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**Housing Alaskans Public-Private Partnership accelerates housing developments in
Kodiak, Nome, and Seward**

New Grants Help 23 Critically Needed Housing Units Cross the Finish Line

ANCHORAGE, AK – Housing Alaskans Public-Private Partnership announced grant awards for twenty-three new housing units in Kodiak, Nome, and Seward. The grants will accelerate shovel-ready housing developments by closing the financial gaps preventing groundbreaking or project completion. The new homes will provide rental and ownership opportunities for working families with low to middle incomes.

The Wells Fargo Foundation, Providence Alaska, and the Richard L. and Diane M. Block Foundation generously provided the funding for these grants. These funders, along with many others, share a strong desire to address Alaska’s housing crisis. By leveraging their donations with other funders through Housing Alaskans, more housing is developed more quickly.

The grant awards recipients are:

- \$150,000 to the Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority to build a triplex rental in Nome for low-income households. The project matches AHFC funding for twelve rural professional market rental housing units with federal and other funding to add three more units for low-income rental housing. The units will be energy efficient with accessibility features and long-term affordability protections. The income from the market rate rental units will help subsidize and sustain the lower-income units.
- \$150,000 to the Kodiak Island Housing Authority to build ten homes for low- and middle-income households to take ownership through “sweat equity.” The project grew from a broad community collaboration to acquire land and install utilities and roads to make the home sites build-ready and to support two proposed future home building phases. Each home will be energy efficient and designed for long-term durability and low operating costs. Resale and recapture provisions will secure future affordability protections.
- \$50,000 to Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. (RurAL CAP) to build ten new homes for low- to middle-income households in Seward to gain ownership through “sweat equity.” Each home will be energy efficient and designed for long-term durability and low operating costs. Resale and recapture provisions will secure future affordability protections.

“Alaska’s acute housing shortage is harming our economy and communities’ well-being. The Housing Alaskans grants provide the “top off” funding that the projects need to move forward this summer. When we leverage and coordinate funding, we increase Alaska’s housing stock more quickly and efficiently. Since 2023, Housing Alaskans has helped accelerate 145 new housing units in nine communities. We are pleased to partner with these developers to reduce our pressing housing shortage,” said Housing Alaskans Board Chair Shauna Hegna (President of Koniag).

“Securing this grant funding is a crucial step in helping to provide quality, affordable housing for low-income households in Nome. The additional units made possible through this partnership will directly benefit working families for decades. We’re grateful to Housing Alaskans and their partners for supporting our mission and helping us build a stronger, more resilient community,” said Jolene Lyon, President/CEO, Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority.

“The Mutual Self-Help Housing Program is a solution to a larger unified response to Alaska’s housing crisis,” said Mi’shell French, RurAL CAP’s Rural Housing Director. “While directly addressing housing shortages, this program also employs local contractors, provides a local tax base, and creates workforce development opportunities through the sweat equity of participating families. Housing Alaskans grants have provided the

additional top-off capital needed for us to be successful in completion of 9 single family homes in Soldotna and will be instrumental in the successful completion of 10 single family homes in Seward.”

“The Kodiak Island Housing Authority is honored to be a recipient of the HAPPP funding,” said Mindy Pruitt, Executive Director, Kodiak Island Housing Authority. “This important funding opportunity provides the homeowners access to an affordable mortgage, which supports their success in owning their home. The families have the opportunity to build a long-term housing solution that makes living and working in Kodiak a possibility.”

Housing Alaskans addresses Alaska’s housing crisis through creative funding solutions which coordinate public and private resources to boost new and rehabilitated housing production, incent developers, and alleviate barriers to housing development. The Alaska Community Foundation fiscally sponsors Housing Alaskans and will administer the grants. “ACF is proud to support Housing Alaskans and serve as a platform for ambitious coalition work to strategically address Alaska’s housing crisis,” said Alexandra McKay, CEO and President of The Alaska Community Foundation.

