

Multi-channel SFRF Legislative Campaign

Rhode Island Housing

Legislative Advocacy: State Advocacy

HFA Staff Contact

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Background

Governor Dan McKee and the Rhode Island General Assembly have invested over \$321 million of State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding (28% of the state's entire SFRF allocation) into housing and homeless programs. Based on information reported to NCSHA on the utilization of SFRF funds for housing, that is a higher percentage than any other state. RIHousing has had a key role in administering over \$206 million of these resources.

We worked closely with the Governor's office, the Department of Housing and the General Assembly to advocate for these funds and to design and implement the programs. Given the tight deadlines to obligate all SFRF funds by December 2024 and expend the funds by December 2026, and the many competing interests for these investments, engaging with Governor McKee's Administration and the General Assembly has been critical to securing and preserving these important resources.

RIHousing's SFRF Legislative Campaign has focused on two fronts: First, to secure needed resources and the flexibility to administer them effectively, and second, to demonstrate success in implementing the programs and addressing the state's critical housing needs. Utilizing a number of tools and communication channels, we worked to engage key legislators to appropriate funding and provide transparency to the General Assembly and larger public on the impact of SFRF.

Securing an Historic Investment in Housing and Homeless Programs

RIHousing worked with the McKee Administration in 2021 to develop a range of housing programs to be funded with the State's allocation of SFRF. In October 2021, the Administration submitted its initial proposal for the investment of SFRF which included two programs to be administered by RIHousing. These investments were approved by the General Assembly in January 2022. Later that month, as part of his FY23 budget, Governor McKee proposed an investment of \$250 million in SFRF into housing and homeless programs which was approved by the General Assembly in June 2022.

The FY24 budget added additional SFRF investments in housing and homeless programs, bringing the total investment to \$321.5 million, of which \$206.4 million is being administered by RIHousing. The programs being administered by RIHousing include a Down Payment Assistance Program for first-time homebuyers, as well as a range of housing development and pre-development programs targeting a range of incomes – many of which have received statewide press and community attention for their positive impact.

RIHousing staff has played an active role in designing and advocating for these investments, particularly the programs administered by our Agency. We've worked with the Governor's office and Department of Housing prior to budget submittals, provided testimony numerous times to the General Assembly, and continue to offer input on amendments to budget language.

Demonstrating Success

Addressing the state's housing crisis has been a top priority of the McKee administration and of the leadership of the RI General Assembly and the impetus of the historic investment of SFRF resources in housing and homeless programs. But equally important is ensuring that all SFRF resources are fully utilized by the program's obligation and expenditure deadlines. Therefore, demonstrating success in implementing these programs and achieving program goals has been an essential component of the Campaign.

RIHousing staff has joined the Department of Housing in multiple hearings before the House and Senate Finance Committees since the original allocation of the SFRF, reporting on the progress of programs and discussing the projected timeline for obligating and expending funds.

We have developed a publicly accessible dashboard updated monthly with project level detail on SFRF program commitments and expenditures. We have worked with the Governor's office, the Department of Housing and the leadership of the General Assembly on a wide range of press events, coordinated housing tours and engagement events with state and local partners and elected officials, and organized or participated in nine ribbon-cuttings and groundbreakings for SFRF financed developments in six communities across the state. Each of these events has been designed to raise awareness about progress in implementing these programs and demonstrating the impact they are having in addressing the state's shortage of affordable housing.

A Flexible Plan

With a 2026 deadline for the funding to be expended, the pressure has been on to provide updates to the General Assembly and the public about the expenditure status and projected outcomes. This called for a multi-channel campaign to demonstrate our progress and results. These outreaches also provide us with an opportunity to speak to the other federal resources these investments are leveraging including LIHTC, HOME, NHT and Capital Magnet funds. In particular, the significant increase in gap financing has made it possible for RIHousing to leverage more 4% LIHTC resources and to use these resources for new production (historically 4% LIHTC financing has primarily been used for affordable housing preservation in RI).

