The Big Picture

THE GOAL: STRENGTHEN CAPACITY TO CREATE COMMUNITIES OF OPPORTUNITY

Our country has a long history of strong, adaptive community-based developers who work hard to champion and deliver results for the communities we serve. As the world around us changes more rapidly and more profoundly than ever before, we must employ new strategies that effectively harness the dynamic change in ways that benefit our communities and the people within.

The good news is that the sophistication of the community development sector is better and stronger than ever. Many of us are winning important battles to connect residents to opportunity, and we are engaging in important cross-sector partnerships to advance community outcomes. Our organizations support local businesses and build millions of affordable homes. With neighbors, we clean streets, build parks, and create safer communities. We believe that local vision and local voices are critically important for moving people into the middle class, and achieving just and equitable outcomes that take our communities forward.

Imagine how much more we could do if we had expanded capacities. Imagine the freedom of focusing on the changes we are trying to achieve with confidence that our organizations are on a sustainable path. How many more affordable homes and community-driven programs could we offer if we were to roll up our sleeves and collaborate in new and innovative ways?

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Opportunity Communities Drives Better Results
OppCo’s Benefits

- More efficient administration and programming
- High capacity financial management
- Greater ability to hire and grow talent
- Sustained local control while benefitting from scale
- Increased organizational sustainability
- Greater capacity for learning
- Deeper real estate and program outcomes

OPPCO UNLOCKS TRAPPED POTENTIAL THROUGH ITS BACK-OFFICE AND PROGRAM PLATFORM

The origin story of OppCo began over a coffee break. Ann Houston and David Price, two of Greater Boston’s accomplished community developers, had a conversation that sparked the creation of OppCo’s innovative organizational model that is designed to drive more capacity into the community development field. We believe OppCo responds to the changing environment in which community developers operate, reshaping the arc of our members’ ability to navigate to stronger bottom lines and deeper outcomes.

HOW OPPCO WORKS

The innovation of OppCo lies in its joint venture model. OppCo’s members remain independent nonprofits, with their own identity, 501(c)(3) status, board, mission, and assets. Members retain their own profits to reinvest back into their local community. OppCo provides strategic guidance that helps seasoned community leaders do what they do best: drive programs and services to assist residents, but with the benefit of OppCo’s program and administrative platform.

OppCo guides its members’ real estate development, asset management, and resident services programs and leverages combined resources to build in-house capacities.

This program platform has proven to accelerate member ability to deliver the many benefits of an affordable home for community members.

OppCo’s back-end administrative and financial management services creates efficiencies and ensures that members have the information they need. For example, all staff are employed by OppCo, which saves costs, and creates deeper career ladders that help grow and retain our talent pool. OppCo offers strong support for affirmative hiring and professional development, and enables OppCo to sustain personnel through periods of funding volatility. With OppCo handling administration, local leadership has greater ability to focus on mission, strategies, and impact.

What We Do

SERVICES
- Financial management
- Data & evaluation
- Human resources
- Grant management system

CORE PROGRAMS
- Real estate development
- Asset management
- Resident services

MEMBER LEVERAGE
- Policy & expertise
- Peer learning

We believe the OppCo model has long-term potential to reshape our sector for the better by building capacity.