



# GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

## INVESTING IN AFFORDABLE, ATTAINABLE HOUSING

Governor Whitmer has taken a holistic approach to housing. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, approximately 500,000 households paid more than 50% of their income for housing. This overburden meant families had less money left over to put food on the table, gas in the tank, afford prescription drugs, or buy school supplies for their kids. The administration worked to increase housing supply to lower costs, set bold goals to add 75,000 new or rehabilitated homes in the next five years, and made investments to make homes more comfortable, safe, and energy efficient.

*“Housing is about more than just a place to live—it is an anchor of success. I am proud of the work we have done to build up affordable, attainable housing, help families stay in their homes through COVID, and make homes more comfortable and sustainable. Every Michigander deserves a safe place to call home that meets their needs and serves as a springboard for them to care for their families and pursue their potential.”*

- Governor Gretchen Whitmer

### Investing in attainable, affordable housing

- Released Michigan’s first [Statewide Housing Plan](#), which outlines goals and strategies for private and public partners to deploy in order to tackle the state’s affordable and attainable housing crisis.
- Made [historic investments](#) in affordable housing through the Building Michigan Together Plan that would house 6,000 Michiganders, build 2,000 affordable, attainable rental housing units, and leverage an additional \$380 million in private funding, while creating 1,600 good-paying jobs.
- Provided hundreds of millions in investment to the [Multi-Family Direct Lending Program](#), the [Low-Income Housing Tax Credit](#), and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority to support the development of over 3,500 new housing units.

### Providing housing assistance to families

- Signed the [‘Michigan First-Time Home Buyer Savings’](#) bill to help families purchase their first home.
- Supported assistance to thousands of families from the [Down Payment Assistance Program](#) and [MI Home Loan Mortgage Program](#) to help Michigander’s buy homes.
- Provided services through the [Housing Education Program](#) to Michigan families to encourage homeownership and assist homeowners with the transition to new housing.
- Supported tens of thousands of families with funding from the [Michigan Homeowners Assistance Fund](#), a mortgage foreclosure prevention program to help families stay in their homes.
- Signed a [‘Pay as you stay’](#) bill to help Detroit homeowners struggling to pay property taxes by providing affordable payment plans and eliminating penalties, interest, and fees to manage their taxes.
- Signed [a bill](#) to clear the path for low-income homeowners to receive a three-year property tax exemption.
- Distributed over \$16 million [Emergency Solutions Grants](#) to nonprofits across the state to help individuals experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness.

### Making housing more comfortable and sustainable

- Awarded [Neighborhood Enhancement Program grants](#) to communities and nonprofits across the state to strengthen neighborhoods, provide amenities, and repair housing.
- Invested [millions](#) in services to make homes more [comfortable](#), [sustainable](#), and affordable.

- Proposed funding for [home repair and plumbing improvements](#) for low-income households. Incentivized [low-income housing](#) developers to achieve higher levels of sustainability commitments and energy efficiency and shift construction of new units near amenities essential to healthy living like parks, grocery stores, and more.
- [Invested](#) in [Michigan's green bank](#) and proposed funding for [residential clean energy improvements](#).

### Keeping families housed during COVID-19

- Signed executive orders and launched the [MI Mortgage Relief Partnership](#) to ensure that [tenants](#) and [homeowners](#) could remain in their homes during COVID-19.
- Invested over \$1.1 billion in the [Emergency Rental Assistance](#) program which has helped over one hundred eighty-five thousand vulnerable renters avoid eviction, get caught up on rent, and keep their utilities on while allowing landlords to recoup back rent.
- Expanded the [Housing Education Network](#) to provide services to residents facing housing insecurity due to COVID-19.