Our strategy to continually engage stakeholders has included:

- **Research and Data Compilation:** We wanted data that was easily accessible and understandable to the public. In March 2024 we launched a [webpage](#) full of information such as a dashboard that illustrates amount of funds allocated and committed, and the expenditure of funds through each program, plus key information on developments and populations. The page also highlights all SFRF-funded developments under construction and completed. All information shared is updated monthly.
- **Visual Aids:** RIHousing developed visual aids to show the various programs funded through SFRF and the progress in disbursing the funds. We created a series of timelines demonstrating how development projects move from application to completion and how those schedules are being accommodated with our three funding rounds to award development financing. These visual aids were and continue to be used at General Assembly hearings, meetings, and RIHousing events in the form of presentations, display boards and handouts.
- **Digital Media Campaign:** We continue to feature progress implementing SFRF financed programs in a quarterly e-newsletter to General Assembly members and their staff. The newsletter has provided updated expenditure figures and current projects and highlights resources available to our legislative partners. Additionally, we have created social media posts with updates on SFRF disbursement, development statuses and engagement events with legislators.
- **In-Person Engagement/Presentations:** Utilizing data and visual aids, we presented in several in-person hearings with the members of the House Committee on Finance and Senate Finance Committee, and community organizations such as the Rhode Island Foundation to share updates on SFRF programs and our work in 2023.
- **Networking and Engagement Events:** We held in-person engagement events to facilitate conversations between legislators, our agency, and development partners about building more affordable homes with SFRF. In 2023 and 2024, RIHousing has organized the following events:
 - **2023 RI State House Meet and Greet Event:** Held at the Rhode Island State House, we showcased SFRF developments and development partnerships and encouraged General Assembly members to learn about projects in their districts. RIHousing CEO Carol Ventura joined Governor McKee, the House Speaker, and Housing Secretary Stefan Pryor in sharing information about RIHousing's work with a focus on SFRF financed programs. Information

on projects that had received SFRF financing were displayed on handouts and project boards and the developers of the projects participated in the event.

- **2023 Regional Development Tours:** The tours showcased current and future development projects happening in Rhode Island neighborhoods with a focus on SFRF financed developments. Community partners, developers, local officials and General Assembly members had a chance to not only hear about the updates on the expenditure but also meet the developers and view the development sites. Handouts detailed expenditures on SFRF programs.
- **2024 Regional Networking Events:** RIHousing held three regional events in or near active development sites for development partners to share their projects and progress with attending municipal leaders and General Assembly members. The events focused on affordable housing development activity occurring in the region with a focus on SFRF financed developments. At each event, there were boards highlighting specific development projects as well as boards showing RIHousing's progress committing and expending SFRF funds. The events were attended by General Assembly members, municipal leaders, planners, town council members and community partners.
- **Press Events:** From initial planning to implementation, RIHousing has collaborated in media events such as ribbon cuttings and groundbreakings and distributed press releases to support and showcase SFRF projects and their positive impact statewide. These have included:
 - **2021:** Announcement of initial SFRF investments alongside Governor McKee, Secretary Pryor, and community partners.
 - **2022:** Announcement of developments receiving funds and announcement of SFRF funding included in RIHousing's 2nd Consolidated Funding Round.
 - **2023:** Launch of the RI Statewide DPA Grant Program, a down payment and closing costs assistance program funded by \$30 million in SFRF administered by RIHousing. This event honored the 100th closing under the program and a family that benefitted from the program.

Where We Are Today

RIHousing's ongoing engagement and advocacy efforts have helped pave the way to successful allocation and investment of SFRF resources to address the severe shortage of affordable housing in Rhode Island. The initial allocation of \$27 million towards housing and homelessness has now grown to over \$321 million invested by the state.

To date, RIHousing has assisted almost 1,600 first-time homebuyers through the SFRF financed Down Payment Assistance Program. We have committed over \$100 million to help finance the development or preservation of 1,678 units of which 1,382 will be affordable homes. We have committed over \$34 million for predevelopment and site acquisition of 62 proposed developments in 23 cities and towns. In total we have committed over \$167 million in SFRF resources (over 80% of the funds we are administering) and expended over \$72 million. RIHousing anticipates committing the remaining SFRF development financing resources at its May 2024 Board meeting which will be announced in partnership with the Governor's office and the Department of Housing.

Over the next year, we project that a dozen SFRF-financed affordable developments in 10 communities across the state will be completed and many more will break ground. RIHousing will continue to implement its multi-channel communication efforts to keep elected officials and our community partners informed about the progress that is being made investing these critical resources, and the impact these investments are having on our efforts to expand the supply of affordable housing in Rhode Island.

