous Minutes **pp 3-7**
  - c. Annual Meeting Download – Fahe Challenge
  - d. Four Corners Working Groups:
    - Capacity - Next meeting **November 5th** 10:30AM-12:00PM EST (first Tuesday of every other month)
    - Narrative - Next meeting **November 12th** 3:00PM-4:00PM EST (recurring mtg TBD)
    - People - Next meeting **November 20th** 3:00PM-4:00PM EST (third Wednesday of every other month)
    - Money – Next meeting **November 25th** 2:30PM-4:00PM EST (fourth Monday of every month)
- 6) Member Interest/Focus Updates – Traviss Witt – 20 minutes p 8**
  - a. Energy Opportunities – OFN RFP for CCIA open/closed Oct.1-31st
  - b. PRICE – application award pending
  - c. Fahe ARC - ARISE – VITAL Planning Grant Expectations (9-1-24 to 8-31-25)
- 5) Advocacy – 35 minutes pp 9-13**
  - a. State –AL Caucus Updates – Maggie
    - Elevator Pitch – “1 in 5 Alabama working families struggling to make ends meet. The Fahe AL Caucus is a network of 5 nonprofit community development

organizations working to change that statistics by providing housing and wrap around supports across Appalachian AL. In the last five years, we've invested \$81.8M to serve nearly 1,000 families. With your help we can reach even more."

- b. AL Advocacy - Amaya Sizer
  - Coalition Activities
  - Items for discussion
- c. Federal Update – Josh Stewart
  - Appropriations Workshop
  - Written Federal Updates (see packet)

#### 6) Fahe Updates - 25 Minutes **p 14**

- a. Board Member Report – Sept. 20, 2024 - Mary Ellen Judah, Aron Boldog
- b. Membership Updates
  - Reporting – QE 9-30-24 – Jackie Weiss
  - Membership Training – Jackie Weiss
  - Fahe History – Diedre Kendall, AmeriCorps VISTA
  - Member Disaster Risk Assessment – Jeremy Cornett AmeriCorps VISTA
  - Health and Housing Intersection – Nicholas Bormes
- c. Communication Introduction – Lina Page, Kevin Flora
- d. Research – REED Cmte, Data Explorer Update – see packet **p 15**
- e. Lending – Community Lending and JustChoice Lending  
<https://fahemembers.com/wp-content/uploads/JCL-marketing.pdf>
- f. Partners for Rural Transformation – see info from Sara Ball **p 16**

#### **Upcoming Events**

- **This Thurs. Oct. 31** – 2 pm ET – Fahe Challenge Discussion with Jim King (Zoom)
- **November** - Four Corner Working – see dates above
- **2024 Virginia Housing Conference** – November 13-15, 2024
- **February 10-14** - NeighborWorks America NTI — Philly
- **August 25-29** - NeighborWorks America NTI – New Orleans

Sign up for Fahe's Member Newsletter here: [www.fahemembers.com/signup](http://www.fahemembers.com/signup)

Sign up for Fahe's Blog here: [www.fahe.org/signup](http://www.fahe.org/signup)

VA Caucus page: <https://www.fahemembers.com/state-caucuses/va-member-information/>



# Alabama Caucus Agenda

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

9am-12pm Central (10am-1pm Eastern)

Montgomery Marriott Prattville Hotel & Conference Center at Capitol Hill  
2500 Legends Circle, Prattville, Alabama 36066 - Salon A

