

Federal Funding Freeze

Advocacy Briefing

January 30, 2025

Amy Riegel, COHHIO Executive Director
 Gina Wilt, COHHIO Advocacy Director
 Lindsay Duvall, NLIHC Senior Housing Advocacy Organizer


Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

1

What Just Happened?

Jan. 20 – Trump signs [executive orders](#) to:

- Increase immigration enforcement in “sensitive” areas
- Deny fair housing and civil rights protections to LGBTQ people
- End all DEI policies across federal agencies, contracts and grants
- Freeze hiring in federal agencies, like HUD, USDA, etc.




Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

2

What Just Happened?

- Jan. 27 – OMB issues memo to freeze federal assistance funding
- Jan. 28 – federal judge temporarily stays OMB order before 5 p.m. deadline
- Jan. 29 – [OMB rescinds freeze order](#)



Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

3

Now what?

- Federal assistance funding should continue flowing
- Federal accounting systems (e-LOCCS) and HUD technical assistance should resume
- Federal agencies review programs to comply with executive orders on DEI, LGBTQ, immigrants, etc.

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

4

Next Steps – Stay Informed

Sign up for:

- COHHIO news and alerts – www.cohhio.org
- Ohio CDC Association – <https://ohiocdc.weblinkconnect.com/atlas/forms/general/10>
- Advocates for Ohio's Future - <https://www.advocatesforohio.org/>
- National Low Income Housing Coalition - <https://nlihc.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe>
- National Alliance to End Homelessness - <https://endhomelessness.org/actions/sign-alliance-advocacy-alerts/>

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

5

Next Steps – Stay Ready

Conduct a needs assessment on the impact of federal funding your agency receives ([NAEH Guidance](#)):

- How many households, people, and units will be impacted
- Type and quantity of services that will be impacted
- Rent and leasing payments that will be due during projected time
- Cost to sustain existing staffing levels

Monitor federal accounting and payment systems – tell COHHIO if you encounter ongoing problems

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

6

Next Steps - Advocacy

Tell Ohio's Congressional members how reduced funding and new regulations will affect the people you serve!

Ohio's New Republican Senators:

- Sen. Bernie Moreno - (202) 224-2315 - <https://www.moreno.senate.gov/>
- Sen. Jon Husted – (202) 224-3353 - <https://www.husted.senate.gov/>

Ohio's Key House Members:

- Rep. Max Miller, R-District 7 (Ways & Means Committee) - (202) 225-3876, <https://maxmiller.house.gov/>
- Rep. Warren Davidson, R-District 8 (Financial Services Committee, Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, Chairman) (202) 225-6205, <https://davidson.house.gov/>
- Rep. Dave Joyce, R-District 14 (Appropriations Committee) - (202) 225-5731, <https://joyce.house.gov/>
- Rep. Joyce Beatty, D-District 3 (Financial Services Committee) - (202) 225-4324, <https://beatty.house.gov/>

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

7

Next Steps - Advocacy

No matter who your House member is, now is the time to reach out!

- Legislative directories: <https://cohhio.org/advocacy/>

For more info, contact

- Advocacy Director Gina Wilt, ginawilt@cohhio.org
- Advocacy and Policy Coordinator, elizabethmartindale@cohhio.org

The screenshot shows a webpage with a dark blue header and a white background. The main content area is divided into several sections. At the top, there's a 'Contact your legislators' section with a form. Below that, there's a 'Who are my state legislators?' section with a list of names and titles. To the right, there's a 'Housing Ohio' section with a 'Donate' button and a 'Need Help?' button. At the bottom, there's a 'COHHIO's 2024 Advocacy Toolkit' section and a 'Sign Up For Advocacy Alerts and COHHIO News' section.

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

8

On the Horizon



- Executive Orders
- Budget Reconciliation
- FY25 + FY26 Budget negotiations
- Potential cuts to housing benefits, diversion of funding from housing first programs, criminalization of homelessness, undermining fair housing
- **Bipartisan housing bills that can make improvements!**

9

Federal Advocacy Strategies



- **Sign-on** to a national letter calling for the highest possible funding in the budget
- **Email, call, or Tweet** at your members of Congress about preserving and expanding funding in the budget
- **Share stories** of those directly impacted by homelessness and housing instability, including how federal programs have helped them
- **Position your organization as a resource** on housing/ homelessness issues in your district
- Invite your Congressional offices to **tour your programs**, meet residents, and see for themselves what their decisions will impact

10

Advocacy is a Long Game



Staunch
Opponent

Opponent

Neutral/
Uninformed

Supporter

Staunch
Supporter

11

Questions?

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

12