

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
ALLIANCE**

2023

**YEAR END
REVIEW**



NVAHA

Northern Virginia
Affordable Housing Alliance

✉ info@nvaha.org

🌐 www.nvaha.org

A group of approximately ten diverse individuals, including men and women of various ages, are smiling and posing for a group photo. They are dressed in professional attire. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be an office or meeting room setting.

LATEST:

NVAHA & AHS UNIFICATION

Two long-time local housing education and advocacy organizations, the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance (NVAHA) and Alliance for Housing Solutions (AHS), formally announced their merger, effective January 1, 2024.

The decision to unite is rooted from a shared commitment to better serve the community by leveraging collective knowledge, resources, and advocacy strengths. The unification signifies a natural evolution in line with the organizations' long-standing collaboration and a mutual dedication to addressing the region's housing needs. "This will build on our complementary assets and vision to create a more effective and sustainable affordable housing movement in each jurisdiction throughout Northern Virginia," remarked Jill Norcross, who will lead the unified entity as the Executive Director.

This wasn't a hasty decision but the outcome of a long-time collaborative effort. Our Boards and Executive Directors worked hand in hand, meticulously crafting the roadmap for our unified entity.

Our mission remains the same: ensuring affordable housing is within reach for all in our region. We're embracing a regional approach while remaining acutely attuned to local housing priorities.

While there are no immediate changes to existing programs and events, this year is set to be transformative as the organizations integrate. "We invite questions, feedback, and support from the community during this pivotal transition," stated Norcross. "We are committed to honoring the legacies of both organizations and believe in a future where we have more impact as a unified entity than ever before."

We are grateful for our long-time funders, **Virginia Housing**, the **Meyer Foundation**, and the **Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation**, for their generous support of this unification.



YEAR END REVIEW

A new team joined NVAHA in 2023. Jill Norcross as Executive Director and Hanna Metuda as Director of Policy and Programs. On May 18, NVAHA hosted a Celebrate & Elevate event for over 120 partners and supporters, which served as an opportunity to recognize our founding Executive Director, Michelle Krocker, and to celebrate the collective success of our affordable housing industry in making progress to promote healthy, sustainable and equitable communities that meet the diverse housing needs of Northern Virginia

"Calling for the deconstruction of land use systems and policies that perpetuate inequities, and the allocation of resources to address the disparities created by these systems."

Convened **6 bi-monthly meetings of the NVAHA Leadership Council**, bringing together leaders from 26 cross-sector housing industry organizations.

Organized **6 Leadership Council presentations** with industry newsmakers on local housing policies and emerging issues impacting affordable housing in our region including:

- Presentations by Housing Directors from City of Alexandria, Arlington County, Fairfax County, Loudoun County and Prince William County
- The Inflation Reduction Act: Opportunities to Preserve and Improve Affordable Housing, National Housing Trust
- Creating a Green Bank as a Catalyst for Clean Energy Projects, Fairfax County Office of Environmental and Energy Coordination
- Energy Solutions for Affordable Multifamily Owner/Developers, Community Housing Partners (CHP)
- Diverse Developer Initiatives, Capital Impact Partners/Momentum Capital

"Building political will to advance affordable housing through better understanding of the interplay between housing, health, equity, and economic development."

Hosted 9 **Lunch & Learn sessions** on the following topics:

- [Virginia General Assembly 101 & State Housing Policy Updates](#)
- [Local Budget Advocacy](#) (in partnership with the Alliance for Housing Solutions)
- [Permanent Supportive Housing and Affordable Housing Solutions](#)
- [Prince William County Housing Update](#)
- [Eviction Trends and Tenant Impact](#)
- [Virtual Bus Tour: What does Affordable Housing Look Like?](#)
- [Faces of Affordable Housing](#)
- [Affordable Housing Finance Case Study](#)
- [Eviction Update & Solutions to Prevent Evictions](#)

"Partnering with underserved communities to lift their participation in our civic discourse."

The Lunch & Learn on **Eviction Trends & Tenant Impact** was the most attended session, which received extensive coverage in various news outlets. This session was organized in collaboration with Tenants and Workers United, Bu-GATA, Loudoun Housing Justice Coalition, marking this as NVAHA's first interpreted session.

The **Faces of Affordable Housing** session, in partnership with HAND, garnered the most attention, with an RSVP count of 132.

Convened our **Rising Housing Leaders** for 2 in-person tours and 4 virtual meetings.