SFRF Program Allocation

Program	Total Funding	FY22	FY23	FY24
Administered by RIHousing	\$206,400,000			
Development of Affordable Housing	\$100,000,000			
Development	\$90,000,000	\$14,740,825	\$20,259,175	\$55,000,000
PHA Pilot	\$10,000,000		\$10,000,000	
Predevelopment	\$10,000,000		\$2,500,000	\$7,500,000
Middle Income Housing	\$20,000,000		\$12,000,000	\$8,000,000
Site Acquisition	\$25,000,000	\$6,000,000	\$9,000,000	\$10,000,000
Community Revitalization	\$20,000,000		\$15,000,000	\$5,000,000
Down Payment Assistance	\$30,000,000		\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000
Proactive Housing Development	\$1,400,000			\$1,400,000
Administered by Department of Housing	\$110,800,000			
OHCD Predevelopment and Capacity Fund	\$1,500,000	\$78,609	\$921,391	\$500,000
Homeless Assistance Program	\$21,500,000		\$8,500,000	\$13,000,000
Homelessness Infrastructure	\$45,000,000		\$15,000,000	\$30,000,000
Targeted Housing Development	\$31,000,000			\$31,000,000
Home Repair Program	\$4,500,000		\$4,500,000	
Preservation of Affordable Units	\$500,000			\$500,000
Municipal Planning	\$2,300,000			\$2,300,000
Municipal Homelessness Support Initiative	\$2,500,000			\$2,500,000
State Housing Plan	\$2,000,000		\$2,000,000	
Administered by RI Infrastructure Bank	\$4,300,000			
Housing Related Infrastructure	\$4,300,000			\$4,300,000
	\$321,500,000	\$20,819,434	\$109,680,566	\$191,000,000

ARPA Dashboard

Publicly accessible information on committed and expended SFRF funding. [Click here to view the dashboard.](#)

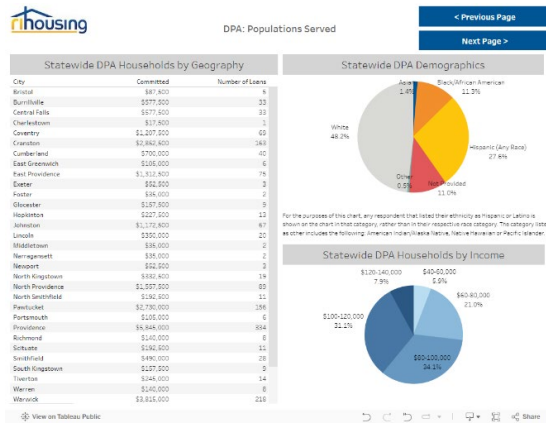
Home Page: Summary of all funds

State Fiscal Recovery Funding (SFRF) Program Dashboard				
Downpayment Assistance (DPA) Summary				
Statewide DPA	Registrations	Appropriated	Committed	Expenditure
	1,684	\$30,000,000	\$29,470,000	\$27,947,500
Site Acquisition, Public Housing Authority, and Predevelopment Summary				
Program	Appropriated	Committed	Projects Funded	
SAP	\$25,000,000	\$23,224,991	37	
PHA	\$1,000,000	\$0,000,000	7	
Predevelopment	\$10,000,000	\$9,274,595	42	
Development Program Summary				
Program Name	Appropriated	Committed	Projects	
Community Revitalization	\$20,000,000	\$15,255,000	10	
Development of Affordable Housing	\$90,000,000	\$78,828,868	29	
Middle Income Program	\$20,000,000	\$6,742,938	5	
PHA Production Fund	\$8,116,400	\$8,116,400	3	
Expenditure by Program				
Community Revitalization				\$2,500,000
Development of Affordable Housing				\$13,950,722
Middle Income				\$400,000
Predevelopment				\$5,999,350
Site Acquisition Program				\$22,568,181

