



VA Caucus Agenda
Wednesday, October 30, 2024, 10am - 1pm
Virtual: Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82014840739?pwd=VmJMNVV0VEFhUk5GQ1I1RnVsNDhBQT09>

- 1) **Welcome, Special Guest Introductions** - Jamie Gross welcomes Kerry Crowley, USDA-RD; Amanda Gordon, Kelly Gill-Gordon - VH; Isabell McLain - VHA; Cheri Miles, DHCD, Regina Sayers, AASC; Casey Edmonds, NRCA, Regina Sayers, AASC
- 2) **Around the Horn - 30 Minutes** – Jamie Gross
What do you need from Fahe for disaster recovery? How can we help each other?
- 3) **Partner Updates - 30 Minutes**
 - a. Virginia Housing – Amanda Gordon, Program updates
 - b. USDA-RD - Kerry Crowley
 - c. Virginia Housing Alliance – Isabel McLain

CAUCUS TIME

- 4) **Fahe Membership Business** – Jamie – **30 minutes**
 - a. Review Previous Minutes and Action Items **pp. 3-8**
 - b. Board Elections – Jim at 11AM
 - c. Annual Meeting download - Jim's challenge
 - d. Four Corners Working Groups:
 - Capacity - Next meeting **November 5**, 10:30AM-12:00PM EST (first Tuesday of every other month)
 - Narrative - Next meeting **November 12**, 3:00PM-4:00PM EST (recurring meeting TBD)
 - People - Next meeting **November 20**, 3:00PM-4:00PM EST (third Wednesday of every other month)
 - Money – Next meeting **November 25**, 2:30PM-4:00PM EST (fourth Monday of every month)
- 5) **Strength in Numbers - Member Interest/Focus Updates- Traviss** – **15 minutes p. 9**
 - a. Energy Opportunities
 - CCIA Applications Open
 - EPA – Community Change
 - b. PRICE Awards pending
 - c. ARC ARISE Planning Grant

6) Advocacy – 40 minutes **pp. 10-14**

- a. VA Caucus Updates – Maggie
 - VA Caucus Elevator Pitch – “The Fahe VA Caucus is a network of 6 nonprofit community development & housing agencies with deep roots in southwest Virginia. In the last 5 years we’ve invested over \$280M into 16,000 households: helping to set firm financial foundations and access to safe housing for tens of thousands of Virginians.”
- b. State Advocacy Coalition – Amaya Sizer
 - VA Housing Conference Nov. 13-15 – VA Caucus Breakfast
 - Any item to bring to the Caucus for discussion
- c. Federal Updates & Discussion of Appropriations – Josh Stewart
 - Appropriations Workshops
 - Written Federal Updates

7) Caucus Discussion – 15 minutes

Members’ suggestions on caucus speakers/presentations - Jamie Member suggestions - Overton McGee, VA HFH , From Gov Housing Conference - VA Energy - ; VA Office of Broadband - Solar Energy Plan in Washington County

8) Fahe Updates - 20 minutes

- a. Board Report – September 20, 2024 - Board Members Andy Kegley, Jake Powell
- b. Membership Updates (see packet) **pp. 15-16**
 - Reporting – QE 6-30-24 status – Jackie Weiss
 - Membership Training Opportunities - Jackie Weiss
 - Fahe History Project & Survey – Diedre Kendall AmeriCorps VISTA
 - Fahe Hazard Mitigation Plan Project Final - Jeremy Cornett AmeriCorps VISTA
link: https://fahe-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/jcornett_fahe_org/ERxy_5IJHjRCvjK1ji7OGrIBXaaelBZy2_RXX_6yqkYo1A?CID=CA2E3109-F26B-4AEF-A110-334EF27FBFA9&wdLOR=cBCD91B64-15E8-45C1-B8A2-7ED32478BED8
- c. Communication Introduction – Lina Page, Kevin Flora
- d. Lending – Community Lending & [JustChoice Lending](#)
<https://fahemembers.com/wp-content/uploads/JCL-marketing.pdf>
- e. Partners for Rural Transformation Update – see info from Sara Ball **p. 17**

