



## CALIFORNIA HOUSING PARTNERSHIP | [chpc.net](http://chpc.net)

### QUALIFICATIONS

The California Housing Partnership creates and preserves affordable and sustainable homes for Californians with low incomes by providing expert financial and policy solutions to nonprofit and public partners. Since 1988, the Partnership's on-the-ground technical assistance, applied research, and legislative leadership has leveraged more than \$30 billion in private and public financing to preserve and create more than 85,000 affordable homes. The Partnership is recognized nationally as a leader in preserving at-risk subsidized apartments and in the financial structuring of Low-Income Housing Tax Credit and tax-exempt bond transactions. The Partnership is a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation. The governor and respective leaders of the legislative bodies appoint the eight board of directors based on their professional qualifications and interests.

Our areas of expertise fall into three primary categories under which we provide technical assistance and trainings:

1. Housing Finance
2. Housing Policy/Applied Research
3. Clean Energy/Sustainable Housing

### Housing Finance

#### **Affordable Multifamily Housing Financial Consulting and Syndication Services**

The Partnership has provided financial consulting services for over 30 years on hundreds of multifamily transactions totaling more than 85,000 apartments. Our services include advising on financial structures to maximize equity and bond or loan proceeds raised, negotiation with equity investors, lenders, and underwriters, preparation of financial projections, and assistance in obtaining funding from competitive programs. The sources of financing which the Partnership regularly assists its clients to obtain include:

- Tax-Exempt Bonds
- 9%, 4% and California Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)
- California Department of Housing and Community Development Programs:
  - Multifamily Housing Program (MHP)
  - Veterans Housing and Homelessness Prevention (VHHP)
  - Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities (AHSC)
  - No Place Like Home (NPLH)
  - Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)
  - Infill Infrastructure Grant (IIG)

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- Joe Serna Farmworker Housing Grant
- HUD programs, including Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, 202/811 Mixed-Finance, Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance, Preservation programs, and FHA mortgage insurance
- Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program (AHP)
- McKinney Supportive Housing programs
- California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA) programs, including Mixed-Income Program (MIP)
- State and Local CDBG and HOME programs
- Project-based Section 8 Vouchers and contract extensions
- Other federal, state and local funding sources

Typical client projects range from the new construction of family apartments with childcare to the acquisition and rehabilitation of SRO buildings for extremely low-income residents with special needs, in jurisdictions throughout California.

The Partnership also provides consulting services on exit strategies for projects whose Tax Credits are reaching the end of their fifteen-year compliance period. The Partnership will analyze project economic, tax, and regulatory considerations and assist in structuring a financing plan that employs innovative techniques to ensure that the nonprofit sponsor can retain ownership of the project with minimal out-of-pocket cash requirements.

Typical services provided to our partners include:

#### **Tax Exempt Affordable Housing Bonds**

The Partnership provides consultation to its clients on all phases of obtaining allocations of tax-exempt bonds from the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC) including project feasibility, preparing financial projections, obtaining credit enhancements or bank purchasers, selecting bond lenders, meeting CDLAC thresholds, structuring applications, and maximizing competitiveness. The Partnership prepares all financial forms required for the CDLAC application. The Partnership also reviews the application for completeness and competitiveness prior to submission. To date, the Partnership has assisted clients in obtaining more than 500 allocations of tax-exempt bonds from CDLAC with more than 50 pending.

#### **Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)**

The Partnership provides assistance to its clients in structuring applications for Tax Credits. The Partnership consults on all phases of development including project feasibility, syndication and financial projections, meeting program thresholds and maximizing competitiveness. We prepare the financial pages of the TCAC application form and the cash flow projections required for the application. The Partnership also reviews the application for completeness and competitiveness prior to submission. To date, the Partnership has assisted clients in obtaining and syndicating more than 1,000 Tax Credit allocations and has dozens of applications pending allocations. The Partnership staff regularly communicates with the director of the state-allocating agency to discuss policy and regulatory issues involving the Tax Credit program.

#### **California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA)**

To date, the Partnership has assisted clients in closing more than two-dozen CalHFA loans with another dozen pending. The Partnership staff talks regularly with the CalHFA Director and

Multifamily Director about underwriting and policy issues. Partnership staff are also experienced in CalHFA's Mixed-Income Program (MIP).

