AHACO joined the CONVERGENCE Columbus Steering Committee to increase minority homeownership and reduce the racial wealth gap through a place-based, collective impact model.

Members crafted a comprehensive economic recovery plan that recommends 30% of flexible, local relief funds support affordable housing initiatives, which has the power to unleash the swiftest, most equitable economic recovery in American history.

AHACO provided technical assistance and policy guidance to support Columbus, Reynoldsburg, Westerville, Whitehall, and Worthington in adopting anti-discrimination Source of Income ordinances.

Our team joined the Pregnancy Care Initiative’s Leadership Council to help expand resources, partnerships, and system changes that will ensure pregnant women avoid homelessness and birth healthy babies.

End of 2021 Policy Successes

Despite weathering unprecedented economic conditions, the City of Columbus released its plan to exhaust a $50 million affordable housing bond package that will create 1,300 new affordable homes.

End of 2021 Investment Successes

AHACO’s latest collaboration, Resiliency Bridge, uses housing as a platform for economic mobility. It received funding to support the first 60 workers in their journey to a high-demand, high-paying career.

With AHACO’s advocacy and technical support, Franklin County helped over 21,900 families avoid eviction during COVID-19, totaling $52 million in relief funds and wrap-around supports distributed so far.

Ways to Get Engaged Right Now

--In December 2021, one-in-five Ohio renters were unsure how they were going to make their January housing payment. Relief is available, but too few know how to access it. You can help by sharing Franklin County’s eviction prevention hub with your social networks: www.Rentful614.com.

--More local communities are now considering anti-discrimination laws. Contact AHACO today to find out what’s happening in your city and how you can help expand these protection countywide.
The Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio (AHACO) is a nonprofit with members representing the continuum of housing experts including homeless advocates, developers, property owners, home-ownership proponents, lenders, and the philanthropic community. We use data and grounded research to make feasible housing recommendations that are customized for Central Ohio and catalyze partnerships with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to achieve meaningful solutions that will close the 54,000-household affordability gap. We do this because we understand that affordable housing is the key to unlocking security and prosperity for our people and our region.

2021-2023 STRATEGIC PLAN

Ensure Housing Development is Optimized to Meet Franklin County’s Affordability Needs
- Expand funding tools to develop affordable homes for renters
- Expand funding tools to development affordable homes for homeowners
- Advance policies that facilitate affordable housing development

Promote Wealth-Building and Community Stability Through Obtainable and Retainable Homeownership
- Expand funding tools for homeownership purchase, repair, and improvements
- Advance policies that expand and preserve homeownership to reduce wealth and equity gaps

Stabilize Renter Households with Short-Term Rental Assistance and Supportive Services for Security & Economic Mobility
- Expand funding tools for eviction prevention (1-6 months; average 3 months)
- Expand funding tools for rapid rehousing (1-18 months; average 1 year)
- Expand funding tools for targeted, time-limited rent assistance (12-60 months; average 3 years)
- Expand funding tools for non-profit sponsor-based rent assistance (no time limit; average 5 years)
- Advance policies that stabilize renter households and promote economic mobility

Advance Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice in Our Work and Workplaces
- Advance just policies that are informed by history, influenced by those we serve, and crafted with a racial equity lens.
- Approach internal processes, including purchasing and hiring decisions, with a racial equity lens. Equip member organizations with tools and resources to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in their internal operations.

Solidify AHACO’s Reputation as a Strong, Trusted, and Reliable Authority in the Housing Space
- Promote collaboration among members and share impactful and accessible information, research, and resources with the community freely.

AHACO MEMBERS

Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority
Columbus Urban League
Community Development for All People
Community Housing Network
Community Shelter Board
Creative Housing
Finance Fund Capital Corporation
Franklinton Development Association
Habitat for Humanity - MidOhio
Homeport
Homes on the Hill
Huckleberry House
Impact Community Action
Nationwide Children’s Hospital
National Affordable Housing Trust
National Church Residences
NRP Group
Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing
Preservation of Affordable Housing
Star House
The Columbus Foundation
The Community Builders
The Refuge
United Way of Central Ohio
Wallick Communities
Woda Cooper Companies
YMCA of Central Ohio
YWCA Columbus