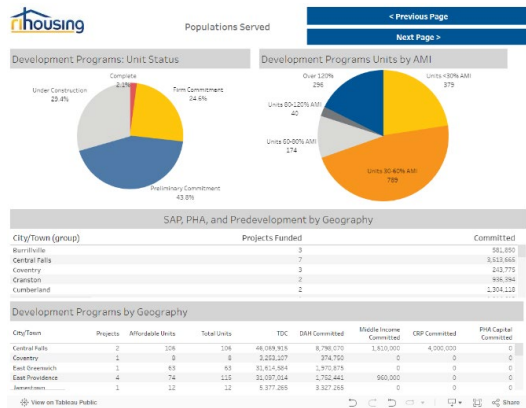
SFRF-funded development projects

Development Program Detail											
Click to View SAP and Predevelopment Program Detail											
Project Name	Developer Name	City/Town	Deal Stage	Affordable Units	Units	TDC	DPA Committed	MII Committed	OSP Committed	PHI Capital Committed	
24 Interim Street	Southern House	Providence	Preliminary Commitment	3	3	\$476,700	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$79,000	0
Adrienne House	Church Community Housing Corporat.	Auriantown	Preliminary Commitment	84	84	\$2,851,849	\$7,021,481	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
Bourne Mill III	The Anthony Reviv	Providence	Under Construction	47	47	\$22,061,772	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
Broad Street Annex	DRK Neighborhood Builders	Central Falls	Preliminary Commitment	44	44	\$24,537,426	\$7,338,070	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
Central Street Development	PCDC (Providence Central Falls Deve	Central Falls	Firm Commitment	92	92	\$22,792,469	\$6,490,000	\$3,620,000	\$0	\$0	2,600,000
Copley Chambers II & III	Marathon Development LLC	Providence	Under Construction	124	124	\$48,787,084	\$1,906,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	2,000,000
East Point	Hydra	East Providence	Preliminary Commitment	22	22	\$23,245,000	\$0	\$960,000	\$0	\$0	0
Frederic	Penrose, LLC and East	Providence	Under Construction	63	63	\$51,614,684	\$1,070,876	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
Gallego Court	Love Homes Inter.	Greenwich	Construction	2	2	\$420,505	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	200,000
Georgianna Place	Paradise Housing Authority	Providence	Firm Commitment	6	6	\$7,068,780	\$0	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	0
Key Place	HWGRY	East Providence	Under Construction	10	13	\$5,777,700	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
Lodsworth Plaza (Phase 1)	Wolve Companies	Providence	Preliminary Commitment	108	108	\$26,426,798	\$4,010,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	680,000
Lodsworth Plaza (Phase 2)	SWAS Inc (Stop	Providence	Under Construction	12	12	\$5,277,265	\$3,227,265	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
Milrose	Marathon	Providence	Under Construction	44	44	\$16,434,404	\$4,410,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	400,000

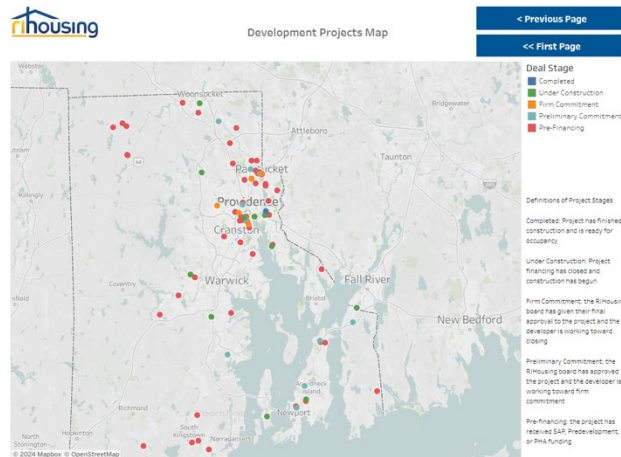
Populations served: RI Statewide DPA Program



Populations Served: Development Programs



Statewide map plotting all projects in development



SFRF-funded project page

Rhode Island Affordable Development Activities

Copley Chambers II & III

Providence

Developer: Marathon Development LLC

- Anticipated Completion Date: Q3 2024
- Total Units: 124 units
- Total Affordable Units: 124 units
- Affordability: 30% - 80% AMI

Construction Status: 76% completed

Funding Sources and Amount:

Sources	Amount
Capital Magnet Fund	\$750,000
State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF)	\$3,500,000
Acquisition Revitalization Program (ARP)	\$1,377,850
LIHTC Proceeds - 4%	\$21,233,107
Sponsor Loan	\$1,200,000
Providence Redevelopment Authority (PRA) Loan	\$6,318,000
Deferred Fee	\$3,068,346
Federal Historic Tax Credit Proceeds	\$100
Third Party Senior Lender	\$10,835,281

Total Development Cost: \$48,282,684

SFRF Funds Expended To-Date: \$3,500,000



In-person Outreach

SFRF Slide Decks

Utilized in presentation to stakeholders such as partners, key leaders, and in state meetings and committees.

