

**May 16, 2025 CONTACT:** Kristine Morgan | (559) 417-0504 | [kmorgan@fresnohousing.org](mailto:kmorgan@fresnohousing.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Proposed Federal Budget Puts Thousands of Fresno County Residents at Risk of Losing Their Homes**

Fresno, CA – Fresno Housing held a press conference today at Parc Grove Commons to raise the alarm on the devastating consequences of the President’s proposed federal budget which includes deep cuts to housing assistance programs. The “Skinny Budget” threatens to eliminate access to safe and stable housing for thousands of low-income families across Fresno County. If adopted, the proposed cuts would slash nearly half of the housing vouchers administered by Fresno Housing, destabilize the local rental market, and cripple future development of affordable housing in both rural and urban areas.

More than 11,000 Fresno County households currently rely on housing vouchers (Section 8) to stay housed. The proposed budget would eliminate support for thousands of these families—many of whom are seniors, people with disabilities, working parents, and veterans. The immediate result? A dramatic rise in homelessness, increased pressure on emergency services, and an erosion of the stability that families depend on.

*“The scale and speed of these proposed cuts are unlike anything we’ve seen,” said Tyrone Roderick Williams, CEO of Fresno Housing. “They don’t just reduce housing assistance—they pull the rug out from under families, small landlords, developers, and local governments all at once.”*

### **Impacts to Housing, the Economy, and Local Communities**

Housing assistance is more than a benefit to individual families—it is a driver of local economic activity. In Fresno County, housing vouchers inject approximately \$12 million each month into the local economy through payments to landlords—many of whom rely on this income.

#### **Why It Matters:**

- 5,500+ families could be forced into homelessness
- 15,000+ people would lose housing stability
- \$72 million/year in rental payments to local landlords would vanish
- Critical developments in underserved areas could be halted

#### **Key programs proposed for reduction or elimination include:**

Housing Choice Vouchers (Section 8):

Cuts to this program would be catastrophic. More than 5,500 households—representing over 15,000 adults and children—would lose access to stable housing. These families would face immediate displacement, compounding local homelessness and economic instability. The proposed cuts would also directly impact over 1,300 local landlords who currently participate in the program. Fresno County would lose more than \$72 million annually in rental payments—money that now supports the local housing market and economy.

#### HOME and CDBG Programs:

These programs enable local governments and non-profits to build, preserve, and improve affordable housing. Reductions would halt in-progress developments, delay urgent rehabilitation work, and disproportionately affect low-income and historically disinvested neighborhoods already lacking safe, affordable options.

#### Continuum of Care (CoC):

A proposed 12% funding reduction would scale back critical services for people experiencing homelessness, including outreach teams, shelter access, and housing stabilization supports—undermining long-term solutions and increasing street homelessness.

#### Self-Sufficiency Programs:

Eliminating these programs would sever vital supports that help families improve their income, pursue education, and reduce long-term dependence on assistance. These are the very tools that move families toward independence.

#### Time-Limited Assistance:

Imposing a two-year cap on rental support fails to reflect economic reality. Data consistently shows that most families require 5 to 10 years of stable housing to pursue education, build job skills, and achieve self-sufficiency. This proposal could force families back into crisis before they're ready.

These cuts would affect not only residents and housing providers, but also **schools, healthcare systems, workforce programs, and city and county governments** that depend on housing stability to deliver effective services.

For more information, visit: [fresnohousing.org/advocacy](https://fresnohousing.org/advocacy)

Source: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Fiscal-Year-2026-Discretionary-Budget-Request.pdf>

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