



HOUSING NETWORK  
OF RHODE ISLAND

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Thursday, November 22, 2024**

**Statement from Melina Lodge, Executive Director of the Housing Network of Rhode Island, on the Appointment of an Interim Housing Secretary**

**PAWTUCKET, RI** – Today’s appointment of Deborah Goddard as Rhode Island's Housing Secretary by Governor McKee is very welcome and encouraging news. Having had the opportunity to work with Deb in the past, I can confidently say she has the skills and expertise needed to lead the Department of Housing and respond to Rhode Island's housing challenges in a thoughtful, solutions-oriented way.

The Housing Network and its members look forward to partnering with Secretary Goddard and her team to ensure Rhode Island makes meaningful strides toward equitable housing solutions for all.

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**The Housing Network of Rhode Island (HNRI)** is a membership organization made up of 19 community development corporations and affordable housing developers. Together, our members are dedicated to building affordable housing and strengthening communities across the state.

HNRI members include: Church Community Housing Corporation, Crossroads Rhode Island, Foster Forward, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Providence and East Bay, House of Hope Community Development Corporation, Jonnycake Center, NeighborWorks Blackstone River Valley, Omni Development Corporation, ONE Neighborhood Builders, Pawtucket Central Falls Development, Pawtucket Housing Authority, Providence Revolving Fund, Sojourner House, South County Habitat for Humanity, SWAP (Stop Wasting Abandoned Property) Inc., Valley Affordable Housing Corporation, WARM Center, West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation & Women’s Development Corporation