



HOUSING NETWORK
OF RHODE ISLAND



Statement from Housing Network of Rhode Island Executive Director Melina Lodge on the State of the State Address

PROVIDENCE, RI – Governor McKee’s 2025 State of the State address began by highlighting his *RI 2030* plan, a comprehensive policy initiative that “charts the course for a brighter future for all Rhode Islanders.” A central pillar of this vision is increasing the availability of safe, quality, and affordable housing across all 39 cities and towns. As a network of housing developers, providers and advocates we know housing is one of the best investments we can make in the future of our state, so we are pleased to affirm that housing production remains a priority in his administration and budget.

We applaud the Governor’s recognition of several Housing Network of Rhode Island (HNRI) members—organizations like Church Community Housing Corporation, Crossroads Rhode Island, House of Hope, and the WARM Center—for their tireless efforts to create safe, affordable homes and expand shelter access across our state. Their efforts, along with the efforts of many other development and provider colleagues, are critical to tackling Rhode Island’s housing and homelessness crisis.

As we look to accelerate progress on achieving our shared goals, we must ensure that every Rhode Islander has the opportunity to thrive, regardless of their background. To that end, we appreciated the Governor’s comments on the importance of teamwork and collaboration to be successful in our collective endeavors—we couldn’t agree more. To truly address our state’s housing and homelessness challenges in an equitable and humane way, we must ensure that all voices—especially those of people most impacted—are welcomed into the conversation and in the development of people-centered solutions.

As the Governor noted in his remarks, we are all part of Rhode Island’s story and we are writing our next chapter together. The Housing Network of Rhode Island and our members remain committed to working alongside the Governor and elected leaders at all levels of government to ensure that every Rhode Islander has a safe, healthy, and affordable home. We look forward to learning more about the Governor’s plans to invest in housing and homelessness with the release of the official budget proposal later this week.

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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.