

How using ARPA funds for housing helps your community

Ways to use ARPA \$\$ to help housing

- Extend municipal **water and sewer** system to residential building sites
- Create a **land bank** (buy land, prep it for housing for eventual transfer to a housing developer)
- Provide grants for creating [accessory dwelling units](#) or [home repairs](#)
- Fund a portion of the costs of developing safe, perpetually [affordable apartments](#)
- Provide **down payment assistance** to home buyers impacted by the pandemic (work force, COVID survivors)
- [Buy down the price](#) of existing homes for lower income home buyers

Other ways to make homes more affordable

- Conduct a land use regulation [audit](#) to identify [zoning barriers](#) to affordable housing
- Apply for a state [designation](#)
- Institute [Housing Impact Analyses](#) for identifying unintended housing impacts of proposed local policy changes.
- Consider donating or selling municipal land for housing development
- Support housing projects throughout the development process
- More at housingdata.org/toolbox

On average, [each home](#) in a new neighborhood spurs \$117,000 in local income, \$22,000 in local tax revenue, and supports 1.6 local jobs, in just the first year.



Case Study: The [City of Montpelier](#) has modeled effective local approaches for helping housing, including funding some costs of developing Taylor Street Apartments (pictured), providing down payment assistance to home buyers and grants for creating accessory dwelling units.

Housing promotes public health and economic recovery from the pandemic

Vermont suffered [high job losses](#), [housing instability](#) and [COVID infection rates](#) in certain locations.

The pandemic caused disproportionately high rates of COVID, unemployment and housing instability among low income Vermonters. By providing more safe, affordable housing, communities address inequities, promote health and create economic benefits, especially in [Qualified Census Tracts](#).

The need persists. About [38,000 households](#) across Vermont continue to pay more than half of their income for housing and at high risk of [homelessness](#), foreclosure and eviction.

In growing towns, additional homes help [meet demand and mitigate rising prices](#).

In towns without [population growth](#), investing in existing buildings can revive downtown vibrancy and attract new residents.

If your town needs to grow its tax base or [fill vacant jobs](#), new residents in areas served by municipal water and sewer can help.