Presentation to Senate Budget Hearings (2024)

Implementation of State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF)

Program	Total Funding	FY22	FY23 (current)	FY24	FY25	FY26	Committed	Expended
Development of Affordable Housing	\$100,000,000							
Development PHA Pilot	\$90,000,000	\$45,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$25,000,000		\$14,536,126	\$2,668,454
Predevelopment	\$10,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000			
Middle Income Housing	\$30,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000				
Site Acquisition	\$25,000,000	\$12,500,000	\$12,500,000	\$12,500,000			\$14,642,145	\$9,149,330
Community Revitalization	\$20,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000				
CAR	\$20,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000				
Home Keyset	\$5,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$2,500,000				
Down Payment Assistance	\$30,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000				
Total	\$230,000,000	\$120,000,000	\$64,500,000	\$71,500,000	\$62,500,000	\$28,176,271	\$11,777,784	

Note: Funds committed and expended as of 1/31/23

Streamlined Application Process

Created a consolidated funding round to streamline the process for developers to access SFRF funded programs and other RIHousing administered resources.

1st Consolidated Funding Round

- RFP issued March 2022
- \$60 million available plus 4% LIHTC (includes the \$15 million in SFRF development funds available in FY22)
- Received 53 proposals requesting over \$217 million in funding
- \$80 million awarded

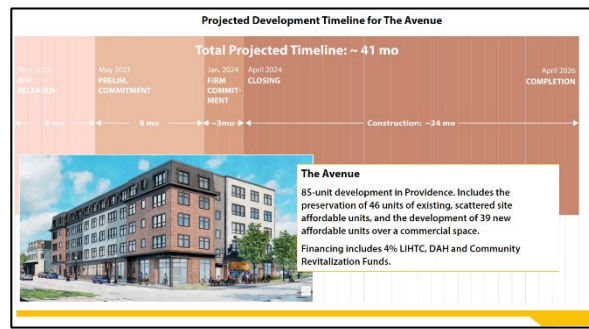
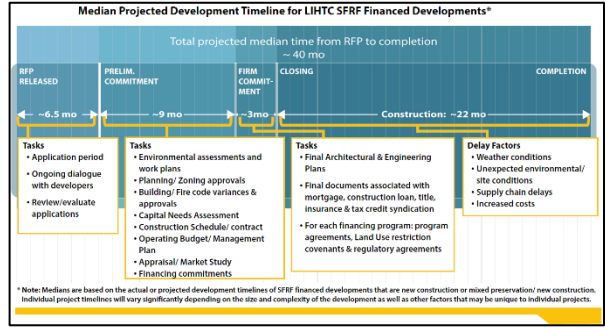
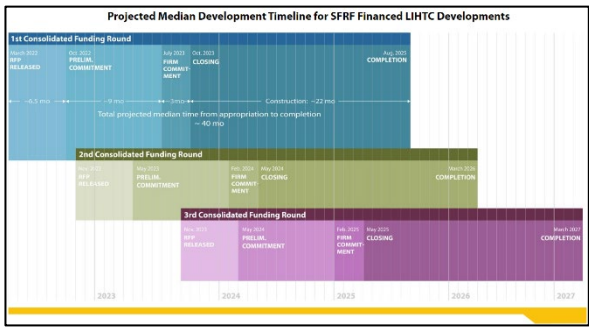
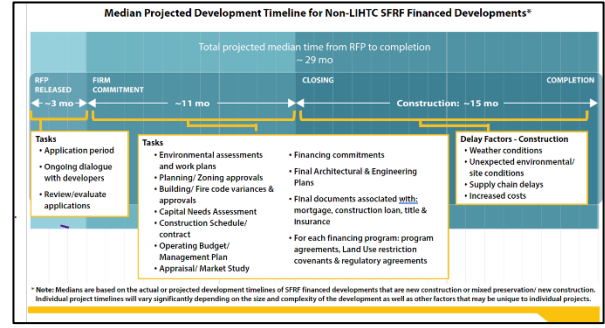
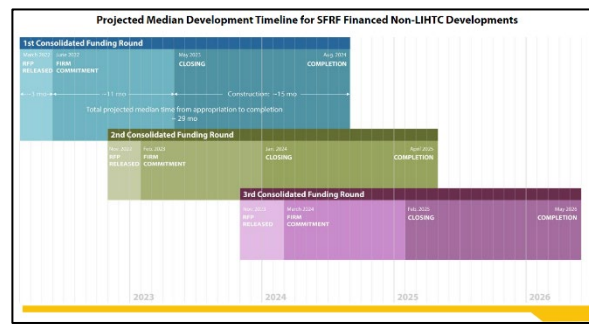
2nd Consolidated Funding Round

