

Introduction

More than a Home explores how access to affordable housing provides more than just shelter to low-income families. Affordable housing is a platform for residents to access opportunities, including better education, accessible health care, jobs, and supportive services. This digital series will highlight those connections, with a spotlight on the personal stories of residents of affordable housing.

More than a Home is designed to run concurrently with the housing week of action. See schedule below:

- **Thursday, May 30th** – Housing and Health
- **Friday, May 31** – Housing and Education
- **Monday, June 3** – Housing and Sustainability
- **Tuesday, June 4** – Housing and Seniors
- **Wednesday, June 5** – Housing and Opportunity

This packet contains pre-drafted tweets and blogs for you to share via social media or email. Please keep in mind that we also have a robust resident story gallery as part of [Where Will We Live?](#) showcasing many of these cross-sector issues straight from a family's experience.

We appreciate your participation in any capacity!

For any questions or for more information, contact NHT Communications and Fundraising Manager, Halley Henry at hhenry@nhtinc.org

Thursday, May 30: Housing and Health

Tweets

Affordable housing provides a foundation for residents to access opportunities, including better #education, accessible #healthcare, #jobs, and supportive services. See the connection with @natlhousingtrust's resident stories from #WhereWillWeLive <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

"If we don't think about all the other things that [#lowincome residents] have to do just to have a place to go home to or have food on the table to support their children, then we're not seeing the big picture." —Dr. Laura Nally @Yale #WhereWillWeLive https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8xh6EHI_XVo

Homes with mold, lead paint, poor ventilation, and inadequate heating directly harm resident health, and the unhealthy tradeoffs people make to afford their homes, such as foregoing medicine or healthy food, also have health consequences. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices

"I never thought I'd be in this position. I was in health services and was working but ended up having 5 back surgeries, so I couldn't work anymore." —Victoria Aarhus explains why she needed #affordablehousing. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://youtu.be/Uz0ilwsF248>

The evidence linking access to housing and health is clear. Socioeconomic factors and physical environment, including income, housing quality, exposure to pollution, together determine half of health outcomes. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/lack-of-affordable-housing-has-an-impact-on-a-family%E2%80%99s-health-%E2%80%94-a-negative-one>

Housing and health care are inextricably linked. These resident stories from across the country show how access to #affordablehousing has enabled them to maintain a healthy lifestyle. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

Wages are stagnant, while the cost of housing and health care continues to rise. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/there-s-an-inextricable-link-between-housing-and-health>

Blogs

- *There's An Inextricable Link Between Housing And Health* - <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/there-s-an-inextricable-link-between-housing-and-health>
- *The Lack of Affordable Housing Has an Impact On Family's Health – A Negative One* - <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/there-s-an-inextricable-link-between-housing-and-health>

Friday, May 31: Housing and Education

Tweets

Affordable housing provides a foundation for residents to access opportunities, including better #education, accessible #healthcare, #jobs, and supportive services. See the connection with @natlhousingtrust's resident stories from #WhereWillWeLive <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

"Every month I would struggle, I would worry about putting money together to pay the landlord. Over here my rent is not that much, so it has allowed me to focus on school more than putting money aside for rent."
https://youtu.be/W_4LjhfJjEQ #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices

According to the @NEAToday, a home environment that encourages learning is more important to student achievement than income, educational level or cultural background. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

"Without focusing on housing, I'm able to go to college, I'm able to have a job and save money to have a house one day and not have to need affordable housing." —Brandee Wright, @OTRCH resident #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://youtu.be/W6SOFjlrz0>

"It's important to give children opportunities so that they know there's something different out there from what they see." @TCBCommunities' Quintonelle Allen shares the link b/w #affordablehousing and #education. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://youtu.be/SO--lbrpLQ8>

Investments and policies that improve schools in low-income neighborhoods can result in greater residential stability, while more safe and affordable housing enables greater student stability and school performance. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices

One way to address school segregation is to improve the racial and socioeconomic diversity of the neighborhoods surrounding the schools. That begins with changes to housing policy. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/to-fix-school-segregation-start-housing>

When low-income adults can pursue continuing education, they can advance their careers and become economically mobile, benefiting families for generations. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices

#WhereWillWeLive is a resource. Share these resident stories on Facebook and Twitter when you advocate for housing and #education during the Week of Action. Chime in with #OurHomesOurVoices or #OurHomesOurVotes to be a part of the conversation. <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

Housing and education are inextricably linked. These resident stories from across the country show how access to #affordablehousing has enabled them to pursue a better education. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

Blogs

- To Fix School Segregation, Start With Housing - <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/to-fix-school-segregation-start-housing>

Monday, June 3: Housing and Sustainability

Tweets

Affordable housing provides a foundation for residents to access opportunities, including better #education, accessible #healthcare, #jobs, and supportive services. See the connection with @natlhousingtrust's resident stories from #WhereWillWeLive <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

