GIVE GUIDE: FUTURE OF BAY AREA HOUSING

We need to solve our housing crisis in order to build a Bay Area where people of all races and backgrounds can thrive in safe, affordable, and vibrant communities. Housing is a regional issue that requires regional solutions, and a racial justice issue, requiring equitable solutions. Housing inequalities are rooted in policies and practices that, collectively, we have the power to change through coordinated strategies—protection, preventing homelessness, preserving homes that are already affordable, and producing new homes. Moving together, these strategies address complex and interrelated housing issues.

When we work together, we can build a better Bay Area. We can support more organizations and governments around the Bay Area in applying the policy tools that will accelerate efforts to address inequalities around the region. Below are a few organizations well positioned to make significant progress.

All Home advances regional solutions to disrupt the cycle of poverty and homelessness. All Home brings together a diverse set of partners—elected officials, government administrators, private sector partners and nonprofit partners—to address our region’s homelessness crisis. They created a first-of-its-kind regional plan to tackle homelessness and housing insecurity, with a goal of reducing unsheltered homelessness by 75% by 2024.

Resources for Community Development creates and preserves affordable housing for individuals and families with low and very low incomes. RCD addresses how these individuals and families can continue to live and work in an increasingly expensive Bay Area, through activities such as using their real estate development partnerships to expand and manage the supply of affordable housing, and by investing in community support to keep residents successfully housed.

Nonprofit Housing (NPH) Northern California has secured billions of dollars over the last four decades in investments for affordable housing across the state of California, as well as advancing key affordable housing production policies. NPH plays a key role in the Bay Area’s affordable housing ecosystem through convening its membership of affordable housing developers and advocates and gaining buy-in on affordable housing legislation.

The Partnership for the Bay’s Future is a multi-sector initiative focused on creating and maintaining a vibrant racially and economically diverse Bay Area by addressing the interconnected and urgent needs in housing, transportation, and economic opportunity. PBF’s unique dual approach: working to advance policy changes that protect residents and improve affordability, while also investing in building new and rehabilitating existing affordable homes, always through a lens of racial equity and economic inclusion.

Systems change would not be possible without the grassroots education, outreach, and organizing happening across the Bay Area at the local level. Several coalitions bring together housing organizations as well as grassroots advocates and organizers to protect tenants and support the production and preservation of affordable housing: East Bay Housing Organizations (East Bay), SV@Home (South Bay), and Housing Now! (California).

For more information on ways the San Francisco Foundation is all in on fixing the Bay Area’s regional housing crisis, check out our website.

Updated May 2022