### **Multifamily Housing Program (MHP)**

The Partnership provides assistance to its clients in preparing an application to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Multifamily Housing Program (MHP) and assessing its competitiveness. The Partnership prepares all financial pages of the MHP application form and projections required for the application to the California Department of Housing & Community Development. The Partnership also reviews the application for completeness and competitiveness in dozens of MHP awards. The Partnership's President talks regularly with the Director of HCD since he is a member of the Partnership's Board of Directors by state statute. The Partnership staff also talks regularly to the Deputy Director for Financial Assistance, who oversees MHP policy and funding awards, as well as the various managers of the different financial assistance programs. The Partnership has been deeply involved in the review of HCD regulations and guidelines, including the 2017 Uniform Multifamily Regulations and Proposition 1 MHP Draft Guidelines.

### **Other State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) programs**

The Partnership has helped client partners prepare hundreds of applications to virtually all of HCD's other funding programs including VHHP, NPLH, TOD, IIG, Joe Serna, etc. The Partnership staff are regularly asked for formal and informal input by HCD staff in developing program guidelines and implementing underwriting procedures. The Partnership staff are well-known to and respected by HCD staff.

### **The Federal Home Loan Bank's Affordable Housing Program (AHP)**

The Partnership is very familiar with the requirements of the Affordable Housing Program since approximately 75% of the projects the Partnership consults on use AHP. The Partnership regularly reviews AHP applications for clients for conformance with program rules and competitive strategy and assists clients with negotiations with the Federal Home Loan Bank.

### **Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities (AHSC) program**

The Partnership commissioned the research that persuaded the California Legislature to fund this ground-breaking new program from its Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The Partnership also played a role in developing the program structure and competitive point system. The Partnership provides assistance to clients with applications to the AHSC Program, including assessing and adjusting competitiveness. The Partnership prepares all financial pages of the AHSC application form and projections required for the application to the California Department of Housing and Community Development. Since the program was formed in 2014, the Partnership has provided technical assistance to over 150 AHSC applications – the successful applications have received \$175+ million in funding and are in various stages of development.

### **Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program**

Beginning in 2012, The Partnership worked with the Fresno Housing Authority to close the first ever public housing financings done with RAD in California and has continued assisting FHA with additional RAD financings ever since. The Partnership was also selected by the City of San Francisco to lead the financial structuring of the largest RAD portfolio financing in the history of the program. Using our deep expertise in federal programs, the Partnership helped the City

negotiate new flexibilities in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) RAD program. Monday, November 23, 2015 marked the closing of the financing for the last of the 15 properties in the first phase of San Francisco's ambitious program to revitalize its public housing properties. This was also the date on which ownership of the 15 properties (but not the land) officially transferred to eight owner/developer teams who started rehabilitation of the 1,422 apartments, which was completed in 2015. A second phase of SF RAD consisting of 2,044 apartments in an additional 14 properties started renovations in late 2016. Together, the two phases of SF RAD meant over \$1.2 billion in net new funding resulting in approximately \$800 million in physical improvements to outdated buildings that make up the bulk of San Francisco's public housing. Overall, the SF RAD program renewed 3,500 affordable homes to benefit 10,000 residents without displacement.

### **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

The Partnership monitors changes in HUD's policies regarding Section 8 contract renewals, federally subsidized mortgages and public housing and is generally considered the leading expert in the state on structuring HUD Section 8 transactions. The Partnership is frequently asked by HUD to participate in basic and advanced trainings on affordable housing finance in California. The Partnership has regular communication with HUD's Regional office to discuss a range of issues, including project specific issues raised by our clients.

### **Training in Affordable Housing Development and Multifamily Affordable Housing Finance**

The Partnership is nationally recognized as a leading trainer in multifamily affordable housing finance. Since the early 1990's, the Partnership has been the lead trainer for the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Statewide Housing Development Institute (HDTI), an intensive yearlong training program for project managers. Other training clients have included the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the California Department of Housing and Community Development, NeighborWorks, the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, the California Redevelopment Association, the Los Angeles Housing Department, the San Diego Housing Commission, the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency and Mayor's Office of Housing, the Low Income Investment Fund, and the staff of numerous nonprofit and local government housing agencies.

