



COMMUNITY PARTNERS  
FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

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Joint Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Co-Chair Beyer, Co-Chair Gomberg, and Members of the Committee

I write to you today on behalf of Community Partners for Affordable Housing in support of HB 5011, and the recommended budget for the Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) Department for the 2021-2023 biennium.

Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) serves Washington County and SW Portland. We are a community housing development organization that is committed to a broad range of affordable housing, including permanent supportive housing. We have ten properties and serve 466 households, including large families and individuals who are exiting homelessness.

CPAH knows that permanent, safe and stable housing is a platform to ensure individual, family and community health and that a safe and stable place to call home is a basic human need.

As you know, the State of Oregon has been hit hard by a number of crises in 2020. The ongoing pandemic and summer wildfires have devastated communities across the state and thrown families into economic distress. Prior to 2020, Oregon was already experiencing a housing crisis, and too many of our neighbors and community members were experiencing housing instability. In times of crisis like the ones that we experienced last year, and the one we are continuing to experience, a strong response to aid those who are most impacted is critical.

Throughout the years, CPAH has worked with OHCS to implement and administer various programs including projects funded by LIFT, and Permanent Supportive Housing resources. These programs have made it possible for us to successfully serve a range of households with different needs around family size and services. We know that now is not the time to slow down, rather, we all need to be finding ways to build more housing so we can stabilize more households and create overall resilient communities.

We strongly support the passage of HB 5011 so that organizations like ours can continue to partner with OHCS and work to serve the people of Oregon.

Thank you for your time and for your service to the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rachael Duke' in a cursive, slightly slanted script.

Rachael Duke, Executive Director  
Community Partners for Affordable Housing