

Dear Community Partners –

Fall 2020

The Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) is pleased to announce that it is developing a new statewide plan for housing and community development in Illinois. This plan, called the [Housing Blueprint](#), is a large-scale planning endeavor that will collect information on local housing needs throughout the state, develop a vision for the future of housing in Illinois, and establish locally tailored plans for achieving that vision. Perspectives and feedback from a diverse group of residents, community leaders, and organizations is critical to this process, and that is why we are reaching out to you – our community partners – to help engage and raise the voices of all Illinoisans as we plan to meet our current and future housing needs.

One of the best ways for residents to take part in the Housing Blueprint is by completing the [Statewide Resident Survey](#) – an anonymous survey that asks Illinoisans their needs, perspectives, and hopes and vision for the future. The results of this survey will add context and help to shape the goals of the Blueprint. We encourage all residents of Illinois to take this survey and ask that you share this opportunity for engagement with your residents, clients, and broader network. Please use and share the attached marketing materials to publicize the Blueprint and its Statewide Resident Survey. In addition to the digital materials include on this email, we have printed flyers available and are asking that you consider volunteering to distribute these throughout your community. If you are willing to help with flyer distribution, please reach out to Emily Mueller at EMueller@ihda.org or (312) 836-7460.

IHDA is also partnering with organizations across the state to host a Listening Tour comprised of community meetings that provide a chance for residents throughout Illinois to meet and discuss their vision for the future of housing (all meetings are currently being hosted virtually). If you would like to learn more about the Listening Tour, attend a meeting, or learn about other ways to take part in the plan, please visit the [Engagement page](#) of our Blueprint website. If you are interested in co-hosting a Listening Tour meeting for your community, please reach out to Emily Mueller at EMueller@ihda.org or (312) 836-7460.

Housing is the foundation of growth for individuals, families, and entire communities, and it is critical that we understand the realities and needs of our state to effectively address them. Thank you in advance for sharing the information and links included in this letter, and for your feedback and recommendations regarding the Housing Blueprint. If you have any questions or suggestions about this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact our Blueprint team directly at info@ilhousingblueprint.org.

Sincerely,

Kristin Faust
Executive Director
Illinois Housing Development Authority