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Lisa Pierce	AL Rural Ministries	Vonda Poynter	Fahe
Luke Laney	CAA Northeast AL (CAANEAL)	Adrian Godboldt	Partners for Rural Transf.-Virtual
Aron Boldog	CAP North AL (CAPNA)	Emily Burleson	Partners for Rural Transf.-Virtual
Tim Thrasher	CAP North AL (CAPNA)	Diedre Kendall	Fahe AC VISTA -Virtual
Lynn Robertso	HERO - Virtual	Christina Jones	Fahe-Virtual
Mary Ellen Judah	Nbhood Concepts	Drew Pritchard	Fahe-Virtual
NHS B'hm			
David Young	Guest -AHFA	Jackie Weiss	Fahe-Virtual
Cade Barrett	Guest-AHFA	Jamie Puckett	Fahe-Virtual
Chris Gert	Guest -AHFA	Jeremy Cornett	Fahe-Virtual
Tabetha Sanford	Guest-AHFA	John Niederman	Fahe Consultant-Virtual
Pete Stigers	Guest-Frontier Housing	Kylie Milliken	Fahe-Virtual
Johnnie Sankey	Guest-HealthEquityInst.of AL	Lina Page	Fahe-Virtual
Michelle Battle	Guest-A Place for Bethany	Nicole Intagliata	Fahe-Virtual
Mackenzie	Guest-Rural Studio	Sade Wells	Fahe-Virtual
Amaya Sizer	Fahe	Traviss Witt	Fahe-Virtual
Maggie Riden	Fahe		
Nicholaus Bormes	Fahe		

**5 of 6 Members Represented – 83% Attendance**

## 1) Welcome Guest Introductions - Tim Thrasher

*David Young – AHFA: David Young, Tabetha Sanford, other staff, AHFA, Michelle Battle, A Place for Bethany, Johnnie Sankey, Health Equity Institute of AL*

### CAUCUS TIME

## 2) Fahe Membership Business

- a. Approval of February Minutes
  - Motion to pass, seconded by Aaron, motion carried.
- b. Caucus Chair Election
  - Motion for Tim to continue as chair, seconded. Motion carried.
  - Think about who can be the next board chair. Mary Ellen will be stepping back.
- c. Around the Horn:
 

In what innovative ways has your organization increased, or plan to increase, affordable housing in your community in the next year.

  - Trying to teach literacy.
  - So many rental properties throughout the state where people are living

in horrible conditions, need to educate renters on what their rights are.

- Training for property managers, make it ongoing training. Start small.
- Strength in Alabama homes, 10k. 7–10-year succession plan.
- HERO – Working on selling commercial properties, using that to upgrade some houses. 15 houses, 2 that can't be occupied due to bats. Board meeting to see what the next steps are. 3 commercial properties left.
- Looking to expand membership in AL. Must be nonprofit, housing as a main mission in some form, application packet, must have Caucus approval. Also have affiliate partnerships as an option for those who want to sit at the table but don't meet criteria for membership.
- Fahe is working on Disaster Recovery and more, incredible resource. Would love for people to get involved.

d. Four Corners Working Groups Update

i. Money – Vonda

- Frictionless money. Thought of Affinity groups around specific grants. Also, a database or central resource for expertise. Fahe could get input on new funding opportunities from members for when an opportunity comes up. Having past collaborative models that have worked and put the organizations together to work toward specific goals.

ii. Capacity – Aron Boldog

- Discussed how Fahe could supplement the capacity to make the efforts that are being made stretch even further. Workforce Development, growth, back-office support, HR, legal, etc. What can we do to get these professionals in the door? Have lost staff in the for-profit sector.

iii. Narrative – Vonda/Lina – survey/discussion (note MEJ and AB have completed)

- Bring the very important work of members to investors and others. Input will help us produce the new narrative to get more awareness, appreciation, and support for the work that we do.

iv. People – Mary Ellen Judah

- Want to increase AL caucus over the next few years. Attracting affiliate partners, see if it's a good fit. Organizations that are somewhat involved in what we do, getting them more involved.

### 3) Advocacy

a. State –AL Caucus Elevator Pitch

**We seek to empower communities by eliminating poverty. We bridge gaps through education and collaboration because if not us, then who?**

b. Jim's Big Challenge – 2019-2023 – Maggie

i. AL Impact One-Pager

- Invested nearly 82M dollars in AL to improve lives and help with housing. Will be updating the one-pagers every other year with data from the members.
- Any story that the members have, the AFHA would like to know and share.
- Overall, with all members, impacted over 30k families.
- Working to capture qualitative data as well as quantitative.
- "Build America By America" meeting coming up.

- ii. Any regional or state vacancies to fill
  - Think of who would be good in the vacancies.
- a. AL Advocacy Coalition Activities - Amaya Sizer
- b. Federal Update – Josh Stewart – Proposed HOME Rule
  - Josh is working on comments right now.

