

Hello everyone and thank you for joining us today for the Keep Families Together, campaign launch webinar. My name is Esther Reyes and I am the Movement Building Director with the Protecting Immigrant Families Coalition.

We are grateful that you are joining us today as we continue to push back together on the Trump administration's relentless and cruel attacks on families.

Before we continue, we do want to take a moment to acknowledge that this is a very difficult time in the immigrant rights and labor movements and for the greater movement fighting for dignity and justice in all spaces and for all people, and it has been especially difficult and for a long time for individuals and families impacted by the evidence published yesterday by the New York Times on sexual violence and abuse of women and children. We stand in solidarity with the survivors.

Thank you again for joining us. Next slide, please.

Trump's US Department of Housing and Urban Development, also known as HUD, has proposed a new rule that would evict families from their homes.

All of us have freedom to live where we want and to take care of our family without fear of being evicted. Endangering immigrants through eviction, homelessness or disappearance goes against our values, led by the National Housing Law Project and the Protecting Immigrant Families Coalition, the Keep Families Together campaign is fighting back to protect immigrants and tenants and to keep us all stably housed.

Today's webinar is about mobilizing in opposition to the proposed changes. They tried to do this during the first Trump administration, and we fought back, and we are fighting back again and we need everyone here to use their voice in opposition to these changes.

So our speakers today will include Sonia Acosta with the Center for Budget Policy and Priorities, Renee Williams with the National Low Income Housing Coalition, Marie Claire Tran-Leung with the National Housing Law Project, and yours truly.

And here's our plan for today. First, we will review give an overview of mixed status families - who they are and what HUD wants to do. And also, what their rights are right now.

We'll go then into our new the new verification requirements that are being proposed. Then we'll spend a good chunk of our time on the comment campaign and how you can get involved. And we'll leave some time for questions and answers.

Just a couple of housekeeping items. This webinar is being recorded, and both the recording and the slides will be sent to everyone who registered.

Also, you can use the Q and A function to ask questions throughout the webinar. We'll be answering those through that function and also answering some live during our question-and-answer session at the end.

So thank you again for joining us, and I'm going to hand it over now to Marie Claire.

Thanks Esther, and thanks everyone for joining us here today. I'm going to spend a couple minutes here talking about mixed status families and who are receiving HUD assistance in the HUD housing programs. And I want to start first with the first question of who can receive HUD housing subsidies, and so in general, folks who are eligible for HUD assistance are U.S. citizens and nationals, as well as non-citizens with eligible immigration status.

And the thing to remember here is that contrary to what the administration has said folks ineligible for housing subsidies is not the same as being undocumented.

And the circles on the right of the slide are kind of a visual to show that there are a whole host of legal immigration statuses, for which a person may not be eligible to receive HUD subsidies. So some of the examples that we have here are people who are who have temporary work visas, people who have temporary protected status, DACA recipients, and visa holders who are survivors of serious crimes.

The universe of eligible immigration statuses is quite limited, and so just again to remind folks that being ineligible for HUD housing subsidies is not the same thing as being undocumented.

So the next question is who can live in HUD subsidized housing, and the answer to that is mixed status families.

A family is eligible to live in HUD subsidized housing as long as at least one or more of their family member family members are either a US citizen, or a non-citizen with eligible immigration status.

So, what we talked about in the prior slide.

Other family members have the right not to contend eligibility. And that is kind of a mouthful, but it's important to know, because it is a third option. The family member doesn't say that they're eligible, but they also don't say that they're ineligible. In other words, they exercise this third option of not contending eligibility. And the reason why this is important is because, number one, these family members don't receive any HUD subsidies.

They also, because they're not applying for HUD subsidies, do not have to share their immigration status with their housing providers or with HUD, and right now in this climate of aggressive immigration enforcement, it's really important for those family members to know that they do not have to share their immigration status with housing providers or with HUD.

So you have eligible family members, and then you also have family members who do not contend eligibility, and together, that creates a mixed status family and mixed status families under federal law have the right to live together in in HUD assisted housing.

