



2021 Statewide Housing Priorities Draft

[HousingLOUISIANA](#) is a statewide alliance of housing practitioners and advocates whose primary goal is to ensure that the housing needs of all Louisianans are met. Through our statewide network of the nine regional housing alliances and working groups in New Orleans, Shreveport, Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Northshore, Monroe, Alexandria and Houma-Thibodaux, we work to better coordinate advocacy efforts and build better collaborations across the state.

Each year HousingLOUISIANA conducts a series of listening sessions across the state and co-hosted by the regional housing alliance partners. These listening tours are intended to share local housing data and to hear from local advocates and residents about their own experiences with local housing conditions and needs. These stories through the listening tour each year inform the development of HousingLOUISIANA's Statewide Housing Priorities. This year, those stories and conditions have been exacerbated by the growing displacement of low-income households due to both the disasters impacting our state including the COVID-19 pandemic and various hurricanes and storms from which communities have not yet recovered. We have a shortage of over 100,000 units of affordable and accessible housing for households with incomes below 50% area median income across the state.

Louisiana Needs a Strong and Well-Funded Housing Trust Fund Now!

To address the ongoing housing needs and respond more quickly to emerging disasters, we must invest in and strengthen **Louisiana's Housing Trust Fund**. Following Hurricane Katrina, Louisiana invested over \$500 million in the Louisiana Housing Trust Fund and more than quadrupled its investment by leveraging other resources that contributed to the creation of thousands of housing units in areas most devastated Katrina and other storms that followed it.

- *Create a designated revenue streams for local and Statewide Housing Trust Fund to increase affordable housing production goals to meet the needs of low-income families and commit to including the Neighborhood Housing Improvement Fund (NHIF) reauthorization and funding increase on the ballot in 2021.*

Louisiana's Families Need More Opportunities to Own a Home

To move our state forward, we must also help struggling families increase their economic mobility and make homeownership possible for them. There are several strategies that HousingLOUISIANA champions including:

- *Communication and engagement around affordable housing issues.*
- *Increase permanent and emergency housing opportunities with wraparound services for special needs populations, including at-risk youth, people who are mentally ill, homeless individuals, people who were formerly incarcerated, and victims of domestic violence.*
- *Secure funding for a robust home rehabilitation program for homeowners and affordable housing landlords to bring properties up to code standard.*
- *Recruit more local developers to partner with and commit to affordable housing development.*

For more information about [HousingLOUISIANA](http://www.housinglouisiana.org) visit our website at www.housinglouisiana.org.

About HousingLOUISIANA:

HousingLOUISIANA is a statewide network of housing practitioners and advocates whose primary goal is to ensure that all Louisiana's housing needs are met. Through our statewide network of the nine regional housing alliances in Alexandria, Baton Rouge, Houma-Thibodaux, Lafayette, Lake Charles, Monroe, New Orleans, Northshore, and Shreveport, we work to better coordinate efforts and build collaboration across the state on housing issues. Monroe, New Orleans, Northshore, and Shreveport, we work to better coordinate efforts and build collaboration across the state on housing issues.