Upcoming Events

- **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

Sign up for Fahe’s Blog here: www.fahe.org/signup

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



VA Caucus Agenda
Wednesday, June 12, 2024, 10am - 2pm
Virginia Housing, 105 E. Main Street
Wytheville, VA 24382

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Amy Bowen	AppCAA	Sam Hanks - VH	Guest-VH
Lynn Pannell - BRHA	BRHA - Virtual	Isabel McLain	Guest-VAHA-Virtual
Jake Powell - CHP	CHP	Nicole Intagliata	Fahe
Andy Kegley	Open Door Comm.	Traviss Witt	Fahe
Jake Lewis	Open Door Comm.	Vonda Poynter	Fahe
Jordan Stidham	Open Door Comm.	Amaya Sizer	Fahe-Virtual
Bryan Phipps - People, Inc.	People, Inc.	Jackie Weiss	Fahe-Virtual
Jamie Gross - People, Inc.	People, Inc.	Jeremy Cornett	Fahe-Virtual
Rachel Stevens	People, Inc.	Joshua Stewart	Fahe-Virtual
Cherry Wilson - SERCAP	SERCAP-Virtual	Kylie Milliken	Fahe-Virtual
Cheri Miles	Guest-DHCD	Sade Wells	Fahe-Virtual
Kerry Crowley	Guest-USDA RD-Virtual	Adrian Godboldt	PRT-Virtual
Cliff Millirons - VH	Guest-VH		

6 of 6 Members Represented – 100% Attendance

- 1) **Welcome, Special Guest Introductions** - Jamie Gross welcomes
Anne Herring, Kerry Crowley, Myron Wooden, USDA-RD; Cliff Millirons, Sam Hanks – VH; Brian Koziol (virtual) – VHA; Cheri Miles, DHCD

- 2) **Fahe Membership Business** - Jamie
 - a. Review Previous Minutes and Action Items
 - b. Caucus Chair Election
 - Jamie was nominated to continue as caucus chair. Jake Powell motioned; Lynn seconded. Motion carried.
 - c. Around the Horn: What's going on – any big events upcoming this year – anniversaries, Homeownership Month activities??
 - d. Jim's challenge – any thoughts? Summer Work – responses?
 - Not just one thing that is missing – what do we want to focus on?
 - Jamie - Affordability is the biggest challenge, can help with credit and other concerns but can't make homes cheaper.
 - Jake Powell – losing units over federal legislation. Trying to access foundation money. Jobs connected to housing.
 - e. Four Corners Working Groups:
 - Money - Pete
 - o Thought of Affinity groups around specific grants or around specific topics. Also, a database or central resource for expertise. Fahe could get input on new funding opportunities from members so when an opportunity comes up, how do we quickly communicate with members and then back to Fahe? Having past collaborative models that have worked and put the

organizations together to work toward specific goals. SMART goals around collaboration, have a model can use to raise money, performance compact.

- Capacity – Jake Powell
 - o Did micro-survey with college students, money was not a huge factor. What is important is passion. Surveying regionally across more universities and get more perspective. How to find people and how to keep staff. Need the funds to hire. Discussed how Fahe could supplement the capacity to make the efforts that are being made stretch even further. Helping with HR, back-office admin, legal expertise, insurance pools, benefits, capacity building programs. Cross training.
- Narrative – Andy - Survey Input/discussion
 - o Set June as time frame to gather information from members, look at what may be a new narrative for Fahe and Fahe members, in July, start to take those pieces and work on what it looks like to get a campaign started and possibly test it, ready in August, start in September around annual meeting. Narrative Survey. Goal is 50% of members taking survey; want as much input from the members as possible before creating the narrative. Also going to encourage anyone on board to answer the survey. Can share/send the link.
- People – Jamie
 - o Honed down to 3 goals around people over the coming period. Increase Fahe membership by ___ organizations, attract ___ new affiliated partners, and engage ___% of membership on Fahe committees. Hoping to set targets by annual meeting. Participation means you are doing what you need to do for membership with Fahe. Engagement is beyond that, being on a committee, etc. At least 36% of members are engaged. How are we going to increase new members and strength of voice with more engagement. Brought to the board that it would be wise to contract a survey expert to do a 3rd party survey to look at the service gap. More effectively onboard new members, like member mentor program.