#### 4) AL Caucus – Supporting Members and Growth Opportunities

- a. AHFA – David Young – administer federal housing programs and HUD grant funding programs, home investments, The National Trust Fund program. 40k units across the state. 75-80 projects that have been approved in various stages of construction. 96% occupancy across the state. Had to turn money back in because haven't had the smaller projects in rural communities. Small organizations that have clients/constituents that need housing, but the organizations don't have capacity to do real estate development. Expanded the number of units for those with physical or mental disabilities, improved version of what they have already done. Have information on the website so that agencies can reach out to those development grants. Working with the Department of Mental Health. Two most program is Federal Housing Trust Fund, and the HOME ARP Fund.
  - i. Income averaging
  - ii. Workforce Housing Tax Credits
    - 3 years, 5M pilot program. The Dept of Commerce has targeted big units for those who have jobs. If have additional comments, let them know.
  - iii. Equity Pricing
  - iv. DDA – front end basis boost
  - v. Insurance costs – influence with Insurance Commissioner
  - vi. Benefits of National Housing Trust Funds – Chris
    - Very underutilized. Might get 30 applications for another program but only one for National Housing Trust Funds. Designed to assist with very specific costs. Criteria includes disabilities, minimum use. Created what they thought was needed but money is not getting used, getting sent back to HUD. The availability of contractors is limited as well.
    - Have problems with capacity. Maybe a start is getting slots to network/train staff, help members learn more to utilize spots and discounts, training, be a true nonprofit developer.
    - If there was a way to contract with some of these nonprofits, there might be a management company willing to take that on at a lesser fee.
    - It's about 3M a year, hard to scale.
- b. Affordable Housing Association – Tim Thrasher
  - i. Status of state housing tax credit
    - 3-year subset, especially in rural communities, hope to be able to save some of those homes.
    - Insurance, some of the things they share. Workforce state housing program.
- c. USDA – status of FY24 and FY25 funding

Lots of cuts, especially to 502. Allotted 11M, have been utilizing those funds. Persistent poverty is a separate fund.

## STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

### 5) Research – Katy

- i. Data Request - Economic Impact Analysis Project with Daniel Eads, WVU Extension
  - Putting together data about Production. Taking the data you report quarterly and turn it into resources to help with advocacy and outreach opportunities. If you have data needs, let Katy know. Please come to meetings and participate.
- ii. Show and Tell Tableau for Members (REED participation!)  
Continuing to have research meetings monthly, would love to have more participation from caucus members.

### 6) Member Interest/Focus Updates – Traviss Witt

- a. Energy Opportunities – pending RFP from national Awardees
  - Not any significant progress on Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. In active negotiations with EPA, final contracts and funds dispersed by end of the month as of right now.
  - Applied and was awarded a 300k planning grant through VITAL project. Leadership development program for next year, after planning is finished, hoping to go for a much bigger implementation program.
- b. PRICE – application due July 10
  - Fahe was asked to be subrecipient for manufactured housing through HUD by Lincoln. If the program is successful, hoping to expand down the road.
- c. ARC ARISE planning application funded (9-1-24 to 8-31-25)

### 7) Fahe Updates

- a. How Fahe Works – Overview

### 8) Board Member Report – March, June 2024 - Mary Ellen Judah, Aron Boldog

- a. Approved next year's budget, affiliate partner approval as well. Really engaged board of directors.

### 9) Membership Committee - Mary Ellen

- Caucus Affiliate Partners approved

### 10) Membership Updates

- Reporting – QE 3-31-24 status- Vonda
  - Reporting was down this quarter to 64% overall, AL was at 67% reporting. Can report last quarter's numbers on the next quarter if didn't report last quarter.
- Membership, Training – Jackie
  - Have purchased another round of the 25 self-guided online courses from NeighborWorks. Free to members. Send Jackie which courses you want the code for. Send certificate of completion to Jackie when done. Can sign up now through September 30<sup>th</sup>, then have 60 days to complete the course.
  - Cutoff for NTI in Pittsburgh in August is coming up at the end of the month, 5 days of courses. \$1400 but if sign up under Fahe, you do get free lodging and if you give Fahe registration received and course completion certificates, then Fahe will reimburse up to \$200 after the fact.