- RFP closed January 12, 2023
- \$163.6 million available plus 4% and 9% LIHTC (includes the \$115 million in SFRF development funds available in FY23/FY24)
- Received 57 proposals requesting over \$223 million in funding
- Over \$11 million in 9% credits requested
- Awards anticipated spring 2023

State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF)

- The Governor and General Assembly have allocated \$321.5 million in SFRF resources to housing and homeless programs. RIHousing is administering \$206.4 million of these funds.

Program	Total Funding
Development of Affordable Housing	100 million
Development	\$90 million
PHA Pilot	\$10 million
Predevelopment	\$10 million
Middle Income Housing	\$20 million
Site Acquisition	\$25 million
Community Revitalization	\$20 million
Down Payment Assistance	\$30 million
Proactive Housing Development	\$1.4 million
Total funding administered by RIHousing	\$206.4 million



RIHousing participated in multiple opportunities to testify on behalf of the use of state resources for housing development.

Most recently, RIHousing joined the Department of Housing to speak to the House Finance Committee on recent investments into affordable housing in February 2024.



State House Meet and Greets

Annual events to connect RIHousing with Rhode Island General Assembly members to update them on RIHousing’s initiatives as well as inform them on affordable housing development within Rhode Island.

2023 – State House Meet and Greet / 50th Anniversary Celebration

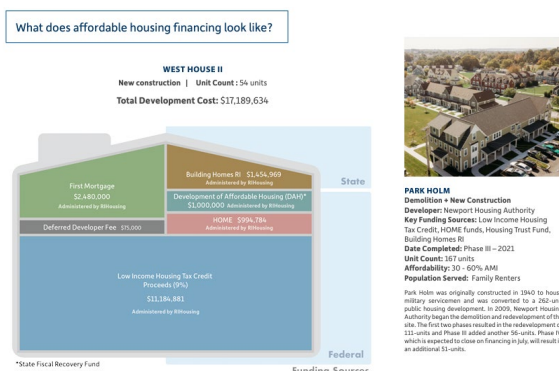
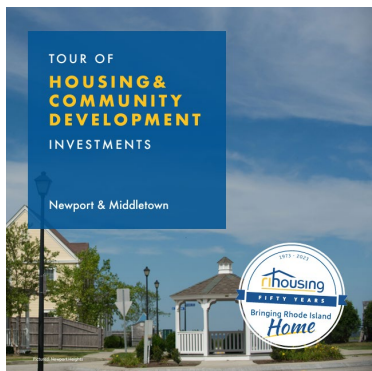


2023 – RIHousing Tour of Housing Community Development Investments

A tour of past and present investment into Rhode Island’s Providence and Newport cities for partners and elected officials. Partners were also invited to present about their projects at specific stops along the tour.



Booklet: Providing in-depth information on affordable housing developments as well as SFRF updates



STATE FISCAL RECOVERY FUND UPDATE

As part of the FY22 and FY23 state budget, Governor Ricketts requested, and the General Assembly approved, a historic \$200 million investment of State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) resources through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for affordable housing and homeless programs.

RIHousing is administering \$210 million of these resources.

Development of Affordable Housing Program	\$300M
HRM Pilot Program	\$100M
Predevelopment Program	\$100M
Middle Income Program	\$200M
Site Acquisition Program	\$200M
Community Revitalization Program	\$250M
Down Payment Assistance Program	\$300M

As of April 2023, RIHousing has committed over \$39 million in SFRF funding that is projected to produce over 1,000 affordable units in 15 municipalities across Rhode Island. We received 51 applications requesting \$223 million in the second round of funding that closed in January. We expect to make awards in May.

We want to thank the Governor and the General Assembly for this critical investment in affordable housing.

2024 – Housing Highlights News and Networking

In 2024, RIHousing took the meet and greet events into the Providence, Newport and East Bay regions of the state.



SFRF Expenditure and Project Boards

These presentation boards were on display at each event giving both partners and elected officials.