These families receive prorated rental assistance. That's partial rental assistance that only covers the eligible family members, and the family pays the rest of the rent themselves.

Again, this is important, because these families receive a smaller subsidy from HUD, and they pay more money into the programs, public housing authorities and owners are able to use this increased funding and this increased source of money to help distribute more vouchers to more families, to help pay for repairs for other units, and to help cover expenses of providing housing.

So again, just to make the point very clear, because right now we have a lot of misinformation that is coming from the administration: mixed status families pay more, and in doing so they make housing more housing available for everyone.

And I'll turn things over to Sonia to talk about some characteristics of mixed status families right now.

Thanks Marie Claire, so now that we've talked a little bit about the current law, I'm going to talk about who this rule would impact. Starting with the programs that this rule covers, so it covers the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, public housing and Section 8 project based rental assistance, which are the three largest federal rental assistance programs, and they provide assistance to more than 4 million households. Here on the slide is a breakdown by program of how many households receive assistance.

The rule would not cover other programs such as section 202, section 811, or maybe rental assistance received through a continuum of care homelessness assistance program. And it's important context that the overwhelming majority of people who receive assistance through these three programs, 96% of people, are US citizens.

So these programs already overwhelmingly assist US Citizens.

You can go to the next slide - thinking specifically about mixed status families, there are 80,000 people and 20,000 mixed status families, and enter this proposed rule, they would face eviction.

37,000 of the people in these households are children. So that's almost half, and that is much higher than what we see, generally in these programs. About 56% are women and girls. The majority are people of color, including 80 - 60%, who are Latina.

Again, the majority of these folks in these households are US citizens, and then there are also 3,000 older adults, and about 5,000 people with disabilities who are part of these families.

Typical mixed status household is a family of four with two adult children, and if three of those family members are US citizens and are therefore eligible for rental assistance, that non-eligible person would contend that they're not eligible like Marie Claire talked about, and then that family would receive three quarters of a full subsidy.

So say, based on their income a subsidy would be \$100, just to make it very easy. Instead of receiving that full \$100 subsidy they're only going to receive \$75, and they'll pay \$25 more in rent, which again can help more families and help the owners and housing agencies maintain properties.

We go to the next slide. The majority of these mixed status families live in three states: California, Texas and New York. Over 7,000 mixed status families live in California, over 4,000 in Texas, and over 2,000 in New York, and there are over 500 mixed status families in Oregon, Washington, and Massachusetts.

My colleague and I did an analysis of who mixed families are and where they live, and we have state level data in a paper - we will make sure to share that link with you all so that you can see exactly, kind of, who would be impacted under this rule in your state.

So that's kind of who is being impacted. And what this rule specifically is proposing is to require that every person in the household receives assistance is a US citizen or an immigrant with eligible status, and so they would no longer be able to not contend eligibility.

Families would no longer be able to receive prorated assistance, and so they would force these 20,000 families to make it an impossible decision of whether they stay together as a family to continue to receive their subsidy that helps them pay the rent every month; or if they separate, so that they can continue to receive that subsidy; or if they lose it and potentially risk homelessness, because again, they're relying on that subsidy to pay their rent every month.

One major part of the rule is, again, HUD is requiring that everyone in the family be a US citizen or an eligible immigrant, and if someone is not, then no one in the family can receive assistance.

And I'm going to turn it over to my colleague, Renee to talk a little bit about these other pieces of rule.

Thank you so much, Sonia, and we can go to the next slide. So Sonya talked a little bit about the impacts on mixed status families. One important point to underscore about this proposed rule is that the harms of this rule would extend beyond mixed status families. The verification requirements, which I'll talk a little bit about, if finalized, would impact HUD families across the board.

So currently, in order to receive HUD housing assistance, applicants have already verified citizenship and immigration status, including signing declarations under penalty of perjury.

So, what HUD's changing, as the slide says, is that HUD wants everyone to verify their status *again*. HUD's changes will try to achieve this by imposing higher burdens on both US citizens and older, non-eligible non-citizens.