- Disaster Preparedness/Business Continuity Planning – Diedre Kendall, AmeriCorps VISTA
  - Wrapping up at the end of August, still time to get them done. Can help create or update plans. NTI training in Pennsylvania at end of August, Deirdre will be there, can get together for dinner.
- Member Disaster Risk Assessment – Jeremy Cornett VISTA
  - 3 phase plan – develop risk assessment packages. Went out early on.
  - Hazard mitigation planners – Sent out survey and Zoom conversations.
  - Starting the analysis – will need to close surveys and Zoom conversations, need your input. Sent emails.
- Health and Housing Intersection – Nicholaus Bormes
  - Continuing at slower pace, looking at opportunities to connect health and housing across Caucuses. If you have any names, anyone interested in connecting with, reach out to Nicholaus or Jackie.
  - Ballard Health Initiative, any questions, let Nicholaus or Jackie know.
- Updates to [www.fahemembers.com](http://www.fahemembers.com) – Nicholaus
  - Updated fahe.org website, want feedback. Fahemembers.com is up and running, updated that as well. Dedicated advocacy and 4 corners pages. Password protected.

## 11) Communication Round Up – Lina Page

## 12) REED, Research Evaluation Evidence & Data Committee

Next: Housing Economic Development Impact – discussed earlier Office

hours: 1st Tues. 9:30-11:30am & 3rd Thurs. 1-3 pm

Standing Committee (REED): 2nd Mon. of each month, 1:00-2:15 pm Contacts:

[kstigers@fahe.org](mailto:kstigers@fahe.org)      [cmoreno@fahe.org](mailto:cmoreno@fahe.org)

### f. Lending – Community Lending and JustChoice Lending – Sade Wells

- The benefits of being a member means you get to use secondary market products, lots of down payment assistance. No PMI, 100% financing, lower credit scores, etc. Different ways to become a Member with JCL, Broker or broker light. Home Sweet Home program, 100% conventional, 105% USDA, if have any questions, let Sade know. Swells@fahe.org. Or Janel Lawson as well.

### g. Partners for Rural Transformation – see info from Sara Ball

## **Upcoming Events**

- **Aug. 26-30**: NTI Pittsburgh, PA
- **Sept. 9-10-11** – Fahe Annual Meeting, Roanoke, VA
- **Nov. 1**: AL Caucus Meeting - virtual

Sign up for Fahe's Member Newsletter here: [www.fahemembers.com/signup](http://www.fahemembers.com/signup) Sign up for Fahe's Blog here: [www.fahe.org/signup](http://www.fahe.org/signup)

WV Caucus page: <https://www.fahemembers.com/state-caucuses/wv-md-member-information/>

## Member Interest Update – Memo

**GGRF - The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) is part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's initiative under the Inflation Reduction Act, designed to accelerate the transition to clean energy and reduce carbon emissions across the U.S. The fund includes billions of dollars to support projects focused on energy efficiency, clean energy deployment, and green infrastructure development, with a strong focus on benefiting low-income and historically underserved communities.**

- OFN released RFP for GGRF CCIA application on Oct. 10 (attached)
- ACC plans to release their RFP on Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>
- Awards ranging from \$2-\$10 million based on lending experience, lending volume, eligible project pipeline and other factors
- New construction must meet EPA definition of net-zero
- Reconstruction/Rehabilitation = we create the energy savings metrics, defined as only as “substantial”
- BABA and Davis-Beacon may apply. Language from RFP states “BABA does not apply to private homes (single- or multi-family), except for some publicly assisted rental housing and publicly accessible facilities in multifamily housing.” BABA does not apply to single family home ownership
- Six-year period of performance for ACC and OFN, unclear how that will translate to Fahe as a subrecipient

OFN Application Link: <https://www.ofn.org/current-initiatives/greenhouse-gas-reduction-fund/>

## **EPA Community Change Grants – Open until November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024.**

Community Change Grants fund nonprofit and grassroots projects that drive social, economic, and environmental improvements, focusing on affordable housing, workforce development, and energy efficiency in underserved communities. They emphasize equity, sustainability, and measurable impact.

