About us

- Created in 1974
- Quasi-Governmental...created by legislature but do not receive operational appropriations
- Over 30,000 homeowners supported through mortgage programs
- Financed over 9,000 affordable apartments statewide – through combination of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and Loans
- Housing Policy, Data & Research including Statewide Housing Needs Assessment









VHFA's Funding – Simplified Version



VHFA Economics

 6.125% earnings rate from borrower mortgage payments, <u>less</u>

 5% interest payments on bonds, equals

• 1.125% "spread" to VHFA which pays for VHFA operations

Benefits to LMI Homebuyer

• 6.125% mortgage rate for borrower at a time when comparable mortgage rates in market are 6.50% or higher

• VHFA also offers up to \$15k in downpayment and closing cost assistance for qualifying borrowers plus another \$15k for First Generation borrowers.





Vermont Homeowner Assistance Program



Vermont Housing Finance Agency

Rental Housing Development



in tax credit equity and long-term financing for affordable multifamily development projects

Monitor 9,800

 apartments for
 financial strength,
 health & safety,
 and program
 compliance





Vermont Housing Investment Fund

- Established in 2020 as a platform for nontraditional investments into housing
- Grown to \$16 million fund with employer, philanthropy, financial sector, and federal programs that require leverage
- Gap loans for tax credit developments with deep affordability
- Investment from Vermont philanthropy and business community has attracted \$9 million in unique funding from US Treasury and Federal Home Loan Bank
- Grants are most powerful investments, but low rate of return patient capital is also high impact





units for Vermonters exiting homelessness

Vermont communities

15

10% for Vermont funding

- \$14 million for traditional affordable housing
- **\$14 million** for priority economic development projects
- **\$6 million** for small and emerging developers of smaller or infill housing developments
- \$5 million towards homeownership development
- \$5 million for manufactured housing communities
- \$6 million for flood resiliency and sustainable innovation



Why we have a problem...

Change in median





Rate of change in occupied housing supply

Average annual increase

0.60%

1.81%





Source: https://www.housingdata.org/profile/housing-stock/rateof-change

Single-Family Construction Dropped Dramatically, While Multifamily Development Remained Strong





Costs of Building Materials Have Surged Since the Start of the Pandemic



Note: Inputs to new residential construction is not a composite of the other components and excludes capital, labor, and imports. Source: JCHS tabulations of US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Producer Price Indexes.



Middle-Income Homeownership Development Program awards all funds in 2023



Program created to support building & rehabilitating homes for middle and lower income buyers.

March 2023

First set of awards made through \$14.2 million in ARPA funds for 92 homes.

September 2023

Awards made through \$9 million from 2023 BAA for 180 homes.







Homes completed in 2023 in Londonderry and Rutland.

	January-June 2021	January-June 2022	January-June 2023
Vermont median primary home price	\$259,900	\$295,000	\$315,000
Average interest rate on 30-year mortgage, no points	3.11%	4.72%	6.44%
Monthly mortgage payment (includes mortgage, PMI, insurance, property taxes)	\$1,710	\$2,192	\$2,595
Income needed to afford	\$68,394	\$87,671	\$103,776
Estimated Vermont renters with enough income to purchase median priced home	24,500	11,100	4,696

Renters who could likely afford to buy median

home







Program fills gaps that hamper creating homes affordable for middle income buyers



Why do these gaps exist?

Homes cost more to build than they will appraise for Homes cost more to build than middle income buyers can afford



Cost Trends in Affordable Housing Projects





Homes underway in 20 Vermont communities





First year impacts are wide-reaching

Homes funded	138
Bedrooms built	361
Average subsidy per home	\$155,416
Average purchase price to buyers	\$194,321
Shared equity homes	68 (49%)
Neighborhoods expanded	20
Total funding deployed	\$24 million



Upper photo: Addison County Habitat for Humanity volunteers and board with the Poquette family outside their home when they took ownership in July 2023.

Lower photo: Homebuyer Elizabeth Poquette, her mother, Janet Brunet, and Elizabeth's son, Thatcher.





Program builds homes primarily for middle income homebuyers in 2023

- Program provides longterm affordability for future homebuyers
- 49% of all homes funded in 2023 are sharedequity homes
- Subsidy retained for all homes developed through limits on future sales prices.



 Most homes awarded funds in 2023 (86%) will be for homebuyers at or below 110% of the area median income.



Continued construction price inflation led to larger Value Gap



Large disparities remain





First Generation Homebuyer Grant Program outcomes

- ✓ 64 grant applications
- ✓ 59 grants funded
- ✓ \$14,991 average grant awarded
- ✓ \$70,647 median income of households
- ✓ \$225,000 median purchase price





Important Policy Discussions



- Designation updates
- Energy initiatives (RES and more)
- Permitting reform (Housing appeals board and more)
- Additional support for housing and services

