

# NORTHERN VIRGINIA AFFORDABLE HOUSING ALLIANCE

## ADVOCACY ACTION ALERT

### Fairfax County Housing Activities for August 2020

**E-ffordable.org** We commend the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for redesigning and updating this page. Having information about multiple topics on one page allows advocates to get updates on policy initiatives like the [Preservation Task Force](#) and [Workforce Dwelling Unit Policy Recommendations](#), learn about upcoming meetings, review the [2019 Annual Housing Report](#), and celebrate groundbreaking events [this](#) and [this](#). The new and improved e-ffordable page is a terrific addition to the communications efforts from the department, and we applaud them for this resource!

**Accessory Dwelling Units** Interest in these housing options is growing nationwide. Recently Housing Virginia hosted a webinar [ADUs: The Next \(Little\) Thing in Affordable Housing](#) with a good Q&A section that followed. Additionally, Freddie Mac is following this housing type, and has done a national scan of ADUs. They share their findings in this [report](#). As localities across the country approve greater flexibility in their zoning to allow ADUs, housing advocates must press for the same flexibility to provide these housing options in Fairfax County.

**Update on Rental Assistance and Eviction Response** Attached is an excellent summary analysis on the activities and distribution of CARES Act funding through July 2020 from **Coordinated Services Planning**. Graphs and tables show how these resources are provided for residents in need of rental assistance, food and utility payment assistance. We commend the county for their transparency in sharing how these critical federal funds are being spent.

**Investing in the Stability and Economic Recovery of Northern Virginia A Virtual Community Forum, Thursday, August 13, 5:30 PM - 6:46 PM**, sponsored by **Cornerstones** with Virginia state officials Senator Janet Howell, Senator Jennifer Boysko, Delegate Ken Plum and Delegate Ibraheem Samirah. Registration is required.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_6gZ0XQoaT\\_OX91DpczpbTQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6gZ0XQoaT_OX91DpczpbTQ). Zoom webinar log-in information will be emailed to registered participants. Cornerstones is encouraging participants to take a [brief survey](#) about their advocacy interests and what they'd like the State officials to address at the Forum.

**Virginia General Assembly Special Session August 18** The Virginia Housing Alliance is organizing advocates across the Commonwealth to urge GA members to protect the gains secured for the Housing Trust Fund and Permanent Supportive Housing in the pre-COVID

approved biennium budget. Governor Northam will discuss eviction protections during the special session in the absence of any action by the Virginia Supreme Court [as of this writing] to extend the moratorium. **The Virginia Legislative Black Caucus** has included protections related to housing and evictions and rent relief for COVID-impacted residents in their [Special Session Priorities](#).

**NVAHA 2020 Regional Housing Leaders Awards Ceremony and 15th Anniversary Celebration Thursday, September 17, 5:00 - 6:00 PM, online.** [Registration is now open](#) and is free, so we hope you'll join us to toast our awardees and celebrate 15 years of working together to provide housing opportunities for low and moderate income households in Northern Virginia. NVAHA is expanding its footprint and our staff. COVID-19 and systemic injustices against Black and Brown residents have caused us to refocus our mission and our core beliefs. Please review our revised [Mission and Vision Statements and our Core Beliefs](#) on our website.