Low-income communities have been disadvantaged by disinvestment. Making #affordablehousing healthy and energy efficient adds to the resilience of a community. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/well-designed-homes-confer-health-benefits-and-cost-savings-on-residents>

"We have the solar panels on each building and it is #energyefficient...and believe me that helps out a lot." Tracey Lee, an @NHTCommunities resident on housing and #sustainability. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/voices-out-loud/tracy-lee>

Making affordable multifamily housing more energy efficient: A Guide. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/making-affordable-multifamily-housing-more-energy-efficient-a-guide-to-healthier>

A grant from @MDHousing helped fund #energyefficiency upgrades at the Bradford Apartments, saving the residents a total of \$56,000 per year. #Sustainability is a housing issue. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/keeping-the-bradford-apartments-affordable-through-energy-efficiency>

.@NHTCommunities-owned Galen Terrace Apartments in #WashingtonDC showcases how housing can be affordable while also helping to improve the health of the city's Anacostia River.

<https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/sustainability-case-studies-0> #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices

Blogs

- Well-Designed Homes Confer Health Benefits and Cost Savings on Residents - <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/well-designed-homes-confer-health-benefits-and-cost-savings-on-residents>
- Making Affordable Multifamily Housing More Energy Efficient: A Guide to Healthier Building Materials - <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/making-affordable-multifamily-housing-more-energy-efficient-a-guide-to-healthier>

Tuesday, June 4: Housing and Senior Living

Tweets

Affordable housing provides a foundation for residents to access opportunities, including better #education, accessible #healthcare, #jobs, and supportive services. See the connection with @natlhousingtrust's resident stories from #WhereWillWeLive <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

The maximum monthly Social Security payment in 2019 is \$719, but the median rent for a one-bedroom apartment in the U.S. is \$1,025. #Seniorliving is an #affordablehousing issue. #OurHomesOurVoices

When Theora's Social Security payment could not cover the mortgage and utilities on the house, Mountainview was the breath of relief she needed to keep moving forward. #OurHomesOurVoices #SeniorLiving #WhereWillWeLive <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/voices-out-loud/theora-beckman>

Why do seniors need #affordablehousing? @NHTCommunities resident service coordinator, Michelle Lease, walks us through the different kinds of federal assisted housing. #OurHomesOurVoices #WhereWillWeLive <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/voices-out-loud/michelle-lease>

"Even though our rents are lower...you're still looking at \$600/mo rent. For somebody who is on SSI and receives \$700/mo...that's almost their income." Connie Beining shares why seniors need #affordablehousing. #OurHomesOurVoices #WhereWillWeLive www.nationalhousingtrust.org/node/409

Beverly worked with Community Action Programs (CAP) for over 10 years to empower the poor and provide resources to low-income seniors. Today she explains why seniors need #affordablehousing. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/node/438>

When families have access to an affordable and stable home, they also have access to one of the key components for opportunity and success. These resident stories show how access to #affordablehousing has benefited #seniors on a fixed income. <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

Wednesday, June 5: Housing and Opportunity

Tweets

Affordable housing provides a foundation for residents to access opportunities, including better #education, accessible #healthcare, #jobs, and supportive services. See the connection with @natlhousingtrust's resident stories from #WhereWillWeLive <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/story-gallery>

#Affordablehousing presents residents with the opportunity to achieve self-sufficiency. These five women from Columbus share how CPO Impact provided them with that chance to jumpstart their lives. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/node/444>

By encouraging developers to build and preserve affordable communities near good schools, HFAs can help ensure that low-income students obtain the strong education that can serve as the foundation of lifelong success. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/states-encourage-affordable-housing-development-high-opportunity-neighborhoods>

The biggest asset #affordablehousing provides to #lowincome residents is opportunity. Straight from the residents who benefit from it, here's how: #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/where-will-we-live>

Too many households cannot access good-paying jobs due to a lack of affordable communities in major job centers. Families trade off upward economic mobility to live in places with cheaper housing. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices

What economic and social factors have a positive impact on one's life? There is no single answer to these questions, however, there are trends in how state HFAs define and measure opportunity in #LIHTC programs. #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/report-high-opportunity-areas-of-concentrated-poverty>

"It feels really good to be out there and actually support my family. I enjoy being in society, paying taxes, everything, I love it all." —Brandee Wright, @OTRCH resident #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://youtu.be/W6SOFjlrz0>

Low-income families with children like Addison, who came to Friendship Court with his mother when he was 7 years old, can access greater opportunities to succeed when they have access to #affordablehousing #WhereWillWeLive #OurHomesOurVoices <https://youtu.be/Z8n7hBXI2Ro>

Blogs

- States Encourage Affordable Housing Development in High-Opportunity Neighborhoods - <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/states-encourage-affordable-housing-development-high-opportunity-neighborhoods>
- Report: High-Opportunity and Areas of Concentrated Poverty - <https://www.nationalhousingtrust.org/news-article/report-high-opportunity-areas-of-concentrated-poverty>