

All Iowans deserve to live in safe, decent, and affordable housing.

Investment in affordable homeownership grows both Iowa's economy and families. The Iowa Economic Development Authority estimates 61,000 housing units are needed by 2030 to keep Iowa's economy growing. Continued economic growth means investing in infrastructure, including sustained investment in housing for all Iowans.

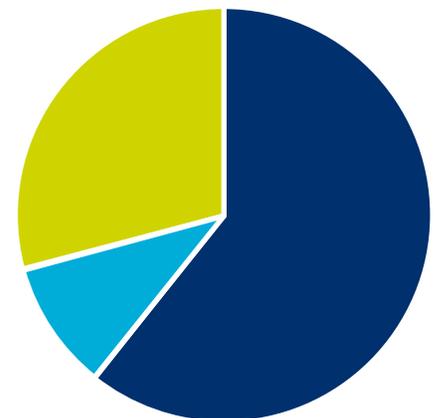
1 in 10 Iowa households spend half or more of their income on housing. The neighbors and workers we see daily – childcare workers, preschool teachers, nursing assistants, paramedics, grocery store clerks – are struggling to make ends meet. Rapidly increasing housing prices are pushing hard working Iowa families away from their dream of homeownership.

For every \$1,000 added to new housing construction, 1,900 Iowans are priced out of buying a home.

With 22 Affiliated locations in 48 counties across Iowa, Habitat works to make a significant impact on affordable homeownership throughout the state.

Benefits of Affordable Homeownership

- **Drives new spending in the local economy** through construction by purchasing local goods, creating local jobs, and generating state, local, and property taxes. For every dollar invested by Habitat, \$1.75 is injected into the economy.
- **Creates economic stability for families** by building generational wealth. Homeowners' median net worth is 80 times larger than renters median net worth. Homeownership is the top way Iowans build wealth and assets, and this benefits Iowa's economy.
- **Leads to better test scores**, higher high school graduation rates and college attendance, especially among children of low-income homeowners.
- **Promotes civic and social engagement**, which boosts neighborhood involvement and community stability.



Habitat for Humanity partnered with 548 families across Iowa in 2022:

- 334 Owner-occupied repairs
- 55 Purchased homes
- 159 Attended homeowner education



Learn more about Habitat for Humanity of Iowa at [iowahabitat.org](https://www.iowahabitat.org)

Support Down Payment Assistance Programs

- Down payment and closing costs continue to be one of the most common barriers low- and moderate-income families face when purchasing a home.
- Down payment assistance promotes affordable homeownership opportunities by helping low-income lowans access safe and affordable homes and build long-term saving habits.
- Restore funding to the Individual Development Account program, a matched savings program, to help lowans save for down payment.
- Increase funding to the Military Down Payment Assistance with an additional appropriation of \$500,000.

Promote Housing Preservation Programs

- Continued funding and support of the **Housing Renewal Program** to renovate dilapidated, nuisance properties and return housing stock to communities for homeownership opportunities for low and moderate income lowans.

Other Priorities

- **Property Tax:** Monitor proposed property tax changes and identify possible relief measures for lowans most vulnerable to residential property tax changes.
- **Monitor existing housing programs** to support increased funding, or ensure level funding, to State Housing Trust Fund.

