



Council of Large Public Housing Authorities  
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National Public Housing Museum  
c/o The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation  
203 North Wabash - Suite 1800  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Ms. Beverly and Mr. Bonner:

Over the past seven decades, Public Housing has played an important role in the development of our nation's major urban areas. The history of this program – how it came to be, its successes and failures – offers valuable insights to those of us charged today with building upon the foundation laid by those who argued that decent affordable housing is not a privilege of the few, but a right shared by all Americans.

Even more important, however, are the stories of the millions of Americans who at one point or another in their lives called Public Housing home. It is a rich history, one from which we have much to learn, and well worth telling.

It is for these reasons I am delighted to add the name of the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA) to those advocating for the establishment of a National Public Housing Museum. I understand that in addition to its exhibits, the Museum will provide a neutral forum to discuss the many lessons of Public Housing and to address closely related issues such as poverty, race and immigration, which continue to shape the urban experience and affect the communities in which we live.

It may be an exaggeration to say, as one student of the discipline remarked, that the only thing new in this world is the history we do not know. All of us, not least today's Public Housing directors and policymakers, have much to learn about our industry's history – knowledge that will help us meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. .

We look forward to working with you to make the Museum a success.

Sincerely,  
  
Michael Kelly  
President