So under HUD's proposal, US citizens would have to sign a consent form allowing HUD assisted housing providers to run their information through what is known as the DHS SAVE System. HUD is characterizing this as, you know, not a big deal that folks will have to sign this consent form.

But if you dig a little bit deeper, it actually is a big deal, because what you need to know about the SAVE System is that there are serious reliability and accuracy concerns with the system. And as the slide says here, you know it's not a system that's necessarily ready for prime time - that exact expression was in fact used in a ProPublica article about the SAVE System.

So obviously this is very concerning when the stakes are so high, when housing stability is on the line - and that leads to the next proposed change. So right now, you sign a consent form. If you're a US citizen, your information runs through SAVE - what happens if there's a problem?

If there's an issue with the SAVE Verification, then the US citizen would have to provide proof of citizenship, such as by a birth certificate, or a passport, and as we know not everyone has easy access to these types of documents - and research actually backs this up.

For example, a Brennan Center for Justice estimate found that over 21 million adult US citizens do not have this type of documentation readily available to them.

So getting documentation like a passport or birth certificate, as folks know, costs time, it costs money, and also US citizens of color are less likely to have immediate access to these types of documents.

These changes are also going to create burdens on already stretched thin housing providers. HUD recently demanded that housing providers use what's known as an EIV SAVE report to recheck existing tenant files, and that process has been incredibly burdensome on housing providers. We would expect that implementing what the proposed rule is seeking to do, in terms of documentation and verification

requirements, would similarly strain housing providers who are increasingly being asked to do more with less.

And then for our older non-citizen neighbors, who are 62 and older, HUD wants to make them produce proof of eligible immigration status, which is a marked departure from current rules where older non-citizens who are eligible have to sign a declaration and also provide for only proof of age.

And again, if they can't access these documents under the rule changes, then their housing would be at risk. So in short, the takeaway here is that the proposed rule harms HUD families across the board, not just mixed status families

And with that I'm going to turn it over to Esther, who's going to talk about the campaign.

Thank you so much.

So let's get into how we are responding. In 2019, during the first Trump administration. The Keep Families Together Campaign fought a nearly identical proposal to kick mix status families out of HUD housing, and to impose new verification requirements on citizens and older non-citizens.

We fought back, with over 30,000, comments, and the proposal stalled before it could ever be finalized.

A broad coalition of stakeholders like you can see on the screen came together to oppose the goal - and this time, time may not be on our side, but our efforts, and specifically our comments, are still very important. Next slide.

So why are comments important? When a comment on a proposed rule is submitted, they go into what is called an administrative record. Administrative agencies must then review comments and base their final rules or regulations on that record. If HUD, in this instance, publishes a harmful rule in spite of the comments that were submitted, and does not address those comments, then the record helps support potential legal challenges in the future.

Comments also help tell the story for the public, and this is especially important given the lies that the administration wants the public to believe. And finally, comments are important because every voice matters. This is our chance to tell the

government that this isn't right and that we are opposed to this. So let's review some of the resources that we have prepared for you to help with comments. Next slide, please.

I will just briefly go over these and then pass it back to Renee to go into a little bit more depth. But we have three ways for you to raise your voice with comments.

First is, we have developed a comment template for organizations that we will go into a little bit further in a minute.

We also have an individual comment guide where individuals can submit their own comments on behalf of themselves, to highlight their own experiences and evidence of how these changes would affect them.

And finally, for organizations, who may not have a capacity to write their own comments, we do have a sign on comment and more sign on comments are forthcoming. But we do have a sign on comment by the Protecting Immigrant Families Coalition that is linked in this slide and that we will share the link to here in the chat in a second as well.

So these are three opportunities for folks to raise their voice. And now I'm going to pass it back to Renee to go into the comment template, and the individual comments, a little further.

Thanks, Esther. So as Esther teed up, there are plenty of resources that the Keep Families Together campaign has assembled to assist folks with submitting comments. So the first of these is a commenting template for organizations.

This is a very large template, and, as I like to talk about commenting templates, I like to see them as the raw materials and a starting point for folks who are in organizations to submit their comments.

Perhaps the most important point about comments is that unique comments and comments that provide data specifics are by far the most helpful.

