



**HOUSING
ALASKANS**
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Housing Alaskans Awards Grants for 77 New Homes Across 13 Alaska Communities

New funding unlocks shovel-ready housing projects for Alaska's workforce, teachers, seniors, and storm-impacted communities

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Housing Alaskans today announced grants supporting 77 new housing units across 13 Alaska communities, accelerating shovel-ready projects that had stalled for lack of final “top-off” capital. The awards span rental and ownership units affordable for Alaska’s workforce, teachers, and seniors, including five projects in communities recovering from the recent devastating storms.

The \$1,500,669 awarded to the 13 projects was provided by the Denali Commission, Wells Fargo Foundation, Northrim Bank, the Block Foundation, and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines.

2026 Grant Awardees

- Anchorage – Airport Heights Senior Housing
- Chevak – Chevak House Kits
- Chignik – Chignik Lagoon Apartments
- Healy Lake – Healy Lake Professional Housing
- Kenai – Rainbow Flats I
- Kodiak – Self-Help Housing
- Nome – KINC 6th Ave
- Nulato – Nulato Teacher Housing Units
- Noatak – Teacher Housing
- Petersburg – Nordic Apartments
- Scammon Bay – Scammon Bay Housing Program
- Sitka – S’us’ Heeni Shaak Uplands
- South Naknek – S. Naknek Duplexes

{Housing Alaskans can connect you with project developers if you want additional information}

Addressing Alaska’s Housing Crisis

Alaska’s housing shortage is deepening workforce shortages, forcing businesses to turn away growth opportunities, and compelling communities to cut essential services. Securing capital to build homes affordable for Alaska’s workforce is an expensive, years-long process — and rising costs continually move the goalpost.

Housing Alaskans was created to cut through that challenge. By building on project reviews already completed by other public and private funders, Housing Alaskans eliminates redundant paperwork, fills final funding gaps, gets homes built faster, and unlocks committed but unused investments from those other funders. In this cycle alone, the 28 applicants had combined investments exceeding \$60 million waiting on the sidelines for lack of a relatively small additional amount to launch or complete the housing.

“Alaska faces some of the most complex housing challenges in the United States, from high construction costs to remote logistics. Alaska needs shovels in the ground. Housing Alaskans funding is designed to do exactly that by streamlining project development and maximizing the impact of public and private investment.” *Shauna Hegna, Chair, Board of Directors, Housing Alaskans*

With these 77 new units, Housing Alaskans has helped **24 projects in 19 communities open the doors to 222 new homes for Alaskans** since it was created in 2022.

How Housing Alaskans Supports Housing Developers and Communities

- “The Healy Lake Village Council extends our deepest gratitude to the Housing Alaskans Public Private Partnership for this vital grant. With the skyrocketing costs of fuel and materials in rural Alaska, this 'top-off' capital is truly a lifesaver. Without their support, we could not have made this professional housing project possible, and this funding ensures we can continue building a better future for our community.”
~ **Marie Haley, Healy Lake Village Council**
- “Nome is in the midst of a severe housing crisis. King Island Native Community partnered with Village of Solomon to extend water, sewer, and utilities to a previously unserved area of town. Once served, King Island was able to purchase and develop five single family homes to provide to tribal citizens at a purchase point that makes homeownership feasible for families that otherwise would not have an opportunity to own their own home. King Island extends its gratitude to Village of Solomon, eMi, Nome Joint Utility Systems, Senator Murkowski and the EPA, the Denali Commission, Norton Sound Health Corporation, Kawerak, Inc., and Housing Alaskans: A Public-Private Partnership to help fund and make this project feasible.”
~ **Heather Payenna, King Island Native Community**
- “Cook Inlet Housing Authority is honored to receive a HAPPP award that will help us construct 24 affordable rental homes for seniors. The HAPPP Program is providing critical support to shovel-ready developments like ours by helping address rising construction costs, allowing us to move forward with delivering much-needed housing for our community. We are thankful for HAPPP’s innovative and streamlined approach to public-private partnership.”
~ **Mark Fineman, Cook Inlet Housing Authority**
- “We appreciate HAPPP’s partnership and continued investment in housing development across Alaska communities. HAPPP’s ability to bring together multiple funding partners and leverage those resources into meaningful housing impact plays a critical role in helping developments move forward across the state. The Rainbow Flats award will support the development of six senior housing units in Kenai as part of KPHI’s broader 104-unit housing initiative, helping expand safe, affordable housing opportunities for residents on the Kenai Peninsula.”
~ **Dana Gregoire, Kenai Peninsula Housing Initiatives, Inc.**

- “We are deeply grateful for the generous HAPPP grant. It will enable us to continue the renovation project at Nordic Apartments in Petersburg. Renovations have stalled, but this infusion of grant funding will enable us to finish three more units, making them available for residents before winter.”
~ Sarah Pawuk Holmgrain, Nordic Real Estate, LLC
- “Northwest Arctic Borough School District truly appreciates HAPPP's gap funding to help us cross the finish line with constructing two, new teacher housing duplexes in Noatak. Every bit of funding helps, especially that which completes the funding stack. These new units enable us to move teachers out of failing housing and closer to our school campus by the end of 2026!”
~ Superintendent Terri Walker, NW Arctic Borough School District
- “This HAPPP grant means so much to us. It ensures we can complete 100% of this renovation project on time and on budget.”
~ Gale Bourne, Yukon Koyukuk School District

Why Funders Invest Through Housing Alaskans

“This funding addresses two urgent housing needs across Alaska by supporting workforce housing in growing economies and rebuilding homes in communities impacted by severe storms. These investments strengthen stability and long-term resilience.”

— Sam Mazzeo, Commercial Banking Leader, Wells Fargo

“These grants will help accelerate housing development across Alaska and address the statewide housing shortage. Tackling the housing crisis is critical to strong communities and a prosperous future, and it will take all of us working together to build more homes.”

— Mike Huston, President and CEO, Northrim Bank, and HAPPP Board Member

“The Denali Commission is committed to being a partner in addressing the housing shortage in Alaska. We welcome the shovel-ready approach and thank HAPPP for its enthusiasm, hard work, and leadership in this area.”

— Julie Kitka, Federal Co-Chair, Denali Commission

“The Member Impact Fund is designed to help our members, Wells Fargo Bank and Northrim Bank, champion organizations like Housing Alaskans Public Private Partnership that make a real difference in their communities. By partnering with our members, we’re able to multiply resources and support their vital work as they continue to strengthen opportunities for the people they serve.”

— Kris Williams, President and CEO, Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines

About Housing Alaskans

Housing Alaskans addresses Alaska’s housing crisis through creative funding solutions that coordinate public and private resources to boost new and rehabilitated housing production, incentivize developers, and alleviate barriers to housing development. The Alaska Community Foundation powers Housing Alaskans through fiscal sponsorship and administers the Housing Alaskans awards. For more information, visit [Housing Alaskans](#)

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