

Community Housing Network Organization Overview



In 2001, Community Housing Network (CHN) was created to address the pressing housing crisis faced by individuals with disabilities in Michigan. This was a time when state governments health institutions and helping residents transition to community living. Since its inception, CHN's work has helped to dismantle the institutionalized approach by developing affordable housing and investing in communities.



Over the past two decades, CHN's mission has expanded to include low-income, marginalized families throughout the state. The Housing Resource Center (HRC) was formed in 2002 to help simplify the landscape of programs, regulations, and services available to people in need. The HRC now manages a substantial volume of calls, exceeding 25,000 annually.

With a current budget of over \$17 million annually, CHN has grown from 2 to over 100 employees and is the largest provider of Permanent Supportive Housing in Oakland and Macomb counties. CHN provides direct housing assistance to over 1,500 individuals in Metro Detroit each year and provides home-buying education and counseling to hundreds of additional households. CHN's street outreach team maintains ongoing connections with individuals experiencing homelessness on the streets, offering vital community support.

CHN has added nearly 900 units of affordable housing to the landscape in Michigan. Through Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) reservations, CHN has developed nine housing communities across Michigan for low-income families and people with disabilities. In addition, CHN has created or preserved hundreds of units of affordable housing using a wide variety of funding sources.

In 2021, CHN became the lead agency in Oakland County for Covid Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA), which increased its annual budgets to \$42M in 2021 and \$59M in 2022. CHN was able to scale quickly to aid households facing eviction and other housing crises due to COVID-19-related hardships.

CHN's proven approach of combining housing with essential "wrap around" services delivers successful, long-term outcomes with over a 95% long-term success rate. CHN is committed to the overall health and well-being of its program participants, which in turn supports vibrant, healthy communities that are the foundation for strong cities, diverse workforces, and prosperous economies.

