NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Dan Stern
202-842-8600, ext. 137
dan@ruralhome.org

HAC Examines the Unique Elements of Rural Homelessness

Washington, DC, March 14, 2016– Homelessness in rural America presents unique challenges, but communities around the country are working hard to address them. In recognition of their efforts, the Housing Assistance Council (HAC) published Rural Homelessness, the March edition of Rural Voices magazine.

The magazine opens with Representative Blaine Luetkemeyer (R – MO) advocating for more collaboration across sectors to create innovative housing solutions. It then takes a step back and looks at the unique challenges associated with rural homelessness across the country.

Following the overview, the magazine looks at homelessness on the local level by asking:

- What does homelessness look and feel like for one veteran in rural Tennessee?
- How does an already vulnerable population, like farmworkers, experience homelessness?
- Do successful models like Housing First work in rural areas?
- What is the complicated picture of rural homelessness?
- How can a community provide supportive services as part of its affordable housing plan?
- What do the schools know about children experiencing homelessness?

“People in rural communities have a long tradition of supporting each other when times are bad, which means you often see crowded housing rather than people living on the street,” explained Moises Loza, Executive Director of HAC. “When we are able to understand how different homelessness can be in rural areas, we can design innovative solutions to address those differences. We hope this issue of Rural Voices helps continue the conversation.”

About the Housing Assistance Council
HAC, founded in 1971, is a nonprofit corporation that supports the development of rural low-income housing nationwide. HAC provides technical housing services, loans from a revolving fund, housing program and policy assistance, research and demonstration projects, and training and information services. HAC is an equal opportunity lender.