## **Housing Policy/Applied Research**

### **Technical Assistance to Government Housing Agencies**

The Partnership regularly provides technical assistance (TA) to public agencies involved in the financing and preservation of multifamily affordable homes. Recent examples of the Partnership's TA work include:

- Input into the design of Homekey, the California Housing Accelerator, and the Portfolio Recapitalization Program for the state Department of Housing and Community Development;
- Development and implementation of a comprehensive affordable housing needs and strategy annual report for the County of Los Angeles;
- Participation in the Committee to Save the Bay (CASA) process that resulted in a comprehensive set of "three Ps" proposals that helped to frame the Legislature's work in 2018 and 2019;
- Participation in the Oakland Mayor's Housing Cabinet with a lead role in assessing displacement risks to various low-income populations and developing strategies to address these risks, as described in the final report;
- A detailed assessment of the displacement risk for the Metropolitan Planning Commission in key

- Bay Area transit locations and developing recommended policy strategies;
- An innovative model for the City of Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department to preserve the affordability of older tax-exempt-bond-financed properties with expiring regulatory agreements;
- Assistance to various state funding agencies to evaluate the at-risk status of applicants for competitive financing programs wishing to preserve federally subsidized housing;
- Development and implementation of a comprehensive financing plan for the City of San Francisco to use the federal Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program to revitalize the City's older public housing; and
- Training and technical assistance on affordable housing preservation issues and techniques for the City of San José.

### Program Evaluation

The Partnership works with public agencies that are working through the process of evaluating their housing programs. Most recently the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) and the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles contracted with the Partnership to review housing policy and assist with the implementation of programs.

### Preservation of At-Risk Subsidized Rental Apartments

The Partnership's preservation services include assistance in project identification, assessing at-risk status, financial feasibility analysis, purchase negotiations, financial structuring, closing coordination, and compliance with HUD, state and local requirements. The Partnership has expertise with a wide range of preservation financing techniques and programs including Titles II & VI, Section 8 Mark-Up-To-Market and contract extensions, Section 236 IRP decoupling, and refinancing FHA insured mortgages. The Partnership has also provided consulting on projects participating in HUD's Multifamily Portfolio Reengineering Demonstration Program, property disposition program, and other transactions involving HUD-assisted or insured developments.

The California Housing Partnership has been providing preservation technical assistance continuously since 2001. This technical assistance includes risk assessments and feasibility reviews of at-risk properties throughout the state as well as providing local public agency support related to preservation of at-risk housing. The California Housing Partnership's work related to risk assessment includes the following:

- Regularly review the at-risk notice information pursuant to Government Code 65863.10-13.
- Regularly update the California Housing Partnership's at-risk database using the latest HUD, TCAC, HCD, CalHFA, and USDA data.
- Regularly improve the data analysis and risk assessment functions of the database.
- Provide at-risk housing data and advice to local governments updating the at-risk data in their housing elements.
- Assist various state funding agencies in evaluating the at-risk status of applicants for competitive financing programs wishing to preserve federally subsidized housing.
- Investigate the status of potential at-risk properties throughout California through direct outreach to owners.
- Provide feasibility review for preservation of affordability for at-risk properties and work to find preservation purchasers for these properties.
- Match nonprofit buyers with willing sellers and helped nonprofit housing organizations preserve California's precious supply of affordable rental homes for low income families.

## Research and Policy Advocacy

The California Housing Partnership leads and coordinates housing advocacy efforts to increase funding for sustainability and housing production programs that create and preserve more low-income housing in the state. We are in a unique position to facilitate knowledge sharing across housing networks at the state and regional levels, and our online data tools facilitate the research and advocacy of public servants and mission-driven organizations statewide. The Partnership maintains a comprehensive database of federally and state-assisted affordable rental housing developments in California and uses this information to assist nonprofit and local government agencies to develop plans for preserving properties that are severely at risk of losing their rent restrictions. Additionally, we provide independent program support, analysis and evaluation, as well as other forms of technical research assistance to public entities, advocacy groups, nonprofit organizations, foundations, academic institutions and other organizational partners.