And so taking the raw material of this organizational commenting template, which is quite long, by the way, so don't get intimidated really - the idea is for folks who are drafting comments on behalf of organizations to take what they need, discard things

that don't, really speak to the concerns of a particular organization, and if there's a topic, address that's outside of your organization's purview, take it out.

What these comments are really trying to accomplish, and what is most valuable, is for organizations to speak from their own voice, their own perspective, and really highlight why the communities that you serve would be harmed by this particular rule. The commenting template provides structure and weaves in some really helpful information from HUD's regulatory impact analysis. And really what the impact analysis is, is HUD's discussion of what it sees as the costs and benefits of the proposal.

And bring other organizations into this fight. If you see a section in the organizational template that you want to develop more and create your own kind of mini template, that's wonderful. The idea really is to get as many organizations and perspectives involved in this effort as possible.

And again, unique comments, comments from your organization's perspective, data, and specifics, those are all the makings of a really helpful and tactical comment.

Next slide, please.

And for those who are individuals who want to comment, or even if you're in an organization that is submitting their own comments, anyone who's a member of the public can comment. There are a couple of resources on the slide, and as has been mentioned, the slides will be provided so you can access those links.

One is on the Keep Families Together website, specifically. And if you go to the website, as you see on the slide, it walks you through the process of submitting comments to HUD, and actually provides some prompts and information based on the types of issues that you might as an individual might be concerned about, whether it's housing, seniors, children, etc.

So there's some really helpful information there, and then there's also a portal by the Alliance for Housing Justice that will submit your comments for you. So, when the webinar is over, we definitely encourage folks to take a look at the options and figure out which commenting method works best for them.

And with that, I'll turn it back to Marie Claire who's going to talk about some of the arguments in terms of comments.

Thanks Renee - and just wanted to flag we have a lot of great questions coming up in the chat or in the Q & A, so please keep bringing them in and we will try to answer as many as we can, but the questions are super helpful for us to hear.

So, just to talk a little bit about some of the arguments that people can address in their comments. You know, I think first and foremost, the rule really harms mixed status families and their communities, and we think it's really important to be able to talk about the different ways it'll harm many different type of people.

So one is, HUD is really trying to force families to either separate or in most instances to face eviction, or homelessness for these families. Many of these families, I think, as we've talked about already, include children who are US citizens, so the children cannot necessarily stay in the household themselves. This will cause harm to those families, both in the short term and potentially in the long term. And we think of harm in a lot of ways: in terms of schooling, in terms of health, it impacts the children and adults in many different ways.

The second thing to note here is that the rule really unfairly punishes US citizen children who would otherwise be eligible to receive assistance, just because of who is in their family. And this strikes us as very unfair and against sort of the values that we hold in our communities.

And then lastly the harm is not just limited to mixed status families, but also to the communities that they live in. So for example, if you are a resident, a HUD resident, and your neighbors include mixed status families, being able to talk about how the loss of those folks, and those neighbors from your communities, is something that's really important for HUD to hear.

It's important to articulate that for HUD, in your own words - and it can be you know as short as a couple sentences, or even longer with research and studies, depending on where you're at.

The second thing to note is that HUD's proposal really worsens the housing crisis for everyone. And this is this is much broader than the mixed status families. And the reason why we really think it's important to discuss this is that, with every with every

proposal that HUD releases, it's supposed to do an analysis. It's called a regulatory impact analysis.

For the mixed status families rule, HUD also did a regulatory impact analysis, and in that analysis, HUD admits that kicking out mixed status families will ultimately reduce the overall number of HUD assisted housing units.

So, you know, we've heard the idea that removing mixed status families will somehow create more housing for people, but HUD's own analysis shows that this is not the case.

And again, the reason why is because mixed status families pay more, they receive less of a subsidy, and if these families were removed from housing, public housing authorities and other housing providers would have to make up for the financial gap. And the way they would do that is by issuing fewer vouchers or letting some units sit vacant. This is something, again, that HUD has put in its own analysis of the rule and I think it's really important to highlight both that folks don't support the harm to mixed status families, but also don't support the reduction of units in the middle of a very dire housing crisis that this country is in.

