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## Housing Trust Gets First Cash Infusion

HUD is set to allocate nearly \$174 million in an initial move to finance the new National Housing Trust Fund. HUD Secretary Julián Castro disclosed the move at the annual meeting of the National Low-Income Housing Coalition meeting in Washington, DC.

The Trust Fund is a new affordable housing production program designed to compliment existing federal, state and local efforts to increase and preserve the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing for extremely low- and very low-income households, including homeless families.

The Fund is capitalized through congressionally mandated contributions by government-sponsored enterprises Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. HUD administers the trust.

HUD expects to make individual allocations to states later this spring and anticipates they can be accessed as early as this summer.

“This is an exciting new tool to help states across the country to produce more critically needed affordable housing,” says Castro. “The National Housing Trust Fund will play an important role in creating new opportunities for those who are most in need to secure a safe, decent and affordable home they can call their own.”

Eight years after it was authorized by the Housing & Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (HERA), the Housing Trust Fund is only now being capitalized through contributions made by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

In December 2014, the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) -- Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac’s regulator -- directed the government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs) to begin setting aside and allocating a share of their profits to the NHTF

In January 2015, HUD issued interim rules to guide states on how to implement their awards.

**Info:** For more about the National Housing Trust Fund, go to [www.cdpublications.com/docs/8806](http://www.cdpublications.com/docs/8806)

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