3) Partner Updates

a. Virginia Housing – Sam Hanks, Cliff Millirons

I have a lot of applications for single family but not able to get into a house currently.

New executive director, Tammy Neal.

Has extended deadline.

Reach out to Cliff if have projects that need help.

Program update – HUD FY23 Counseling Grants – expend by Sept. 30, 2024

Subgrantee Timeline pressures – anyone having trouble spending the funds?

b. VA DHCD Program Update – Cheri Miles

Acquire/Rehab/Sell; HOME; First Time Homebuyers

A/R/S Federally funded by Virginia Housing – started as renovations only, morphed and altered the program as needed. Providers can receive up to 65k per home, 6500 toward admin fees, construction/renovation, 2k in deliverables, etc. No payment or interest while using those funds. When a house sells, pay back the construction piece, ask that profits go back into the community. 14 active grantees, 3-4 trying to get into the market. Just had an open application round.

Trying to make programs work together. DPA is federal, worked with HUD office, was 1.5M/year. Families can receive 10% of sale price, can receive 2500 in closing costs. Maximum assistance is \$40k.

Can layer pieces of programs to help with purchasing.

Program called Communities of Opportunity Tax Credit Program aimed towards

landlords that rent to voucher tenants that has now been expanded statewide. Tax credit for landlords who rent to those with vouchers. 250k maximum last year, heard that it may be increased this year.

Sites will be updated with all new forms in the next few weeks, updated guidelines and forms to make the system easier.

c. USDA-RD - Kerry Crowley

- Working hard to process applications, packagers are the only ones issuing certificates of eligibility. Do have persistent poverty funds, not limited yet.
- 504 grant money has been depleted. Sending letters out explaining to applicants approximately 180 days waiting period.
- Planning on pulling funds in July. Found a little for self-help program for grantees.
- Trying to get more staff on board and interviewing today.
- Two team leads, Kerry and Robin Chapman. Bit of reorganization. Can reach out to Kerry or Robin with questions.

d. Virginia Housing Alliance – Isabel McLain

- Putting together agenda for next assembly based on talking to members.
- General assembly, legislation that passed. Resources on webpage as well.
- Two bills passed that are important for manufactured home residents, improving the Rental Act with VA Tenant Act so the manufactured homeowners have the same rights as tenants. Get paid relocation fees up to 5k if rental agreement is terminated because the park has been sold and the use is changing.
- Tenants that have an eviction case that was dismissed, could appeal to have record expunged, automatic process now rather than having to be requested.
- Bill that passed that increased the Communities of Opportunity Tax Credit program, now a maximum of \$500k in the future.
- Budget wins – 12.5M for housing trust fund more each year, total 87.5M now. The state rental assistance program also had additional funds. 675k to go to COC agencies to help with capacity building, more than had in the past 10 years.
- Two pilot programs funded for one year, home ownership pilot for very low wage families and Revolving Loan fund for home parks for nonprofits to purchase manufactured homes and residents as well.

e. Ballad Collaborative Update –Nicholaus Bormes

Any avenues you would like to pursue, reach out to Nicholaus or Jackie.

Updates to both websites, fahe.org fahemembers.com, would like feedback. Updating member specific information, advocacy information added. Now password protected for security.

CAUCUS TIME

4) **Strength in Numbers - Member Interest/Focus Updates** Travis, Katy

a. ARISE – VITAL Project

- Put in application called Vocational initiative for Thriving Appalachian Leadership. 2 members from 4 of our states that have innovative leadership plans, then go after initiative plan. Starts in September this year, one year planning program to September 2025.

b. Workforce Development

c. Energy Opportunities – GGRF announcements; pending RFP opportunities from national awardees – Appalachian Community Capital – Travis

- Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund – prime recipients right now, negotiations expected to be finished in July, portal for next round down in October. Must have an energy efficiency component. Some incentives could stack nicely with greenhouse gas

