HOME SUCCESS STORY

South Dakota

NeighborWorks Dakota Home Resources

NeighborWorks Dakota Home Resources (NeighborWorks) is a nonprofit organization providing assistance to residents of the Black Hills and western South Dakota who need help purchasing, repairing, and retaining their homes. By offering affordable housing and community-focused programs, NeighborWorks strives to improve the quality of life for lower-income families and entire neighborhoods. Thanks to the help and support of volunteers and donors, the organization is able to offer lending, rehabilitation, and education under one roof.

NeighborWorks assists in providing safe, decent, and affordable housing and revitalizing neighborhoods to improve the quality of life in its communities. HOME Investments Partnerships (HOME) program is vital in assisting NeighborWorks fulfill its mission.

The Breeding Family

Like many other rural towns, Belle Fourch, South Dakota’s biggest challenge is substandard housing. In fact, 20 percent of the homes in Belle Fourch do not meet health and safety codes. That’s why Neighborworks has recently hired a part-time employee to help residents bring their homes up to proper safety codes.

Ms. Catherine Breeding is a 60-year-old foster parent and veteran, earning less than $30,000 each year. Ms. Breeding and her family lived in a home with several health and safety issues. The roof leaked, ruining the fascia-eaves and rotting the door. The water damaged some electrical work and bathroom exhaust fans. But, because of her low income, Ms. Breeding did not have the money to renovate her home.

After Ms. Breeding turned to NeighborWorks for assistance, the organization helped her secure a $1,100 Neighborhood Lending Services loan with a four percent interest rate and an $8,400 HOME loan in order to renovate her home. The home renovations were completed July 2015.

Now, Ms. Breeding feels confident she can provide a safe, healthy, and positive environment for her foster children.

HOME is essential in helping rural families—like the Breedings—access safe, decent, and affordable homes in healthy condition. Without HOME, this project would not have been possible and many more South Dakota residents would have no other option but to continue to live in unsafe homes.