

# \$500 MILLION in BONDS for HOMES

## build healthy communities & strong economies



When communities have adequate housing that is affordable to families across the income spectrum, **children learn, workers earn, seniors thrive, and communities prosper.** The Homes for All Coalition is asking for \$500 million in housing bonds in 2020.

### \$400 million

#### for Housing

**Infrastructure Bonds** to produce homes in communities across the state that are affordable to working families. Allow a one-time use (10% set-aside of HIBs) of bonds to be used for shelter capital needs.



### \$100 million

**for General Obligation Bonds** to preserve and improve public housing, a critical community asset, that provides stable homes for our most vulnerable residents, including seniors, children, and those with disabilities.

## \$500 million in housing bonds will help fill important gaps in affordable housing



Minnesota needs shovel-ready projects to **create jobs**



Only **1 in 4 projects** that apply for funding are funded and able to move forward



In the past three years MN's homeless population has grown **10% (9% in the Metro, 13% in Greater MN)**



MN needs to produce **30,000 new homes per year** to keep pace with growth. It only produces 20,000

State bonding is a vital tool that provides housing of all types across the state, while also creating jobs, cultivating economic prosperity for our communities, and providing stability for our most vulnerable populations, including seniors, children, and those with disabilities. That's why Homes for All requests **\$500 million in bonds for the 2020 session.**



\$500M bonding would support **3,300 Minnesota jobs** working on housing projects and for suppliers



\$500M bonding will lead to **more approved projects** and **more affordable homes** preserved and built



10% HIB set-aside would increase **shelter quality and capacity**



\$500M bonding would **jumpstart housing construction** to move MN towards housing goals

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## BONDING IMPROVES LIVES AND STRENGTHENS COMMUNITIES



When Wanda Harris (pictured left) moved to **Cloquet** to be closer to her son and three grandchildren, she found an affordable place to call home at **Aspen Arms, a 76-unit public housing complex**. More than half of residents are seniors, 20% are veterans and 50% have a physical disability or mental illness. Most live on a fixed income. "The residents here consider **Aspen Arms family**," Wanda says. With more than 65 people on the waiting list, Aspen Arms is an **in-demand community resource**, but plummeting federal funding has made it difficult to address capital needs. In 2014, **General Obligation Bonds** made it possible to replace boilers, lighting, fire alarms, elevator mechanicals, and electrical systems.



**Upper Post Veterans Community** in Saint Paul has given US Army veteran Justyn Hardwick (pictured above) "the base of operations in life to do what I'm meant to do." Previously homeless, Justyn now lives at the Fort Snelling property rehabbed by CommonBond to **provide 58 units of affordable housing for veterans and their families**. This opportunity has allowed Justin to work as a food coordinator, coach youth baseball, and volunteer for the Parks Board. Through Upper Post, **Housing Infrastructure Bonds** have given Justyn the chance to use his "ingenuity and wherewithal" to not only better his life but work with youth in his community. "I'm giving back what I've got," he says.



**Mysa House in Mora** isn't open yet but it already has a waiting list of 45 eager residents. "We feel it every day – the great need," says Rose Dunn, director of the Mora Housing and Redevelopment Authority (pictured left). Making small strides toward the more than 2,700 additional senior units needed in East Central MN through 2025, Mysa House will provide 24 homes for seniors in a burgeoning **community for older Minnesotans**. The project was one of two to receive funding through Minnesota Housing's Senior Pilot Program – and the first to begin construction. A change to eligibility, supported by Homes for All, would allow **more projects like Mysa House** to support the growing population of older Minnesotans in communities statewide.

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Homes for All MN advances shared policy initiatives that lead to housing stability for all Minnesotans and includes more than 250 organizations. Learn more at [www.homesforallmn.org](http://www.homesforallmn.org). Follow us on Twitter @Homes4AllMN and #Homes4AllMN