- reduction funds.
- DOE was awarded 156M in solar.
- d. PRICE Application – Travis
 - Lincoln Lion Institute asked if Fahe interested in being sub-recipient on their application. CBCD Texas and Neighborhood Housing Services out of CA are also sub-recipients. Eligible for a third of the funds. Still need a couple of support letters. The application window was delayed. HUD 225M for fiscal year 2024 and 10M for fiscal year 2025 because no was able to apply yet, rolled 2025 money into 2024. Replacement only for pre-1994 manufactured housing units.
- e. Research - Katy
 - Data Request - Economic Impact Analysis Project with Daniel Eads, WVU Extension
 - Many members would like data on housing production. If members can provide Katy with 5 years 2018-2023 of production data, single family, new construction, rehab, multi-family, volunteers. Katy will email all the details. Will take info and put into EMPLAN, widely used program, will give you value.
 - Show and Tell Tableau for Members (REED participation!)
 - Not quite ready, have invested in cloud implementation, give something back to the members, collecting new data, turn it into something members can leverage pretty immediately.

5) Advocacy

- a. Jim's Big Challenge
- b. Updates – Maggie – State Impact One-Pager
 - VA Caucus Elevator Pitch – going to work on at Annual Meeting
 - Impacted nearly 30,000 households across our footprint.

We, the VA Fahe Caucus are the premier housing professionals supporting the underserved and often overlooked population of Southwest Virginia by building homes and providing housing related services. Recognizing the connection between homes and health by identifying social determinants of health to build stronger communities.
- c. State Advocacy Coalition – Amaya
 - Legislative Outreach recap – done an initial round of outreach to coalition meetings. Priorities from members: more representation from SW, the unique challenges, funding formulas for grants, value of nonprofits work not being seen, continue to build relationships.
 - Rural Housing subsidy advocacy – Habitat Proposal? Boost housing supply in rural areas in other states. Can make a case with Housing Summit. Grant matching program versus Housing Trust Fund. Habitat was included in final budget for just one year. Down payment assistance for those at 60% AMI and below.
 - Good year to build the momentum and put in the ask in. Serious look at it to meet the needs.
 - Elections and filling vacancies
- d. Federal Updates – working on HOME Proposed Final Rule
 - Code changes 2021 IECC: <https://codes.iccsafe.org/content/IECC2021P2>
 - Reach out to Josh but feel free to CC Maggie or Kylie because Josh is going through Rules head down. Working on content of comment, will have a meeting to reflect on comments. Will make a comment letter members can submit as well.
 - BABA Memo: <https://fahemembers.com/wp-content/uploads/BABA-Memo-14-May-2024.pdf>
 - Greater clarity coming, going through them. If you have follow-up

questions, reach out to Kylie.

- 6) **Caucus Discussion** – Members' suggestions on caucus speakers/presentations Overton McGee, VA HFH, From Gov Housing Conference - VA Energy will be receiving "green" money; broadband Info? Solar Energy Plan in Washington County
- Let Vonda or Jamie know if think of anyone.

7) **Fahe Updates –**

- a. Board Report – December 23 - Board Members Andy Kegley, Jake Powell
- Membership Committee Update (Hope, Vonda)
 - Talked about affiliate partner, someone inviting into our space. Finalized and sent to the board.
 - How does it handle RFPs? Working with Pam Johnson as opportunities are increasing and how it distributes funds through the network.
- b. Membership Updates
- VA Tech Research Project
 - o Did research about if there were ways to make it more energy efficient manufactured housing on the ground, built in factories. They will share the report.
 - Reporting – QE 3-31-24 status Vonda
 - o Not doing well in reporting. 63% across the board. Can add reporting from last period to next period.
 - Membership Info - Training – Jackie Weiss
 - o NTI in August, registration open now, still free rooms available under Fahe umbrella.
 - o Continuing education fills up quickly for recertification.
 - o Another block of online courses that Fahe has purchased for use. September 30th to sign up for classes and 30 more days to finish. No fee, Fahe buys to share.
 - Business Continuity Plans – Status Update – Diedre Kendall, Fahe VISTA
 - o If you haven't reviewed recently, time to review now to see if there are any major changes. If want to work on them, let Diedre know, will be here until the end of August at least.
 - Member Disaster Risk Assessment – Jeremy Cornett Fahe VISTA Status Report
 - o Thank you to everyone who participated. Delivered risk assessment packets, determined point of contact.
- c. Communication Comments – Lina Page
- Lending – Community Lending - Loan Committee report
 - JustChoice Lending – Home Sweet Home, open until funds exhausted
 1. Sade Wells – packets about secondary products, a lot of assistance and financing. Give Sade and Janel a ring if need help, can also come visit to help as well. Sade will be doing outreach and education.
- d. Partners for Rural Transformation – see memo from Sara Ball

