The City of Reynoldsburg became the first community in Central Ohio to adopt Pay to Stay protections, joining eleven other Ohio cities in codifying rules on how a tenant can pay late fees to prevent an eviction.

Moments before 2021 drew to an end, the City of Whitehall became the sixth City in Central Ohio to approve a Source of Income ordinance to prevent income discrimination. It is now under consideration in Gahanna.

The City of Columbus approved a new residential abatement policy that lowers operating costs for builders who create affordable homes. The Community Reinvestment Area policy incentivizes development for households earning 60% AMI for the first time, which can aid a family of three earning appx. $50,000/year.

The Rentful614 eviction prevention hub, supported by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, the City of Columbus, the United Way of Central Ohio, the Siemer Institute, and AHACO surpassed 76,000 visitors after less than ten months in operation.

By June 2022, over 46,000 Franklin County renters and their families received emergency rent assistance funds to help prevent eviction or find a safe place to call home, representing over $110,976,669 in housing relief since the pandemic began.

In Mayor Andrew Ginther’s annual State of the City address in March, he announced the city will seek $200 million for affordable housing bonds on the ballot in November and he further challenged the public and private sectors to raise one billion dollars to address our growing housing needs.

Last year, AHACO created a customized proposal that allows our region to recover from the pandemic and address long-rising housing cost challenges by investing 30% of our State & Local Recovery funds to support various affordable housing initiatives. That framework continues to gain support, funding decisions have not yet been made.

Policymakers are now deciding how to spend our recovery funds, a once-in-a-generation opportunity to solve big problems. Sharing your personal housing story can help inform how we move forward together!

With 1-in-4 renters struggling with housing, all of us know a friend, family member, or colleague that is struggling with their housing costs. You can help by sharing the Rentful614 resources with your networks; visit www.Rentful614.com/SpreadTheWord to access the outreach toolkit.
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  National Affordable Housing Trust
Columbus Urban League  National Church Residences
Community Development for All People  NRP Group
Community Housing Network  Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing
Community Shelter Board  Preservation of Affordable Housing
Creative Housing  Star House
Finance Fund Capital Corporation  The Columbus Foundation
Franklinton Development Association  The Community Builders
Habitat for Humanity - MidOhio  The Refuge
Homeport  United Way of Central Ohio
Homes on the Hill  Wallick Communities
Huckleberry House  Woda Cooper Companies
Impact Community Action  YMCA of Central Ohio
Nationwide Children’s Hospital  YWCA Columbus

ABOUT THE ALLIANCE