



Center for Housing Opportunity

Litchfield County, CT

Update: April 2025

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Berkshire
Taconic
Community
Foundation



LISC CONNECTICUT



Northwest CT Community Foundation



MISSION

To facilitate a coordinated, regional response to address housing affordability in Litchfield County, aligning and delivering critical resources, data, and technical assistance to municipalities and non-profit housing organizations.

The Centers for Housing Opportunity is a program of The Housing Collective, LISC CT, and Partnership for Strong Communities, together with community foundations and regional partners in Connecticut, working collaboratively across sectors to deliver safe, affordable housing solutions for families and individuals. We leverage our strengths in capacity building, policy, planning, lending, and investment to support housing solutions that change systems and improve lives.

The Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity (LCCHO) is a collective impact partnership between The Housing Collective, LISC CT, Partnership for Strong Communities, Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Foundation for Community Health, and the Northwest CT Community Foundation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Jocelyn Ayer, Director, Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity, jocelyn@thehousingcollective.org, or visit us at cho.thehousingcollective.org/regions/litchfield-county

Introduction

In 2024, the Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity made significant strides in addressing housing affordability and advancing housing solutions across Litchfield County. Through shared project management services, seed funding, regional collaboration, and community engagement, LCCHO **strengthened local capacity to expand affordable housing opportunities and empower residents.**

This year's efforts have been particularly critical as **demand for affordable housing continues to grow, economic pressures increase, and barriers to housing access persist.** By aligning resources, fostering partnerships, and elevating data-driven strategies, LCCHO played a key role in supporting local nonprofit housing development and building community support for solutions that work.

LCCHO is driving long-term systems change by strengthening regional housing infrastructure, aligning municipalities and local non-profits around shared data and strategies, and fostering a more coordinated, strategic approach to housing development in Litchfield County.

LCCHO By the Numbers

TRACKING PROGRESS, DRIVING RESULTS,
AND EXPANDING HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

15

local volunteer-led local housing non-profits
provided with capacity building resources.

18

affordable housing developments received
active project management support.

295

affordable housing units in development
in 13 towns.

\$189

THOUSAND

in pre-development seed funding committed
to support 7 developments.

\$2.3

MILLION

awarded by the CT Dept of Housing to
support the Litchfield County Affordable
Homeownership Program; another \$2.1
million in construction loan funding for this
project accessed through Capital for Change.

\$2.3

MILLION

in state funding and \$1.2 million in private
grant funding awarded to local non-profits to
construct/renovate rental housing in 2024.

Highlights

BRIDGING AFFORDABLE HOUSING & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

LCCHO and the Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative, an initiative sponsored by the Housatonic Valley Association, brought the region's local and regional land trust organizations together with local housing organizations and town leaders to create the Northwest CT Affordable Housing and Conservation Collaboration Strategy and is now working to implement these strategies together with participants. This work was supported by grant funding from Foundation for Community Health and Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation.

[view the report](#)

ASSESSING REGIONAL HOUSING NEEDS

LCCHO published a comprehensive Litchfield County Housing Needs Assessment tool in partnership with Regional Plan Association and with support from JP Morgan Chase & Co. The web-based tool provides data and analysis on housing, demographic, and economic trends for every town in Litchfield County as well as for the County as whole. The tool has helped to inform discussions around housing needs and solutions across the region.

[view the report](#)

BUILDING AFFORDABLE HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

LCCHO is coordinating a new program to build 10 scattered site affordable homes in five towns. This program is designed to address the severe shortage of affordable "starter homes" for first time homebuyers and also help local housing non-profits access funding to construct the homes. A modular home construction process is being utilized for nine of the ten homes, saving time and streamlining the process.

Testimonials

“LCCHO has been tremendously helpful in moving things forward in Kent. Kent Affordable Housing, like most housing organizations in Litchfield County, is composed entirely of volunteers. Having LCCHO’s professional guidance, perspective, and financial assistance has been invaluable.”

Justin Potter

President, Kent Affordable Housing

“LCCHO is a top notch initiative and essential to creating more affordable housing in Cornwall. We would not have been able to accomplish any of what we’ve done in the past few years without them. They are exquisite professionals who exemplify dedication to affordable housing. They are consistently available, extremely responsive and provide valuable ongoing education as well as communication with other housing groups in our area.”

Ginni Block

President, Cornwall Housing Corporation

“LCCHO has been absolutely essential to our successes to date. They have given us access to state affordable housing decision-makers, helped us land multimillion-dollar government grants, provided us with direct initial financial assistance, and lent structure and support to our operations every step of the way. They know how to move projects forward, get them funded, and make allies of municipal governments and neighbors. They are professional and effective, and they really, really care!”

Rich Baumann

President, Sharon Housing Trust

“We at Falls Village Housing Trust are very fortunate to have the support and assistance of LCCHO. In addition to your guidance, access to LCCHO’s seed funding has been essential in helping us move our projects forward.”

Jandi Hanna, President

Falls Village Housing Trust

Conclusion

WORKING TOGETHER FOR HOUSING SOLUTIONS

LCCHO's progress in 2024 reflects the power of collaboration and shared commitment to ensuring that everyone in Litchfield County has access to safe, stable, and affordable housing. As we move forward, we look to partners like you—municipal leaders, housing advocates, service providers, and community members—to continue working together with us to advance policy solutions, build community support, and drive meaningful change. Together, we can strengthen regional efforts, break down barriers, and create a future where housing opportunity is a reality for all.