<https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/inflation-reduction-act-community-change-grants-program>

## **PRICE**

- Announcements expected in October
- Pilot HUD program to fund replacement of dilapidated manufactured housing units with new, energy-efficient units.



## **Advocacy Reminders**

Meet with electeds and candidates: Deepening or developing relationships with elected officials- local, state and federal- is an around the year activity.

- Attend debates or community events: We're in the final stretch. Learn about what your candidates think about the housing crisis, or better yet, educate them!
- Post Election – Congratulatory Letters and Post Swearing In Congratulatory Letters: If you want draft language, say the word. We're here to help
- Tools and Information: You can find all the relevant Advocacy Tools and Materials: Member Website, password: Fahe4Corners!
  - Getting a meeting and making the most of your time with electeds
  - Housing as Econ Development
  - Construction and Skilled Workforce Challenges in Appalachia
  - Housing Development for Non-Developers (and a glossary!)
  - BABA and Building Code Memos
  - Federal Appropriations
  - State Advocacy Priorities and Housing Crisis 1 Pagers
- Written Federal Update- **(See following pages)**

## **Advocacy Discussion Agenda Priority Topics:**

- Federal Update & Discussion on Appropriations (10 mins)
  - Sign up Members who are interested in the Appropriations Workshops
- Coalition update (10 mins)
  - For ONLY VA: Meeting up and connecting at the VA Housing Conference

If time allows:

- Draft Elevator pitches written & condensed (short form and long form) to share at Fall 2024 Caucus. Please insert for relevant state. (5 mins)
- Draft questions for members about comms from Fahe for next meeting (15 mins)

## **AL Elevator Pitch**

**Long form/Original:** Ms. Jones, a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade teacher was working 2 jobs to pay rent and put food on the table for her family. She's not alone, 1 in 5 Alabama working families have the same struggle. Recognizing that safe and affordable housing is essential to successful households and communities, the Fahe AL caucus through the provision of housing and wrap around services, helped Ms. Jones to not only have to work 1 job and be home with her family on the weekends. Walking alongside us you can help us make this a reality for the nearly 200,000 households across the state in need of safe and affordable housing.

### **Medium form:**

1 in 5 Alabama working families are struggling to pay rent and put food on the table. The Fahe AL caucus works to change this reality, by providing housing and wrap around services. Walking alongside us, you can help us make safe and stable housing a reality for the nearly 200,000 Alabamans struggling.

### **Short:**

See *Agenda blurb*

*Welcome to Fahe's Advocacy Caucus Newsletter! This quarterly update will inform Members about recent developments in Congress and the current administration, as well as your Advocacy Team's efforts to make programs work better for you. If you have any questions, please reach out to your [advocacy team](#) and we'd be happy to help!*

## **Contents**

- [Congressional Updates](#)
- [Administration Updates](#)
- [Advocacy Team Updates](#)
- [Appropriations Tracker](#)

## **Congressional Updates**

- Shutdown Avoided: In late September, Congress avoided a government shutdown by passing a continuing resolution (CR) until December 20. The CR maintains FY2024 funding levels for all agencies and programs except for the Secret Service and FEMA, which each got a slight boost.
  - The outcome of the election will affect Congress's appropriations decision-making when the CR expires.
- Disaster Funding: House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) has said he will not bring the House of Representatives back into session to pass additional emergency funding for FEMA and the Small Business Administration (SBA) before the election.
  - FEMA has enough funding to address the aftermath of Hurricanes Helene and Milton, but the SBA has run out of money to make new loans, although they are still processing applications. Congress is likely to address this issue during the lame duck session after the election.
- Possible Housing Legislation: Senators on the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee have indicated interest in passing a package of housing bills during the lame duck session, which would likely include the Rural Housing Service Reform Act.
  - Congress will be busy with appropriations and disaster response, but your Advocacy Team is pushing for the passage of housing legislation.
- Election Forecasting: Fahe expects a minimum of four Congressional seats in our footprint to change hands in November: the WV 2<sup>nd</sup> District, the MD 6<sup>th</sup> District, and Senate seats in WV and MD.