The other thing to note here is that public housing authorities and other housing providers will have to bear significant administrative costs to comply with this rule, and this is something that housing providers have been very vocal about.

And then in terms of values, public housing authorities and housing providers want to be able to focus on providing housing. They do not want to be enforcers of immigration law. And so being able to articulate that from a housing provider point of view is really important to hear for HUD, and then the other important constituencies here are state and local governments, who will have to bear the cost of increased homelessness that will likely come about because of the removal of mixed status families from HUD housing.

So all of this together is pulling resources away from providing affordable housing, and towards something else that really doesn't help people become housed at this moment.

And then the last, the last note, I think, for folks to kind of touch upon in their comments, is that the proposal really threatens the housing of all residents, and this

is through the citizen verification requirement that Renee detailed for us really well earlier.

Number one, there is not enough from either HUD or DHS about the reliability of the SAVE Program, and we have seen it in the voting context and know that the flawed verification process will mistake citizens for non-citizens, which will cost both HUD residents and housing providers time and money to correct these problems. This really expands the scope and the breadth of the issue well beyond mixed status families and to all citizens who are living in HUD housing as well.

That's an issue of accuracy. The other issue is really around privacy. The new verification process will require public housing authorities to share information about citizens with Department of Homeland Security, unnecessarily. And that raises significant privacy concerns that that folks can talk about in their comments as well.

We're especially trying to hear from HUD residents directly, and housing providers directly, about what the harms of some of these issues are.

So with that, we have such a great turnout of folks today. We've talked about different ways to get involved with the comments, and we'd really love to sort of get a sense from folks of whether you will join us in this work and help to submit a comment by April 21.

So maybe we can launch the poll and have people answer the question, and just noting, of course, you know, I think what we want to do is provide support where we can and allow people to kind of weigh in on whether they'll be able to submit comments, organize others for comments, and whether there's any way that we can provide some support in this work.

So okay, so we'll take a minute or so here and again, you know, I think we really just kind of want to take a temperature check of where folks are, also recognizing that at this moment, the administration is flooding the zone on a lot of different areas. So we are seeing that in the housing sphere, we're also seeing that in the immigration context, and want to just provide as much support as possible for folks.

So folks want to maybe take another 20 seconds to fill out the poll then and then we can share the results with everyone.

Okay, so as those come in, just wanted to reiterate again, we really want to provide as much support as possible and meet folks where they are. If you are an organization that wants to provide a detailed comment, we're happy to support an organizational comment.

But there's also a lot of ways, I think, that people can join and submit comments individually, and even, you know, a few, a couple paragraphs, that really talk through different reasons why the rule is a problem for mixed status families and for HUD residents can be very helpful.

I think we can close the poll.

Okay. So this is great. We have a lot of people here today, and as you can see about a third plan to submit on their own behalf. A third on behalf of their organization. A number of folks are going to sign on through a sign on comment, which is amazing to bring in a lot of different organizations.

We also have the people, folks who are right on top of things to submit their have already submitted their own comment, and for those who are unsure, we are happy to sort of provide more resources and to help folks, and really want to encourage folks to get involved and get more comments into HUD.

So thanks for that. And I'll turn things over to Esther.

Thank you, Marie Claire, for all of that great information about the arguments. Thanks to all of our speakers.

We have more ways for you all to get involved. In addition to writing comments, there's a lot that we can do to be educating our communities about what the proposed changes are and really providing accurate information to folks. We have a couple of resources in English and Spanish and possibly in other languages as well.

And you know, what we really want communities to know is that, as of right now, the law has not changed. Mixed status families do not need to move out, and so we have an educational resource by the Protecting Immigrant Families Coalition that is linked in the slide and will also be sent in the chat.

You can use this in speaking with the community, answering questions, and also encouraging them to raise their voice and submit a comment as well. And we also

have a Know Your Rights document. We want to make sure that people know what their rights are when they are being asked, potentially, to share information about their status and so we encourage you to use those two resources in your outreach to communities about this proposal.

