State of Colorado Housing

And Why It's Important

Discover the importance of Affordable Housing and Redevelopment in Colorado, and the state’s 24 Housing Authorities that provide the services.
Why Housing Matters!

Having a place to live is a basic need for everyone. Yet, for some people, it remains out of reach. Public housing serves approximately 2.2 million people across the U.S., but the need is much greater; more than half a million people are on waiting lists.

Conahro.gov, 2013

With the “graying of America,” the numbers of persons 65 years of age and older is growing dramatically, and while many in this “age wave” have the financial resources they need, many do not. For those who have only small pensions, social security and a few assets, their only hope for safe, secure and affordable housing is through units built with the assistance of housing programs.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2013

Did You Know...

The one-year estimated economic impacts of building and rehabbing 1,374 subsidized homes in Colorado include:
- Over $151.8 million in income Colorado residents
- Over $27.3 million in taxes and other revenue for the state and other local governments
- Over 2,179 jobs in Colorado

The additional, annually recurring impacts of building 1,374 subsidized units in Colorado include:
- $33.3 million in income for Colorado residents
- $7.9 million in taxes and other revenue for the state and local governments
- 439 jobs in Colorado

Housing Colorado, 2012

Compared to home buyers, renters tend to spend more of their incomes locally – partially due to the tendency of lower-income households to spend a greater fraction of their incomes on necessities, but also due to rental payments that go to a local owner, or owner employing a management company with a local expense. The equivalent for a home buyer is mortgage payments, which are typically made to non-local owners of the mortgage.

In 2012, $4,414,642 Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) were awarded in the State of Colorado focused on creating a safer, higher quality communities. The primary objective of the CDBG Program is to develop viable communities by providing the following, principally to persons of low and moderate income:
- Decent housing;
- A suitable living environment; and
- Expanded economic opportunities.

Colorado Department of Local Affairs, 2013

29,670 families in Colorado used Housing Choice Vouchers in 2012. Vouchers help families afford decent, stable housing and to live in neighborhoods that are safer, have better schools, and are closer to work. They also reduce homelessness and help families meet other basic needs.

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2013

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