## Administration Updates

- HOME Proposed Rule: This summer, the Department of Housing and Urban Development published a Proposed Rule that would make significant changes to the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. We expect the final rule to be published some time between October and January.
  - Fahe submitted a comment, which can be found [here](#). We made recommendations on several aspects of the Proposed Rule, including on how to mitigate environmental and predevelopment costs, how to allow more CHDOs without harming existing robust CHDO networks, how to protect tenants without putting undue administrative stress on Members who operate rental units, and how to calculate the homeownership value limits in a way that makes more sense. 20 other organizations made or changed their policy recommendations to align with Fahe's asks.
  - For more information, please see the [August Advocacy Update](#).
- Presidential Housing Plans: The high cost of housing has become a campaign issue this cycle, with both candidates publishing plans for how they would address the housing crisis. The table below summarizes the major steps each candidate has said they would take in written housing plans. Regardless of the outcome of the election, Fahe will continue our efforts to make federal housing programs work better for our Network and our region.

Donald Trump	Kamala Harris
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce inflation and mortgage rates</li> <li>• Allow housing construction on some federal lands</li> <li>• Create tax incentives for first-time homebuyers</li> <li>• Overturn unnecessary regulations</li> <li>• Decrease demand for housing by reducing immigration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct 3 million new housing units</li> <li>• Create a tax incentive for building starter homes</li> <li>• Expand LIHTC</li> <li>• Propose a \$40 billion innovation fund for local housing efforts</li> <li>• Overturn unnecessary regulations</li> <li>• Call on Congress to pass legislation to prevent investors from buying large numbers of single-family homes and prevent landlords from using algorithms to decide rent prices</li> <li>• Provide \$25,000 of down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers</li> </ul>
<p>Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Republican Party Platform (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> <li>• Vice President Harris Lays Out Agenda to Lower Costs for American Families (<a href="#">link</a>)</li> </ul>	

## Advocacy Team Updates

- Income Eligibility: In August, Fahe's Jim King and Federal Advocacy Team, along with Dave Clark of Woodlands Development & Lending and Scott McReynolds of Housing Development Alliance, traveled to Washington, DC, to deliver a briefing on the issue of HUD's income limits and how they disadvantage our communities.
  - Our speakers presented Fahe's national floor proposal to an audience of Congressional staff, administration officials, and other advocates. The report we shared with them can be found [here](#).
  - For photos and more information about the event, please see [the Fahe Blog post](#).
- BABA: Your Advocacy Team is continuing our efforts to ease BABA implementation for Members on both the programming side and the policy side. Either by now you have seen, or should expect to see soon, that:
  - Programming: We have sent around a suite of resources including compliance worksheets, practical examples, and links to HUD trainings.
  - Policy: We have submitted a comment to the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST MEP) asking them to publish a list of BABA-compliant manufacturers or products. We have also sent a letter to HUD, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Department of Commerce asking for mandatory labels for BABA-compliant products.
- Appropriations: We have a plan to help Members get better involved in the federal appropriations process this coming spring. Kylie will discuss the plan at the Caucus meeting and would be happy to answer any questions ([kmilliken@fahe.org](mailto:kmilliken@fahe.org)).

## Appropriations Tracker

Congress has not yet decided on final funding amounts for FY25. The table on the next page displays proposed funding levels from the House, Senate, and President, along with past year funding amounts for some of Fahe's most-used programs. A higher-resolution version can be found [here](#).