So we also have a toolkit available if you go to nhlp.org/kftkit, a link which I'll share, you can find a variety of resources about this proposal and how people it is in both English and Spanish. There are email templates that you can use and send out from your organization. There are social media copy templates for different social posting platforms and a variety of different subject matters. For instance, there's a know your rights, there's one on general information, there's a couple on how to take action. So again, I'll be sharing that in comment section shortly, but please feel free to use any and all of these.

I think the last slide we'll have here on how to get involved is really how to organize others. We have a lot of great partners that are working to get the comments.

One idea is to host comment parties. It's really nice to be able to bring together a lot of people on the Zoom, but we have partners at an organization called POWER: People Organized for West Side Renewal based where I am, in Los Angeles, who have been doing a lot of outreach and organizing throughout Los Angeles to try to get people to sort of come together and work on comments together.

The National Low Income Housing Coalition had its policy forum last week and set up a table to bring people together. So I think those opportunities to bring people together in person are really important. And so if you have an opportunity coming up between now and April 21 to bring together and educate them about the about the role and what to do, I think that that's a really good opportunity. The other thing that we really encourage folks to do is to organize HUD residents.

We have a lot of resident leaders who lead tenant organizations that could bring together their members. We have worked with the Massachusetts Union of Public Housing Tenants that did a really great convening of folks a couple weeks ago. They brought together tenants from across the state, and provided services and translations in four different languages simultaneously, in Spanish, Haitian, and Cantonese to bring together all of the different immigrant communities that are represented in their constituency.

And I think there's a great opportunity for HUD residents to come together and support neighbors who are mixed status families, and to fight back against some of the ways that the administration is trying to destroy the federal housing programs right now.

Another ally is public housing authorities and HUD housing providers. We have heard from a lot of folks in those spaces, universally, that they are not in support of this rule and all of the burdens that will impose, and so to the extent that your housing provider and can be a public champion against this rule, or if you're an advocate who can work with their housing provider to provide more information to oppose the rule, that would go a long way.

And then state and local officials are also extremely important, and there's a couple of ways that state local officials can get involved. One is submitting comments and providing really detailed information about the harm that this will impose onto your constituents, as well as the government, but also taking very public action. So again, POWER LA really organized and fought for resolutions to be passed in the city of Los Angeles, as well as are working on a similar resolution on the county level.

And we have in very we know of other cities and localities that are also trying to consider very public ways to come out against the rule. And so with housing so much on the mind of local government, being able to take a stand publicly I think is a really important step.

So these are just some of the ways to get involved. And if there are others that folks are working on, we'd love for you to be able to share that in the Q & A or with us, and we'd love to be able to highlight it.

But the great thing about this campaign is that we've been working at a high level to get organizations out, but there's a lot of grassroots organizing that is happening at the local level as well.

Thanks again, Marie Claire and Cameron, for sharing more information about how to get involved, and thanks to everyone here for your patience, because we have shared a lot of information, and we do have some time for some questions and answers. A lot of the questions that you all have put in the chat have been answered. But we're also going to bring a few of them to be answered live. And so I'll just be

asking just our panelists, and anyone prepared to answer questions - I'm going to bring a couple of them, a few of them to be answered live.

I'm going to start with a question here about domestic survivors of domestic violence. There are, I believe, three questions about it. The first two kind of go together, and then there's a request to expand more. So we'll start first with the question, "Does this new rule affect victims of domestic violence using housing assistance?" And a related question, "What if the rent is being paid through a service provider like a shelter or a nonprofit for a survivor of domestic violence?"

I can take the first part and just talk very generally about the issue of survivors. I think this is a really important population to highlight in terms of comments. Because, you know, personally, I do think that a lot of the harm to survivors, writ large, not just immigrant survivors, would be in the context of the documentation requirements.

Folks who work with survivors know that a lot of times, part of the power and control dynamic that perpetrators do is the lack access to documents for survivors, including immigration documents, and they prevent survivors from being able to access those types of documents.