### Preservation Clearinghouse

The California Housing Partnership runs a statewide Affordable Housing Preservation Database and manages the most comprehensive database of at-risk properties in California. The database includes data on all affordable housing properties funded through a range of federal and state programs including HUD grants, subsidized loans, and project-based rental assistance programs, LIHTC, HCD and CalHFA loan and grant programs, and USDA loan and rental assistance funds. The database provides analysis of risk of conversion to market rate for HUD properties and has recently been improved to estimate regulatory restriction expiration for LIHTC. The Partnership has recently made significant improvements to its database including property matching across datasets for different funding programs, allowing more accurate inventories of affordable housing supply and improved risk assessments. We use this database to help local governments assess the risk of loss of this housing as well as to develop plans for preserving properties that are at-risk of conversion and to advocate with state and federal lawmakers for additional resources.

### Housing Policy Advocacy

The California Housing Partnership serves as an information clearinghouse on federal and state affordable housing finance policy. The California Housing Partnership is active in the National Preservation Working Group, as well as other federal and state policy organizations. Previous activity includes efforts to enable the project-basing of Section 8 vouchers, participation on an advisory committee to the U.S. Senate Banking Committee regarding Section 8 portfolio restructuring, membership in HUD's "Mark-to-Market" working group, as well as participation in other federal and state housing task forces. Amidst COVID-19, the Partnership proactively worked with coalition partners, legislators and the Governor's Office on housing policy and finance-related pandemic response measures to support low-income renters and affordable housing providers.

### Housing Needs Assessments

The California Housing Partnership performs extensive research on affordable housing and renters across the state to help define communities' affordable housing needs, identify solutions and build political will to support state and local-level efforts to increase public investments in affordable housing and affirmatively further fair housing. In 2018-19, the California Housing Partnership co-published reports that measured rising housing costs and re-segregation in

regions of the Bay Area. In 2020, the Partnership launched an online dashboard for statewide tracking of housing need metrics and key indicators – the Housing Needs Dashboard ([chpc.net/housingneeds](http://chpc.net/housingneeds)) – which is now updated on an annual basis and includes reports developed on housing need for the state and all 58 counties.

### **Housing Benefits**

To support local affordable housing developments through the approval process, the California Housing Partnership also operates a second data tool, the Affordable Housing Map and Benefits Calculator ([chpc.net/datatools/affordablehomes](http://chpc.net/datatools/affordablehomes)). This unique online data tool offers map-based property-level information on California’s full inventory of federally- and state-subsidized multifamily affordable homes and allows users to calculate quantitative estimates of the social, economic, and environmental benefits each development brings to individual residents and families, taxpayers, and the local economy.

## Clean Energy/Sustainable Housing

The California Housing Partnership partners with nonprofit affordable housing owners, environmental and equity organizations, and service providers to expand and enhance climate, energy and water resources for affordable multifamily rental homes. The Partnership also provide direct technical assistance to nonprofit affordable housing owners, program implementers and policymakers.

### Multifamily Affordable Housing Property Owner Education and Outreach

#### **GREEN Network of Affordable Housing Providers**

The California Housing Partnership convenes the Green Rental home Energy Efficiency Network (GREEN) for mission-driven multifamily affordable housing owners working to collaboratively increase access to solar, energy efficiency, clean energy and water conservation resources for affordable rental properties and low-income renters in California. In recognition of the key role that energy and water costs play in the long-term financial feasibility of operating affordable housing, GREEN was founded in 2010 and includes more than 50 nonprofit and government housing organizations active statewide with extensive experience in financing, installing and maintaining clean and efficient energy systems in multifamily affordable communities.

The GREEN network has an advisory board that includes leaders from nonprofit affordable housing organizations who guide the Partnership’s work in increasing and enhancing energy and water resources for multifamily affordable rental properties and low-income renters in California. The Board ensures that policy priorities remain grounded in the needs and issues of California’s nonprofit owners and the low-income households they serve by providing strategic input.