RIHousing-Administered State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) Programs

Down Payment Assistance (DPA) program	\$30 M
Development of Affordable Housing (DAH)	\$90 M
Public Housing Authority (PHA) pilot program	\$10 M
Community Revitalization (CR) program	\$20 M
Middle Income Housing (MI) program	\$20 M
Site Acquisition program (SAP)	\$25 M
Predevelopment program	\$10 M
Total	\$205 M

Expenditure Status by Programs as of 2/29/2024

Program	Expenditure	Committed	Pending Award	Total
Development Programs	\$138,116,400	\$138,116,400	\$0	\$276,232,800
Predevelopment Programs	\$36,883,600	\$36,883,600	\$0	\$73,767,200
Down Payment Assistance Program	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$0	\$60,000,000

WANT TO LEARN MORE
www.RIHousing.com/SFRF

Expenditure Details As of 2/29/2024

Category	Total Available Funds	Committed	Expended	Impact
Pre-Development Programs	\$36.8M	\$34.1M	\$28.5M	62 proposed affordable developments in 23 cities and towns
Development Programs	\$138.2M	\$100.5M	\$16.4M	Financing 1,687 units of which 1,406 are affordable; 30 developments in 18 communities

Individual Program Status as of 2/29/2024

Program	Expenditure	Committed	Pending Award	Total
SAP	\$28,000,000	\$28,000,000	\$0	\$56,000,000
Predevelopment	\$36,883,600	\$36,883,600	\$0	\$73,767,200
PHA	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$20,000,000
Development Programs	\$138,116,400	\$138,116,400	\$0	\$276,232,800

How long does new construction take?

Various factors can delay new construction, which affects the different stages of development, from disbursement of funds to construction completion.

- Increasing construction & financing cost
- Decreasing tax credit syndication pricing
- Supply chain issues
- Unanticipated site conditions

Median Projected Development Timeline for LIHTC SFRF-Financed Developments*

Total projected median time from RFP to completion: ~40 mo

Stage	Duration	Tasks	Delay Factors
RFP RELEASED	~6.5 mo	Application period, Designing dialogue with developers, Review/evaluate applications	
PRELIM. COMMITMENT	~9 mo	Environmental assessments and work plans, Planning/ zoning approvals, Building/Fire code variances & approvals, Capital needs assessment, Construction schedule/Contract, Operating budget/Management plan, Appraisal/Market study, Financing commitments	
FIRM COMMITMENT	~3 mo	Final Architectural & Engineering Plans, Final documents associated with mortgage, construction loan, title, insurance & tax credit syndication	
CONSTRUCTION	~22 mo	For each financing program: program agreements, Land Use restriction covenants & regulatory agreements	Weather conditions, Unanticipated environmental/site conditions, Supply chain delays, Increased costs
COMPLETION			

Copley Chambers II + III

PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY - RENTAL HOUSING
Developer: Marathon Development, LLC.

Project Status: Under Construction
Unit Count: 124 units
Affordability: <80% AMI

Capital Magnet Fund	\$796,800
State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF)	\$3,980,800
Acquisition/Revitalization Program (ARP)	\$1,477,800
Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Proceeds - 4%	\$7,233,800
Providence Redevelopment Authority (PRA)	\$6,116,800
Sponsor Loan	\$1,280,800
Deferred Fee	\$5,966,346
GF Capital	\$900
Third Party Service Expense	\$10,833,281
Local Development Cost	\$43,214,238

- 6,900 square feet of ground floor commercial space for Providence Community Health Center to provide supportive services to residents and the neighborhood
- 124 units are mixtures of efficiency units, one-bedroom units, and two-bedroom units

Digital Outreach

Email communication – General Assembly Newsletter

Published several times per year starting in 2023, RIHousing continually engages Rhode Island General Assembly members about updates on SFRF-funding and other need-to-know news and resources.



June 2023

Program Updates & Announcements



General Assembly Meet and Greet

On April 18th, RIHousing held its **50th Anniversary Meet and Greet** at the State House. We were honored to be joined by **Governor McKee**, **Speaker Shekarchi**, **General Treasurer Diossa** and **Housing Secretary Pryor** along with many members of the House and Senate. Our development partners were also present to share their progress putting the historic investment of State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) to work creating new affordable housing opportunities. We were also grateful for the generous resolutions filed by **Speaker Shekarchi** and **Senate President Ruggiero** recognizing RIHousing's 50th anniversary and for the warm reception given to our Executive Director, Carol Ventura, on the House floor and kind introduction by **Representative Speakman**.

