

Dear legislators and representatives,

Thank you for your support of impactful affordable housing initiatives throughout Vermont. In Lamoille County, Lamoille Housing Partnership will soon open 49 doors to affordable rental apartments this summer in our Village Center and Gordon Lane Apartments developments, shortly followed by the opening of the 21-bed Lamoille Community House, the County's first ever year round homeless shelter.

These immediate, long term and proven housing solutions are measurably reducing housing insecurity and homelessness, increasing community affordability, and strengthening our economies, and would not be possible without Vermont Housing & Conservation Board (VHCB) funding.

Creating more than four walls, strong investments in affordable housing are writing stories like these all across Vermont: "This neighborhood has given my family, and all the other families in the neighborhood, a place to call home" - *Lamoille Housing Partnership resident*.

We urge the Legislature to fully fund VHCB at its statutory amount at \$27.8M. The Governor's recommended base funding of \$15.4M falls short of meaningfully addressing the scale and scope of Vermont's compounding housing crisis. Vermont has made significant progress in addressing the nuanced housing affordability crisis, and continues to need housing of all types and for all Vermonters; that's going to take an investment of \$175M this year in the FY23 budget adjustment and FY24 budget to address a variety of needs across the housing spectrum.

Thank you for your good work and for taking my request into consideration,

JIM LOVINSKY *Lamoille Housing Partnership Executive Director*