### Contact Us!

**Dept. Leadership & TN:** Maggie Riden [mriden@fahe.org](mailto:mriden@fahe.org)

**Federal:** Joshua Stewart [jstewart@fahe.org](mailto:jstewart@fahe.org) & Kylie Milliken [kmilliken@fahe.org](mailto:kmilliken@fahe.org)

**KY & WV:** Andrew Bates [abates@fahe.org](mailto:abates@fahe.org)

**AL & VA:** Amaya Sizer [asizer@fahe.org](mailto:asizer@fahe.org)

Program <sup>s</sup>	FY23	FY24	FY25 POTUS Proposed	FY25 House Proposed	FY25 Senate Proposed
Appalachian Regional Commission	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000	\$200,000,000
<b>Community Development Block Grant</b>	\$6,391,000,000*	\$6,720,000,000*	\$2,900,000,000*	\$3,300,000,000	\$3,300,000,000
<b>HOME Investment Partnership Program</b>	\$1,500,000,000	\$1,250,000,000	\$1,250,000,000	\$500,000,000	\$1,425,000,000
Housing Counseling	\$57,500,000	\$57,500,000	\$57,500,000	\$57,500,000	\$57,500,000
NeighborWorks	\$166,000,000	\$158,000,000	\$168,000,000	\$158,000,000	\$168,000,000
<b>Rural Capacity Building</b>	\$6,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development	\$42,000,000	\$42,000,000	\$40,700,000	\$42,000,000	\$47,000,000
<b>Self-Help Opportunity Program</b>	\$13,500,000	\$12,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$13,000,000
<b>502 Direct Loans</b>	\$1,250,000,000	\$880,000,000	\$1,250,000,000	\$950,000,000	\$1,000,000,000
<b>502 Guaranteed Loans</b>	\$30,000,000,000	\$25,000,000,000	\$30,000,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$25,000,000
<b>504 Repair Grants</b>	\$32,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$30,000,000
<b>504 Repair Loans</b>	\$28,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$28,000,000	\$18,000,000	\$25,000,000
<b>523 Self-Help Housing Grants</b>	\$32,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$25,000,000
<b>533 Housing Preservation Grants</b>	\$16,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$16,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$10,000,000
<b>Rural Community Development Initiative</b>	\$6,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$5,000,000
<b>Community Development Financial Institution Fund</b>	\$289,000,000	\$324,000,000	\$324,908,000	\$276,600,000	\$354,000,000

Programs in **bold** received cuts in FY2024, and/or are proposed for further cuts or flat-funding from cut levels in FY2025.

\* Only the most commonly used Member programs indicated here. Fahe staff have information for all other programs available. Please reach out for more information: [jstewart@fahe.org](mailto:jstewart@fahe.org)

\* FY23 and FY24 include Earmarks; the President's Proposed never does. However, flat funding from FY23 CDBG in the FY25 President's Budget would be \$3.3 billion - indicating a proposed cut of \$400 million.

## Fahe Updates

### Quarterly Reporting – 6/30/24

ORG INFORMATION		Report/Communication Sent		
State	Org Name	7/10/2024	7/22/2024	7/26/2024
AL	Hale Empowerment & Revitalization Organization (HERO)			
	Neighborhood Concepts, Inc. (NCI)			
	Alabama Rural Ministries (ARM)			
	CAA of Northeast Alabama (CAANEAL)			
<b>AL Organizations</b>		<b>4</b>		
Turned in by 7/10		2	50.00%	
Turned in by 7/15		3	75.00%	
Turned in by 7/25		4	100.00%	
<b>Without NWOs</b>				
<b>Total Organizations</b>		<b>47</b>		
Turned in by 7/10		15	31.91%	
Turned in by 7/15		31	65.96%	
Turned in by 7/25		41	87.23%	

### Federal FY 2025 Training Opportunities

#### NeighborWorks® America: Fall Learning Series - October-December 2024 Convenient, cost-effective online training to grow your career and impact!

- Webinars on the latest topics affecting community-serving organizations
- Multi-day faculty-led courses with in-depth information and interactivity
- FREE sessions covering timely topics in a fast-paced hour
- Learn more and register at [NeighborWorks.org/OnlineLearning](https://NeighborWorks.org/OnlineLearning)
- As a Fahe Member, you are eligible for "In Network" pricing

#### National Training Events

- Feb. 10-14, 2025 – Philadelphia, PA – [REGISTRATION IS OPEN!](#)
- Aug. 25-29, 2025 – New Orleans, LA – Registration Opens Spring 2025

Fahe will continue to support attendance at NTI's through reimbursement of some costs; approximately \$200 per attendee. Contact [jackie@fahe.org](mailto:jackie@fahe.org) for registration information.

