

# Want to Help Build an Inclusive Boulder County? #HomeWantedBoCo

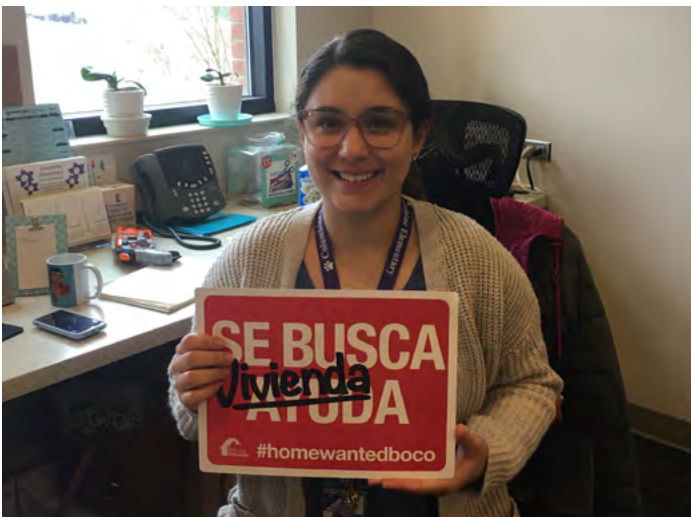


The high cost of housing is squeezing people out of Boulder County and unraveling our community fabric. It hurts businesses' ability to attract and retain workers, contributes to climate change with increased traffic and long commutes, prevents the community from being inclusive and diverse, and negatively impacts public health.

Home Wanted is taking a regional approach to housing affordability that will boost the overall health and well-being of our entire community; **we have a plan** to triple the number of affordable homes in Boulder County in just 15 years. **And we need YOU.**

**Let's work together to be part of the solution.** This will take sustained and courageous action and commitment from elected officials, business leaders, and everyone else to reach the Home Wanted goal of tripling our current supply of affordable homes in 15 years. Together we will ensure that 12% of all homes in Boulder County are affordable by 2035 (we're at 5% now). **We need you to be a champion for ensuring our community is welcoming, supportive, and inclusive of all.**

**Home Wanted is about All Of Us.  
Let us know how YOU can help.**



## What are the strategies that can help support housing?

The Boulder County Regional Housing Partnership, formed in 2016 and with a plan now supported by nine jurisdictions across our county, has developed five strategies to achieve its goal of ensuring 12,000 more affordable homes are added to our housing mix by 2035. The strategies are:

- **Increase funding** for creation of affordable homes;
- **Preserve** existing affordable homes;
- Find opportunities to **acquire and hold land** for future affordable homes;
- **Streamline regulations** to expand options for more affordable homes; and
- **Engage all** those who live, work, and play here in a conversation around ensuring that access to safe, affordable, and diverse housing for all is a core community value, and that we clearly demonstrate that.

## What can you say to others that will help?

It makes sense to put housing affordability first. Multiple scientific surveys all over our county demonstrate the same thing: lack of housing affordability is the top issue our neighbors want to see addressed. [Research shows that housing affordability and stability has long-lasting effects.](#)

When we increase access to high quality, stable affordable homes:

- **Poverty levels are reduced;**
- We have **better health outcomes**, including lower levels of obesity and diabetes and better mental health;
- We gain **better access to nutritious foods**; and
- Younger children have a [much greater likelihood](#) of attending college and earning significantly more

When housing stability is combined with other assistance such as job training, health coverage, and supplemental food, our neighbors see sustained increases in earnings, much of which is then spent in their community. Reducing commute lengths for people who can live closer to work also improves health, alleviates stress, strengthens families, and cuts carbon emissions. **Investment in housing affordability for our neighbors who need the help greatly reduces costs from crises, poor health, and other expensive impacts on our community, and it creates lasting beneficial effects for all of us.**

If we're honest about the vision that we collectively hold for our community's future, we'll see that it is a vibrant, healthy Boulder County that is **welcoming, supportive, and accessible to all**: working single mothers; struggling low-income families trying to break out of the cycle of poverty; aging parents seeking to remain near their children; childcare providers, teachers, restaurant servers, firefighters... and so many others.

## How You Can Help

- [Join The Home Team](#). As a member of the Home Team, you will:
  - Encourage the sharing of housing stories;
  - Participate in events for housing affordability, innovation, and ideas;
  - Connect to your community and decision makers in creative ways;
  - Share talents, ideas and passion for housing innovation;
  - Support diverse, equitable housing for generations to come; and
  - Be a champion in your community.
- **Put Home Wanted signs up** in your community and your workplace. [Download your sign](#)
- **Start the conversation with friends and neighbors**. Ask them about their housing story, record it, share it, and connect it to a tangible solution. [Download a brochure](#)
- **Share the message through social media** with a photo of you and the Home Wanted sign and the hashtag [#HomeWantedBoCo](#), and ask your friends to be bold and share the message.
- **Talk with your employer** about speaking out publicly on the need for more diverse and affordable housing for the workforce.
- **Write to your city council or town board members**, tell them you support Home Wanted, and ask them to do all they can to back the effort to triple our supply of affordable homes across Boulder County by 2035, particularly around funding, regulations, and land. [Download a postcard template](#)
- **Attend a city council or town board meeting** and ask them to speak publicly about their support for Home Wanted, the Regional Housing Plan, and the need to act now.
- **Write letters and guest columns** to your local papers.

Visit [HomeWanted.org](https://HomeWanted.org) for additional information and resources.