

# Housing Opportunity Grant Activities

## Level 1 – Housing Opportunity Grant Ideas



**Education for REALTORS®:** Offer a class to provide information about buyer assistance programs that could help their clients or to teach REALTORS® about working with first-time buyers.



**Guest Speaker:** Host a guest speaker who can provide information to increase understanding of a specific affordable housing issue. The event could be for the public or for REALTORS®.



**Community Stakeholder Meeting:** Bring together REALTORS®, elected officials, nonprofits, housing advocacy groups, community members and others brainstorm solutions for local housing issues and to share information about each organization's programs and resources.

## Level 2 – Housing Opportunity Grant Ideas



**Housing Forum:** An event organized to discuss a particular issue or situation related to a housing issue in the community. Aimed at solving a problem, a forum often results in a report, plan, or action items.



**Housing Symposium:** Features multiple speakers who explain a topic related to housing; often highlighting differing views and ideas. Typically a good way to identify a range of policy and program solutions for further consideration.



**Housing Study/Analysis:** Quantify housing challenges by examining issues such as growth patterns, the cost of homes compared to wages, or the feasibility of new development. Or, focus on a particular topic, such as accessory dwelling units. The study/analysis may also include recommendations, such as policy solutions.

# Housing Opportunity Grant Activities

## Level 2 – Housing Opportunity Grant Ideas



**Housing Fair:** Typically geared toward first-time homebuyers, housing fairs are a one-stop shop resource featuring vendors and experts whose services would likely be needed during the homebuying process, such as housing counselors, lenders, home inspectors, closing attorneys.



**“Parade of Homes”:** A parade or showcase of homes event allows potential buyers to see multiple homes, in a defined affordable price range, within a set timeframe. The event should be paired with the opportunity for participants to learn about the buying process.



**Housing Task Force:** A task force is a temporary or long-term group of organizations and individuals who share the common purpose of expanding housing opportunities. The task force may focus broadly on housing affordability or work on a specific topic such as supply issues.



**Homeownership Education:** Classes are an effective way to engage the community and help prepare potential buyers for the responsibilities of ownership. HUD-approved counseling agencies often make ideal partners for consumer education efforts.



**Education and Awareness:** Conduct an education and awareness campaign geared toward community members to explain what housing affordability is (and is not) and why having homes in a range of prices benefits everyone.



Approved activities must be comprehensive, have a broad community reach, significant REALTOR® involvement, and must include working with at least one non-REALTOR® partner organization.

## Level 3 – Housing Opportunity Grants