Lunch – Open Door Café after meeting

Upcoming Events

- **Aug. 26-30:** NTI Pittsburgh, PA
- **Sept. 9-10-11**– Fahe Annual Meeting, Roanoke, VA
- **Nov.** VA Caucus Meeting – Bristol Housing Redevelopment Authority
- **2024 Virginia Housing Conference** – November 13-15, 2024

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VA Caucus page: <https://www.fahemembers.com/state-caucuses/va-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. 28th
- 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 21st, 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.

Fall Caucus Meeting Advocacy Items

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)

VA Elevator Pitch

Long/Original: If you have seen the news or talked to anyone lately, you know that we have a housing crisis. We are a regional group of Community Based organizations with a proven track record that what we do works. We invested \$280 million in the lives of 16,000 households in the last 5 years. The need is 10 times that and with additional funding and your support, we are ready to make that reach.

Medium: The Fahe VA Caucus is a network of 6 nonprofit community development & housing agencies with deep roots in southwest Virginia. In the last 5 years we've invested over \$280M into 16,000 households: helping to set firm financial foundations and access to safe housing for tens of thousands of Virginians.

Short: I actually think either of the above is solid.

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 2nd District, the MD 6th 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"> • Reduce inflation and mortgage rates • Allow housing construction on some federal lands • Create tax incentives for first-time homebuyers • Overturn unnecessary regulations • Decrease demand for housing by reducing immigration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct 3 million new housing units • Create a tax incentive for building starter homes • Expand LIHTC • Propose a \$40 billion innovation fund for local housing efforts • Overturn unnecessary regulations • 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 • Provide \$25,000 of down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers
<p>Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Republican Party Platform (link) • Vice President Harris Lays Out Agenda to Lower Costs for American Families (link) 	

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).

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

Federal: Joshua Stewart jstewart@fahe.org & Kylie Milliken kmilliken@fahe.org

KY & WV: Andrew Bates abates@fahe.org

AL & VA: Amaya Sizer asizer@fahe.org

Program's	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
Community Development Block Grant	\$6,391,000,000*	\$6,720,000,000*	\$2,900,000,000*	\$3,300,000,000	\$3,300,000,000
HOME Investment Partnership Program	\$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
Rural Capacity Building	\$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
Self-Help Opportunity Program	\$13,500,000	\$12,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$13,000,000
502 Direct Loans	\$1,250,000,000	\$880,000,000	\$1,250,000,000	\$950,000,000	\$1,000,000,000
502 Guaranteed Loans	\$30,000,000,000	\$25,000,000,000	\$30,000,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$25,000,000
504 Repair Grants	\$32,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$30,000,000
504 Repair Loans	\$28,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$28,000,000	\$18,000,000	\$25,000,000
523 Self-Help Housing Grants	\$32,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$32,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$25,000,000
533 Housing Preservation Grants	\$16,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$16,000,000	\$8,000,000	\$10,000,000
Rural Community Development Initiative	\$6,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$5,000,000
Community Development Financial Institution Fund	\$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

* 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
VA	Appalachian Community Action Agency (AppCAA)			
	Our Open Door (Hope Inc)			
	People, Inc.			
	Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project (SERCAP)			
	Bristol Housing Redevelopment Authority (BHRA)			
VA Organizations		5		
Turned in by 7/10		1		20.00%
Turned in by 7/15		4		80.00%
Turned in by 7/25		5		100.00%
Without NWOs				
Total Organizations		47		
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
- 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 for registration information.

Fahe Research

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
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](#).



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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](#).