

H O U S I N G



N E T W O R K

PRESS RELEASE

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The Housing Network celebrates Rhode Island's Community Development Corporations

CDC Week 2023 launches with release of Impact Report

PROVIDENCE – The Housing Network of Rhode Island is pleased to kick-off Rhode Island Community Development Corporation Week (March 13-17) with the release of the [Network's 2021-2022 Membership Impact Report](#).

The Housing Network of Rhode Island (HNRI) is the state's membership organization of Community Development Corporations (CDCs) and nonprofit housing developers, who are committed to expanding equitable housing and economic opportunities for low-income Rhode Islanders.

The Housing Network's members are a critical piece of the state's housing development sector and essential to ensuring every Rhode Islander has a safe, healthy, affordable home in a thriving community. The Impact Report details the contributions to Rhode Island's communities and economy of our 15 member nonprofits from 2021 to 2022.

According to the report, HNRI members:

- Contributed \$88,891,042 in organizational and property management expenses to RI's economy
- Supported more than 500 businesses.
- Provided \$3,033,124 in financial assistance to 701 tenant households.
- Served 3,892 people through arts, culture, and community programs.
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Nonprofit CDCs' investments in affordable home development produce a ripple effect throughout the state, directly benefiting Rhode Islanders and all 39 cities and towns. In addition to creating and preserving affordable housing, these nonprofits also maintain childcare facilities and commercial spaces; support community gardens and start-up food enterprises; provide job training, homebuyer counseling, landlord education and home repair funds; and offer personal and small business micro-loans or grants.

“For decades, CDCs and nonprofit developers have been driving meaningful change in the neighborhoods they serve, working to build stronger communities across Rhode Island. It will take a collective response to address our state’s affordable housing crisis, and these organizations are at the forefront of that effort. We invite you to join us this week as we celebrate the countless contributions our members have made on Rhode Island’s economy and, most importantly, its people,” said HNRI Executive Director Melina Lodge.

Community Development Week 2023: March 13-17

The release of the Impact Report today launches Rhode Island Community Development Week 2023, hosted by HNRI and its members.

This week, the Network will be elevating the work of its member CDCs and the critical services they provide to Rhode Islanders. Our members will be hosting their own events in the communities they serve all week long.

The schedule of events for Community Development Week 2023:

Monday 3/13

West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation – 11 a.m.

Tour of the Sankofa Garden, Green House, Community Kitchen and Compost Hub (70 Westfield St., Providence). The Sankofa development was constructed on nine vacant infill lots located between Elmwood Avenue and Dexter Street, and consists of 50 rental homes in 11 buildings. Last year, \$37,760 of culturally relevant local produce was harvested and sold here to fight food insecurity in the West End of Providence.

NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley – 4 p.m. (Closed to the public, open to media)

Members of the Woonsocket City Council Community Partnership Taskforce will tour NWBRV Woonsocket properties (146 Sayles St., Woonsocket).

Tuesday 3/14

Community Development Day – 3 p.m.

Join the Housing Network at the State House (82 Smith St., Providence) for an afternoon of advocacy, where you can learn more about HNRI’s work and connect with its members.

Thursday 3/16

PCF (Pawtucket/Central Falls) Development – 4:30-6:30 p.m.

[Moving Up Housing and Career Expo](#), hosted at the Boys and Girls Club of Pawtucket (1 Moeller Place, Pawtucket). This free event is open to the community to learn about affordable homes for sale and apartments for rent, homebuyer education classes, employment opportunities at PCFD, and more. Drop-in any time between 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Friday 3/17

ONE Neighborhood Builders – 8:45-9:30 a.m.

ONE Neighborhood Builders is hosting a special edition of their monthly virtual community development series, Fresh Fridays, about shared equity housing. Join practitioners from NeighborWorks America, Newport, and Providence to learn about the history of these models, their implementation in Rhode Island and in other states, and their impact on families and communities. [Register via Eventbrite.](#)

House of Hope – 10 a.m.

Meet and Greet at House of Hope's Conway property (639 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick). This is an opportunity for Warwick elected officials and other community members to join House of Hope staff to discuss how to support unhoused individuals in the city, learn about different aspects of the House of Hope's work, and visit one of their properties.

Church Community Housing Corporation – 10 a.m.-noon

Meet and Greet with CCHC staff and community members at Empire Coffee (22 Broadway, Newport) from 10 a.m. to noon.

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The Housing Network of Rhode Island is the statewide association of nonprofit Community Development Corporations committed to the development and preservation of affordable homes and vibrant communities. Our members have built and developed thousands of affordable homes and initiated numerous revitalization efforts in neighborhoods and communities across Rhode Island. Our work includes advocating for and supporting policies that address Rhode Island's urgent affordable housing and community economic development needs.

As part of our advocacy, the Housing Network of Rhode Island facilitates **Homes RI**, a multi-sector coalition of organizations working together to increase and preserve the supply of safe, healthy and affordable homes throughout Rhode Island.

Our members: **Church Community Housing Corporation, Crossroads Rhode Island, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Providence and East Bay, East Bay Community Development, House of Hope Community Development Corporation, NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley, Omni Development Corporation, ONE Neighborhood Builders, Pawtucket Central Falls Development, Pawtucket Housing Authority, Providence Revolving Fund, South County Habitat for Humanity, SWAP, Inc., West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation & Women's Development Corporation.**