#### **Program Administration/Outreach for LIWP and SOMAH**

The Partnership conducts intake calls, offers portfolio reviews, and conducts nonprofit owner outreach for multifamily clean energy programs including:

- **BUILD:** The Building Initiative for Low-Emissions Development (BUILD) program provides incentives for new all-electric low-income residential buildings that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Technical assistance is available for low-income all-electric residential

building planning, project fuel-switching, low-emissions building design and technologies, and incentive application completion.

- **LIWP:** The Low-Income Weatherization Program’s (LIWP) Multi-Family Energy Efficiency & Renewables Program provides technical assistance and incentives for the installation of energy efficiency measures and solar PV in low-income multi-family dwellings serving priority populations. These projects reduce residential energy demand and GHG emissions, lower energy costs for low-income residents, and reduce owner operating costs.
- **SOMAH:** The Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing (SOMAH) program provides financial incentives for installing photovoltaic (PV) energy systems on multifamily affordable housing in California. The program delivers clean power and credits on energy bills to hundreds of thousands of the state’s affordable housing residents. SOMAH is overseen by the California Public Utilities Commission.

### Affordable Energy

The California Housing Partnership was a core contributor to the California Energy Commission’s SB 350 Low-Income Energy Barriers Report, providing input from the GREEN network on energy program participation barriers and solutions for increasing participation and benefits for affordable rental housing owners and renters. The Partnership has worked with coalition partners to shape programs that support energy affordability, including AB 693 which created the Solar on Multifamily Affordable Homes program with up to \$1 billion in funding over 10 years to benefit low-income renters.

The Partnership brings deep energy policy expertise from years of engagement with California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) proceedings, including persuading the CPUC to dedicate \$80 million to empower government and nonprofit owners of rent-restricted affordable housing to participate in Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) programs for low-income households.

### Building Decarbonization

The California Housing Partnership follows policy updates closely and relays feedback from affordable housing providers working on the ground to advocate and ensure that low-income renters and nonprofit housing providers are not left behind as the state pursues climate goals through electrification and building decarbonization. As electrification initiatives become more widespread across the state, the Partnership is hosting annual summits to convene nonprofit affordable housing providers of our GREEN network, government agencies and other stakeholders in a forum to discuss the practical challenges and policy implications of electrifying affordable housing while meeting the state’s multifamily sustainability goals.

### Affordable Water

The California Housing Partnership’s Affordable Water Initiative preserves affordable homes for low-income Californians by establishing an equitable pathway to affordable water through conservation assistance and rate assistance. Rising water costs can lead to deferred maintenance and may compromise the health, safety and long-term affordability of rental homes for low-income Californians. Ensuring multifamily affordable housing properties and low-income renters have equal access to water conservation assistance combats the threat of rising water costs by creating new pathways to success for disadvantaged communities.

The Partnership partners with local jurisdictions to support and enhance conservation and efficiency programs and policies that can be pilot models for the state’s effort to make water conservation a way of

life. This includes projects such as developing a program summary of best practices from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission’s comprehensive water programs, as well as ongoing support for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) to develop low-income targeted programs that can help affordable housing owners comply with the City of Los Angeles’ energy and water benchmarking and retro-commissioning requirements.

The Partnership supported the state’s effort to create a statewide low-income water rate assistance program by serving as the multifamily and low-income renter expert to the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) and environmental justice partners. Through public comments and participation in the Water Board’s working group for AB 401, the Partnership recommended program design features to reach low-income renters in multifamily and multifamily affordable homes – a challenge that many local water providers face.

### **Clean Energy Financing Information Dissemination**

The Partnership’s Sustainable Housing team speaks at conferences, provides regulatory comments, hosts webinars, and offers trainings with partner organizations to industry professionals on solar photovoltaic financing and installation fundamentals (Solar 101 Institute) and other clean energy programs and resources. On an annual or biannual basis, the Partnership convenes sustainable housing summits on topical areas of concern, with the most recent being building decarbonization and electrification. Throughout all clean energy initiatives, the Partnership works to constantly expand knowledge of and resources within sustainable housing programs and policies in California.

Please visit our website for more information: [chpc.net](http://chpc.net).