So I do think that to the extent that, for example, you know the documentation requirements are going to require someone to come up with something like a birth certificate or passport, and a perpetrator has essentially blocked access to those documents, that could serve a concern under this rule. But Marie Claire, I don't know if you wanted to add anything about any of the specifics, but that was one thing that came to mind for me.

Yeah. And one thing I did want to note is that our partners at the Alliance for immigrant survivors actually had a webinar earlier this week that was specifically targeted towards the analyzing the mixed status rule from the perspective of survivors of gender-based violence. So they have also put together a common template specific for this population. So, we can definitely make that available for folks. I think there's just a lot of significant concern about the importance of housing and housing stability for this population.

I know that there is a question, a specific question, about an opinion that came out earlier this year from the Department of Justice, and I think just in the interest of time, I would love to connect with folks directly about that.

Thank you so much.

Okay, we have another question. Here, we have several questions, one around advocacy and agencies that might receive federal funding. The question is, "What can we say to agencies that receive federal funding to encourage them to sign off on or write a comment, there's a lot of fear about funding, so any suggestions would be appreciated."

So I would say, I mean number one, about fear funding, often what we do, at least what the National Housing Law Project does in those situations, is try to organize comments on behalf of others who may feel less willing to put their name out there but who have a lot of stories to share.

And so if you are working with organizations, whether they be nonprofits or housing providers, that are less likely to put their name out for some out for something. I think it's a great opportunity to organize and try to collect those stories and another out there can submit a comment and collect stories from others.

And I think what is most important is that the real detail against the stories of how this is harming housing providers and tenants is most important and how it gets on the record, I think, is a little bit less, less important.

Thank you, Claire, we also have a question about what the rule is already doing, and the things that people are being asked to do agencies across the country: A Housing Authority has already sent out letters to HUD residents, and he's currently trying to sort out citizenship, so you can have any resources that we give you to clarify the current status of the law, and education about who are authorized immigrants so that they can correct their letters?

I can start this, and then maybe folks can chime in, but I know that, as folks have mentioned before, HUD has already asked for from organizations or public housing authorities, is, in particular, citizenship and immigration status. They did this a couple of weeks before they released the mixed status rule, and we and the National Housing Law Project have been investigating, so we would very much welcome

some individual outreach on this as well, because we'd like to hear how this is impacting people.

I think the thing is that a lot of the housing authorities want to push back on this initiative, and they have practical and legal reasons why this goes against the state of our law.

Thank you. Very clear, and just a note to everybody that we have dropped links in the chat for the comment template for that's aimed for organizations or individuals working with survivors of domestic violence, as well as a link to resources to use if they're working with survivors of domestic violence.

We have a couple of more minutes and a few more questions. The question about the right to counsel jurisdictions - folks who are right to counsel jurisdictions can speak very well to the impacts of eviction, long term and short term, that will harm immigrant families. I think right to counsel came about because of strong coalitions. And so if you are able to leverage your coalition and support.

Just another thing in terms of attorneys eviction attorneys who work with residents, who may be evicted for, you know, failure to recertify, or other types of processes where tenants and residents can fall through the cracks. You know, trying to articulate why requirements on residents could end up in eviction or risking their housing security. I think is also helpful for attorneys to have clients who oftentimes end up in eviction court or do defending eviction. That might be another angle, or to speak to how hard some of these documentation pieces, whether it's a passport or certificate, are to get.

Okay, thank you. So we have just a couple more, I think, one more slide to show with additional resources for all of you to access, and specifically if you have questions about the comment or need feedback, we do invite you to participate in an upcoming office hours, hosted by the National Law Income Housing Coalition, next Monday at 3pm EST. And we've also linked on the slides number of websites and resources that you can access as well. And as a reminder, this presentation and this webinar is being recorded, and we will be sending the recording as well as the slides and resources to every person who registered .

And in these last couple of or last minute that we have. And do we have any closing statements from our panelists and speakers?

Just want to emphasize the importance of submitting these comments, you know, there were a few questions that we answered kind of about, how do we persuade them? And those are all very valid, but this comment push is part of a broader strategy. And the fact that they won't respond to these comments is actually helpful for the future.