



We all need a safe, stable place to call home, with enough left over after paying for housing to afford the basics – food, utilities, medicine, and transportation. Today, this is out of reach for far too many of our neighbors in rural and urban communities throughout the state. Tenants are living with extreme rent increases, sometimes several hundred dollar rent increases. During the last school year, 21,000 of our school children in grades K – 12 experienced homelessness. One in four of Oregon’s renters spends more than half of their income on housing.

As a state, we can do more to create a thriving Oregon where everyone has a safe place to call home. Since 2009, Oregon has had a document recording fee which has generated resources to help more Oregonians afford safe, stable places to call home. In 2017, the Oregon Housing Alliance will be asking the Legislature to expand the document recording fee to help address this housing crisis.

The document recording fee is an on-going, dedicated revenue source which has been a critical tool to provide housing opportunity for thousands of Oregonians with low incomes. **Since 2009, the document recording fee has raised \$79 million.** By statute, those resources go to three purposes: 10% of those resources go to the Emergency Housing Account; 14% of those resources go to the Home Ownership Assistance Program; and 76% of these resources go to the General Housing Account Program.

**Emergency Housing Account:** This effective and efficient program funds emergency rent assistance programs through a network of Community Action Agencies. This program works to prevent and end homelessness.

- Community Action Agencies serve all 36 counties across Oregon.
- It provides rent assistance to help keep someone in their home, or it provides assistance with deposits, application fees, and rent to help end someone’s homelessness.

**Home Ownership Assistance Program:** This program funds a statewide network of homeownership centers.

- Homeownership Centers serve all 36 of Oregon’s counties, providing counseling and education for first-time homebuyers, as well as support to homeowners who may be facing foreclosure.
- Organizations across the state have also helped new homebuyers with down payment assistance.

**General Housing Account Program:** This program funds the development and preservation of safe, stable and affordable places to call home for Oregonians who need them.

- More than 4,000 affordable homes have been built or preserved in 55 towns and cities all across Oregon.
- These homes serve seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, and households with low incomes.

Oregon Housing and Community Services administers these programs. OHCS allows users to download information about amounts collected and distributed: <http://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/Pages/reports-document-recording-fee.aspx>. The Housing Alliance, in concert with other partners, monitors these reports to ensure geographic distribution of resources.

Centralized collection and distribution of these resources is important for several reasons:

- It allows resources for building and preserving affordable homes to be matched with federal grants and loans and other state resources, many of which are administered by OHCS.
- It allows funds to accumulate at the state level, and projects of size and scale receive enough resources to move forward.



# HOUSING ALLIANCE

[www.OregonHousingAlliance.org](http://www.OregonHousingAlliance.org)

## Housing Alliance Members

1000 Friends of Oregon  
211info  
A Community Together (Lane County)  
Aging in the Gorge  
Benton County Health Department  
Benton Habitat for Humanity  
Bienestar  
Bradley Angle  
CASA of Oregon  
Central City Concern  
Church Women United of Lane County  
City of Beaverton  
City of Eugene  
City of Hillsboro  
City of Portland  
City of Tigard  
Clackamas County  
Coalition of Community Health Clinics  
Coalition of Housing Advocates  
Common Ground OR-WA  
Community Action Partnership of Oregon  
Community Alliance of Tenants  
Community Energy Project  
Community Housing Fund  
Community Partners for Affordable Housing  
Community Vision  
Cornerstone Community Housing  
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon  
Enterprise Community Partners  
Evolve Property Management  
Fair Housing Council of Oregon  
Farmworker Housing Development Corp.  
FOOD for Lane County  
Habitat for Humanity of Lincoln County  
Habitat for Humanity of Oregon  
Habitat for Humanity Portland/Metro East  
Hacienda CDC  
Housing Authority of Clackamas County  
Housing Development Center  
Human Solutions  
Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization  
Impact Northwest

JOIN  
Lane County Health and Human Services  
Lane County Legal Aid and Advocacy Center  
League of Women Voters of Oregon  
Lincoln County  
Metro  
Momentum Alliance  
NAYA Family Center  
Neighborhood Economic Development Corp.  
Neighborhood Partnerships  
NeighborImpact  
NeighborWorks Umpqua  
Network for Oregon Affordable Housing  
Nightingale Public Advocacy Project  
Northwest Housing Alternatives  
Northwest Pilot Project  
Oregon AFSCME Council 75  
Oregon Center for Public Policy  
Oregon Coalition on Housing & Homelessness  
Oregon Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Oregon Food Bank  
Oregon Housing Authorities  
Oregon Law Center  
Oregon Opportunity Network  
Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon  
Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives  
Portland Tenants United  
Proud Ground  
Raphael House  
REACH CDC  
St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County, Inc.  
ShelterCare  
Sisters Habitat for Humanity  
Sponsors, Inc.  
SquareOne Villages  
Street Roots  
Transition Projects  
Urban League of Portland  
Washington County  
Welcome Home Coalition  
Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services