



## Local Innovation and Fast Track (LIFT) Housing Program: Building for Oregon's Future

Home is the foundation for success. Every Oregonian should be able to access opportunity, which starts with having a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home. In rural and urban counties across the state, far too many of our neighbors and community members are struggling to make ends meet and must choose between paying rent and affording food, medicine, and transportation for their families.

Our state must respond to our housing crisis by making serious investments in housing opportunity. The Local Innovation and Fast Track (LIFT) housing development program is one of the most exciting and innovative tools that our state has to create more units that are affordable to people with low incomes.

The LIFT program supports the development of affordable housing, with an emphasis on advancing efficiency and innovation in development. **The Housing Alliance is calling upon the Legislature to issue \$100 million in general obligation bonds for the LIFT program** so we can substantially increase the number of affordable housing units created in our state. Affordable homes are a key part of our infrastructure in Oregon, and an investment of \$100 million is critical to the future of our state.

In 2015, the Legislature established the LIFT program, allocating \$40 million. During this first round of funding in 2016, Oregon Housing and Community Services funded twelve projects which included 965 total units across eleven communities in Oregon. The Oregon Legislature should invest in increased capacity for LIFT so we can take serious action on creating safer, decent homes that Oregonians with low incomes can afford.

We know with adequate investment, we can expand housing opportunity around the state and create homes that will be affordable for generations to come. Affordable homes created through this innovative effort will offer a better future for the families and individuals who live there. Together, we can provide housing opportunity for all Oregonians.