



**WE NEED  
AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING**



*Housing Conversations:*  
**ECONOMICS, EQUITY AND ACCESS**  
JULY 22, 2021 | 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST | WEBEX

**Featured Speaker:**  
**MARSHALL E. CRAWFORD, JR., MPA**  
**PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, THE HOUSING FUND**



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## STATEWIDE COALITION TO HOST MEETING ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN ARKANSAS

The **Arkansas Coalition of Housing and Neighborhood Growth for Empowerment (ACHANGE)** is hosting a virtual session about the current Arkansas economic realities affecting affordable housing on Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 10 a.m. Discussion will center on economic opportunities and challenges in developing affordable housing in the current environment.

**Marshall Crawford, Chief Executive Officer of The Housing Fund**, is the scheduled keynote speaker. Respondent panels will be led by Faith Weekly, Community Development Advisor for Neighborhoods and Housing with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, and Gloria Reynolds, Community Affairs Specialist for Arkansas & Tennessee with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Department of Depositor and Consumer Protection, Dallas Region.

ACHANGE launched its topical convenings *Housing Conversations* in 2018 to address emerging issues related to affordable housing. During 2021 the theme is *Housing Conversations: Economics, Equity, and Access*, focusing on the current economic environment for developing, renovating, and acquiring affordable housing. The July 22, 2021 session addresses the impact the pandemic is having on affordable housing; its funding and current cost environment, including historic low interest rates; the current seller's market, availability of affordable purchase options, and housing production cost increases. How do these factors affect the industry and the market for affordable single family and multifamily homes?

The event is made possible through a partnership with the Arkansas Bankers Association.

To register, go to <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=4wm7nzhab&oeidk=a07ei8z0th587a41ab5>. For more information, contact ACHANGE at [info@achange.org](mailto:info@achange.org) or visit [www.achange.org](http://www.achange.org).

The Arkansas Coalition of Housing and Neighborhood Growth for Empowerment (ACHANGE) is a collective voice that promotes quality affordable housing and community economic development throughout the state of Arkansas. "Affordable housing is an important issue in Arkansas. The global pandemic shone a spotlight on just how vulnerable housing is for working families," states Martie North, Chair of the Board of ACHANGE and Director of Community Development/CRA at Simmons Bank. "Now more than ever we need to collectively begin working to tackle the challenges and seize the opportunities to expand access to quality housing that is affordable to persons at all income levels."

**About ACHANGE:** *Established in 2004, ACHANGE is dedicated to promoting quality, affordable, housing and community economic development throughout Arkansas. ACHANGE supports, informs, and encourages local and state-wide efforts to improve housing for Arkansas's low-income and moderate-income families. The organization is comprised of not-for-profit and for-profit affordable housing practitioners, housing authorities, financial institutions and other community development organizations throughout Arkansas.*

**About The Housing Fund:** *Since its incorporation in 1996, THF has assisted over 3,500 first time homebuyers receive over \$25 million in down payment assistance loans, as well as providing more than \$47 million in financing to assist individuals and organizations purchase, rehabilitate, or construct homes for low and moderate income families. To put these numbers in perspective, THF has lent over \$75 million, which has leveraged over \$400 million in private financing for more than 4,900 units.*