

The National AIDS Housing Coalition

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NATIONAL AIDS HOUSING COALITION AWARDED MACARTHUR FOUNDATION GRANT FOR STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES PROJECT

Washington, DC (June 18, 2009). The National AIDS Housing Coalition (NAHC) has been awarded a \$200,000 grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to support a national project to maximize the policy impact and cost-effectiveness of housing as a health care intervention for homeless and unstably housed persons with HIV and other chronic health conditions.

Through the *Strengthening Communities* project, NAHC will use knowledge transfer and evidence-based skills building strategies to mine the data from the Housing and HIV/AIDS Research Summit Series and translate findings into policy tools and strategies that can be used to engage decision makers in making housing a component of healthcare. During the one year term of the grant, NAHC will conduct four regional meetings of local AIDS housing and service providers, housing and health departments, consumers and other interested constituencies to discuss the research and its implications for local application as well as a series of Congressional and agency briefings to bring research findings directly to housing and health policy makers.

"This grant will enable NAHC to widely disseminate to communities across the country the critically important research demonstrating housing's role in improved individual and community health outcomes and confirming it as an effective and cost-saving healthcare intervention," said NAHC Executive Director Nancy Bernstine. The project will engage housing and health providers, national, state and local policymakers and legislators and community leaders and organizational advocates in a data-driven HIV/AIDS policy agenda through synthesis and dissemination of existing research, fostering new research and policy collaborations on a federal, regional, state and local level, deploying tools and strategies to inform health and housing policy, program development and ongoing research.

For additional information on the Strengthening Communities project contact the National AIDS Housing Coalition or visit www.nationalaidshousing.org

About the MacArthur Foundation

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people and effective institutions committed to building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. In addition to selecting the MacArthur Fellows, the Foundation works to defend human rights, advance global conservation and security, make cities better places, and understand how technology is affecting children and society. MacArthur's grant-making in migration and human mobility seeks to improve the governance of international migration and supports research about the relationship between migration and economic development. More information is available at www.macfound.org.

The National AIDS Housing Coalition is a national non-profit housing organization that works to advance the creation, development, management and growth of housing for persons living with HIV/AIDS in our communities.