



April 12, 2021

Secretary Marcia Fudge  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Fudge,

On behalf of our board of directors and members, we extend our congratulations to you on your recent appointment. We welcome your leadership at Housing and Urban Development and look forward to partnering on initiatives responsive to community and housing needs.

COSCDA is a national association representing state agencies in community development, disaster recovery, housing, and homelessness assistance. Our membership consists of state administrators serving primarily small and rural communities. State agencies include the Ohio Development Services Agency which manage and direct HUD resources – Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships, Housing Trust Fund, and Emergency Solutions Grant programs. CDBG-Disaster Recovery grantees also participate extensively in COSCDA activities.

Our goal is to aid states on key priorities in program administration through advocacy, training, and collaboration. COSCDA's [advocacy priorities](#) present the association's annual goals on appropriations, HUD regulations, and legislative policy. The association also hosts several trainings during the year featuring both introductory guidance and advanced levels of instruction. Additionally, membership engages through peer-to-peer meetings and special presentations on relevant housing and community development topics.

As you begin your tenure at HUD, we are available to contribute to agency priorities aiding vulnerable populations and underserved communities. We have a longstanding relationship with the Office of Community Planning and Development and hope to collaborate around key issues such as infrastructure, resiliency, and disaster recovery. Additionally, as efforts are underway to strengthen HUD's capacity and resources, COSCDA will actively support the agency and seek opportunities to advance its role and mission.

Sincerely,

Dianne E. Taylor  
Executive Director