Over \$100 million Invested in Affordable Housing

At its May meeting, the **RIHousing Board of Commissioners approved the award of more than \$101 million in funding** to support the construction, preservation and operation of over 1,400 units of housing. Of the 1,481 units, over 1,200 will be affordable housing. These projects are spread over 13 municipalities and are estimated to support over 3,000 jobs across the state. The \$101 million in funding comes from various federal and state resources including \$82.9 million from the \$250 million in State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) requested by Governor McKee and approved by the General Assembly last year. RIHousing is administering over \$200 million of the SFRF funding of which nearly \$115 million has been committed. [More information can be found here.](#)



Municipal Technical Assistance Program Launch

RIHousing, in collaboration with the Department of Housing, launched the **Municipal Technical Assistance Program (MTAP)** on June 8th. Funded through the State's Housing Production Fund (HPF), this program provides technical assistance to cities and towns to support increased local housing production. More information on eligibility and the application process can be found at: www.rihousing.com/mtap



Newport and Providence Bus Tours

As part of RIHousing's 50th anniversary celebrations, RIHousing hosted two bus tours for legislators and municipal officials to share the results of past and present investments made in affordable housing and community revitalization in several Newport and Providence neighborhoods. **Many thanks to the elected officials and community partners who joined us for these tours.**

June is Homeownership Month

June is designated as National Homeownership month. RIHousing, in commitment to helping Rhode Islanders achieve homeownership, has several resources that aid in this goal:

RI Statewide Down Payment Assistance (DPA) Grant Program

Launched in January, the statewide DPA program has stimulated lending activity with more than 200 first mortgage registrations recorded in March and April. These months were the first consecutive 200+ registration months since June and July 2020. Available to eligible Rhode Island first-time homebuyers, the program offers \$17,500 in down payment and closing cost assistance grants. Since January the program has helped 285 first-time homebuyers purchase a home.

FirstGenHomeRI

The FirstGenHomeRI Program provides \$25,000 in down payment and closing cost assistance to first-generation homebuyers. The program is targeted to Central Falls, East Providence, Pawtucket, Woonsocket, Providence (excluding 02906) and Newport (residences in census tract 4400 5040 500 only). Since its inception, FirstGenHomeRI has helped more than 40 Rhode Islanders become homeowners.

Resources

Resources for Elected Officials and Staff



RIHousing invites elected officials and their staff to explore our redesigned [Government and Assistance Providers webpage](#) for:

- Resources for constituent services staff
- Information on accessing housing assistance programs
- Information on RIHousing's investments by district or municipality
- Housing related data and reporting

[Visit our Website](#)

Press and Media Coverage

April 2023 – Statewide DPA Program Event
Celebration of 100th closing under the SFRF-funded RI Statewide DPA Program.



Media Coverage

March 1, 2021 – [Speaker Shekarchi announces major affordable housing push](#)

November 3, 2021- [Governor Dan McKee announces use of ARPA funding for housing](#)

December 6, 2021 – [McKee, Speaker Shekarchi, Senate President Ruggiero Announce Legislature’s Commitment to Act on Governor’s RI Rebounds Plan for Initial, Near-term American Rescue Plan Spending](#)

March 11, 2022 - [Over \\$60 million in funding for affordable housing available](#)

June 23, 2022 – [Governor McKee, RIHousing Announce Award of Funds to Support Creation of Affordable Housing](#)

March 10, 2022 – [R.I. House unveils 11 bills to address housing crisis](#)

July 5, 2022 – [Bills to address housing crisis signed into law](#)

November 3, 2022 – [Governor McKee Announces Over \\$166 Million in Funding for Affordable Housing Available](#)

May 18, 2023 – [Governor McKee Announces Award of over \\$100M to Create Over 1,400 Units of Housing](#)

March 2023 – [Speaker unveils housing production legislation package that some lawmakers say will spur housing production](#)

November 27, 2023 - [Governor McKee, Housing Announce Over \\$90 Million in Funding Available for Affordable Housing in Rhode Island](#)

December 29, 2023 – [Governor McKee Highlights 2023 Housing Accomplishments](#)

March 7, 2024 – [Speaker Shekarchi Announces 2024 Housing Legislation](#) April 11, 2024 – [Six pieces of Speaker Shekarchi’ housing legislation passes by House](#)