## About REED

### BACKGROUND

The Research Evidence Evaluation & Data Committee was established in 2022 by the Fahe Research team. REED offers access to tools, expertise and opportunities for gaining insights from our collective data in order to communicate community needs more efficiently.

### WHO?

The REED Committee is made up of Members who give some time each month to collaborate around best data practices and improving our collective data storytelling.

### GOALS

The goal behind REED is to create opportunities for collaboration and information sharing to bolster Members' capacity to tell better stories with data.

## JOIN US

Standing meeting occurs the **third Monday of each month, 1:00-2:00pm.**  
Meeting via Zoom.

Reach out to us!  
[reed@fahe.org](mailto:reed@fahe.org)  
[cmoreno@fahe.org](mailto:cmoreno@fahe.org)



## RESEARCH EVIDENCE EVALUATION DATA

## News & Research Current Events



## UPDATED DATA EXPLORER!!

Fahe Data Explorer FY 25 Update by [Camila Moreno](#)

2022	Johnson County, TN	View Factsheet
	AGE & SEX DEMOGRAPHICS	Print View

- 1  
Select a  
State
- Alabama
  - Kentucky
  - Maryland
  - Tennessee
  - Virginia
  - West Virginia

Fahe's Research Team is announcing an update to the Fahe Data Explorer! Our new research analyst, Anh Doan, has updated data for some of the dashboard. You can access tableau public here: [Fahe Data Explorer Update FY25](#). You can find the new "how-to-use" document for the data explorer [HERE](#).



# PARTNERS FOR RURAL TRANSFORMATION

## Memo

To: Fahe Members  
From: Sara Ball, Vice President of PRT Operations  
Re: Partners for Rural Transformation Quarterly Update  
Date: October 17, 2024

PRT's work continues in several spaces from the last update. We are still working with USDA Rural Partner Network (RPN) on disaster recovery work in Eastern Kentucky, along with the expansion of DreamBuild with Frontier Housing. Our research work, funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, was conducted by Fahe and PRT staff with six community partners across the regions, testing our Rural Equity Development Framework. This framework is our expression of the way that we think community development work should be conducted in our regions, and you have heard it referred to as the three-legged stool. The interviewees included an Appalachia community partner. The focus group interviews were conducted, and the analysis was completed. We presented our initial findings to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in late August. In early 2025, PRT will host two roundtables, inviting funders, policymakers, and local practitioners to come together to discuss more effective ways of working together for the benefit of our communities. The first gathering is scheduled for January in Arizona, and the second is scheduled for May in Mississippi.

The work with RWJF highlights critical issues for Fahe members and Appalachia. The research is focused on the belief that communities and community local leaders know what their communities need to succeed and give them the resources to accomplish the work.

Advocacy work at PRT has been aligned with Fahe. We have worked on comments on the Farm Bill, CRA Reform, support for USDA and HUD housing programs, and the CDFI Fund. PRT also supports Fahe's efforts around AMI and the national floor solution along with the need for specific deliverables for the GSE's 2025=2027 plans. The Partners also work on ways to advocate and find solutions for disaster "precovery" and recovery. "Precovery" is a term coined by cdcb that refers to being prepared prior to a disaster for the recovery that will be needed.

PRT staff has been working on creating a robust pipeline of projects to address the needs of our Partners and communities. Two great examples of this work in the pipeline are our 5-minute Videos, which will walk practitioners through how to access data needed for various applications from different sources in short technical videos, and a Housing Migration project, which will dig deep into various data sources to access in-migration and out-migration patterns in rural communities. We are also continuing our work on the [Everything Else Story Map](#). This phase of the story map will focus on smaller capsule stories produced in-house.

Lastly, we look forward to two special upcoming announcements in the next month. First, is the announcement that our [SWIFT](#) (Seamless Workflow, Information, and Familiarization Tool) website is up and running. Second, we will send out an announcement about our new President starting in early November. If you are interested in following more of PRT's weekly news, please sign up for our [newsletter](#).