

National Community Development Week is April 17-22, 2017; Plan an Activity

National Community Development Week was started by NCDCA and the U.S. Conference of Mayors over 30 years ago to promote the importance of CDBG in our communities.

In 2017, National Community Development Week will be held on April 17-22. This is a critical time for appropriations; work on the upcoming FY 2018 should be in the initial stages and it is possible that final decisions on FY 2017 will still need to be made. Over 11 percent of Congress will be new to Washington and it is likely that many appropriations committee members will be new, so it is imperative that you make a tangible link between the work funded through CDBG and improvements to your community.

Additionally, the White House and some HUD officials are likely to have never worked on housing and community development issues. Promoting the program as an integral part of HUD's mission will be critical to its long-term preservation in this new Administration. Highlighting CDBG could also boost the program if President Trump is planning to propose a large-scale infrastructure investment package.

National Community Development Week provides a perfect forum to cement the importance of CDBG in the minds of those in Washington. Projects can be showcased in a variety of ways depending on your capacity; even simple activities like writing a letter to your local newspaper and your lawmakers describing your project and the role CDBG played in making it happen can make a huge difference. Combined with the voices of your colleagues across the country, this could be one of the most impactful National Community Development Weeks to date.

It's up to you to help NCDCA preserve CDBG - do your part by participating in National Community Development Week in 2017. Please contact Vicki Watson at vwatson@ncdaonline.org for questions or assistance related to National Community Development Week.