WHO NEEDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING?

While Polk County is known as an economical place to live, the average cost of homes and apartments is beyond the budget of many folks who are the backbone of a thriving community.

Teacher Assistant
$22,180
(Average annual salary)

Grocer
$23,670
(Average annual salary)

EMT
$37,780
(Average annual salary)

Welder
$35,620
(Average annual salary)

For low and moderate income households, housing is considered unaffordable if the costs exceed 30 percent of that household’s income. In other words, if a household has earnings of $2,000 per month, the rent or mortgage payment and utilities should not exceed $600 per month.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS FOUNDATIONAL TO EVERYTHING WE VALUE AS A COMMUNITY.

Polk County Housing Trust Fund is a 501(c)3 corporation that receives funding from the State of Iowa, Polk County and private donors. Thanks to their support, the Trust Fund is able to achieve its mission of planning, advocacy and funding for affordable housing. You can view a complete list of these donors on our website. While you are there, sign up for our newsletter to stay informed about the work we do to improve the quality of life for the residents and businesses of Polk County.

WWW.PCHTF.ORG
Investing in an affordable home means more than improving quality of life for a single family. It means making an impact on the continued growth and vibrancy of our community. When housing is affordable to all:

- Businesses can find the workers they need.
- Children meet their educational goals.
- People enjoy better mental and physical health.

Focused on planning, advocacy, and funding, Polk County Housing Trust Fund’s mission is to strengthen our communities by expanding affordable housing choices. Fulfilling this mission means removing barriers to affordable housing and ensuring that all have a place to call home.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Providing a wide range of options in terms of style, price and location is critical to attracting and retaining a diverse workforce.

- Jay Byers
CEO, Greater Des Moines Partnership

37,617 jobs with an annual salary under $35,000 will be created by 2050.
(Region wide — Gruen & Gruen/Census/PCHTF)

**EDUCATION**

Four moves for children by the 8th grade mean they will be four times more likely to drop out of school.

(US Government Accountability Office)

Many children struggle with their school work because they lack a permanent home. They make multiple moves each year, which can have a direct impact on their success in the classroom.

- Dr. Tom Ahart
Superintendent of the Des Moines Public Schools

**HEALTH**

Affordable housing improves health outcomes by freeing up family resources for nutritious food, reducing stress and stabilizing families and neighborhoods.

- Angela Walker Franklin, PhD
President, Des Moines University

39% of extremely low-income households say their health is fair or poor.
(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

When people live in safe, stable and affordable housing, the community wins!