- Tour of Bloom & Carpenter's Shelter
- CEO Panel with Carmen Romero, Brian McLaughlin, and Paul Bernard
- Queens Court Tour & Social Hour
- Conversation with YIMBYs of NOVA
- Conversation with Mortgage Bankers Association
- Affordable Homeownership Course featuring Mike Spotts



Provided **Rising Housing Leaders** network 6 opportunities to attend in-person educational/networking events:

- George Mason University: Fundamentals of Affordable Housing Development Scholarships
- Alliance for Housing Solutions 20th Anniversary
- Winter Social with Leadership Council and AHS Board
- Virginia Housing Alliance Housing Lobby Day
- NVAHA's Celebrate & Elevate
- Virginia Housing Alliance Housing Credit Conference Scholarships
- Housing Alexandria Fall Festival

Sent a monthly **Regional Housing in Action Newsletter**, a curated list of affordable housing initiatives, program developments and advocacy opportunities in the 5 major Northern Virginia jurisdictions, DMV Region, Statewide and Nationally for housing and community development supporters.

"Advocating for public policies and adequate financial investments to develop and preserve housing that's affordable."

- 12 Public and/or Written Testimony in support of local Housing Policy Advocacy
- 4 Local Budget Testimony
- Missing Middle Housing/Expanded Housing Options in Arlington, Zoning for Housing/Housing for All in Alexandria
- Preservation Comp Plan Amendment in Fairfax County
- Zoning Ordinance Rewrite, Chapter 9: Attainable Housing in Loudoun County
- Parking Reimagined in Fairfax County
- Comp Plan Update and request for Continued Affordable Housing Programs, Prince William County
- Virginia Housing Alliance Housing Lobby Day
- Local Budget Testimony for additional resources for Affordable Housing to the City of Alexandria, Arlington County, Fairfax County, and Loudoun County



LUNCH & LEARN
Eviction Trends: Solutions Centric Conversation

12:00 NN - 1:00 PM
Wed, Dec 13, 2023
Virtual

<https://ln eviction.rsvpify.com>



LUNCH & LEARN
NoVa Eviction Trends & Solutions

12:00 NN - 1:00 PM
Wed, Dec 13, 2023
Virtual: <https://ln novaevictionupdate.rsvpify.com>



LUNCH & LEARN
CONTINUING THE CONVERSATION
Affordable Housing in Prince William County

With Jill Norcross
On Wednesday, April 26
12nn - 1pm

RSVP

Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance
www.nvaha.org



LUNCH & LEARN
WHAT IS SUPPORTIVE HOUSING?

12:00 NN - 1:00 PM
Tue, May 23, 2023
Virtual

<https://lnsupportivehousing.rsvpify.com>

LUNCH & LEARN
Affordable Housing Finance Case Study: Terraces at Arlington View

RSVP Wed, October 25
12 NN - 1 PM Virtual
[LnLANFinance.rsvpify.com](https://lnlanfinance.rsvpify.com)



LUNCH & LEARN
The Faces of Affordable Housing: Who Can Afford to Live in the Region?

12:00 NN - 1:00 PM
15 SEPT 2023

HAND
www.InFacesofAHL.rsvpify.com



"Conducting research and provide technical assistance on housing needs and policies to promote inclusive, equitable communities in Northern Virginia."

Provided research and technical assistance:

- Building Affordable Housing: Initiatives from Institutions of Higher Education, in partnership with George Mason University, January 2023
- City of Manassas, Housing Trust Fund and CDBG Study, December 2023
- Served as a speaker or moderator at over 14 virtual and in-person events, trainings and webinars.

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

Your support has been critical to our success. We sincerely appreciate your partnership, and we're looking forward to the opportunities the new year will bring. Together, we'll continue to promote healthy, sustainable and equitable communities that meet the diverse housing needs of Northern Virginia residents.

- **Amazon Housing Equity Fund**
- **Capital One**
- **Meyer Foundation**
- **The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation**
- **Virginia Housing**
- Affordable Homes & Communities (AHC)
- ALIVE!
- Alliance for Housing Solutions
- Anonymous Donor
- Anonymous Donor
- APAH
- Buchanan Partners
- Cerny, Stephen
- Coalition for Smarter Growth
- Cornerstones
- Davis Construction
- Egan, Conrad
- Enterprise Community Partners
- Fairfax County RHA
- Fairstead
- George Mason University Center for Real Estate Entrepreneurship
- Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services
- Habitat for Humanity DC - NOVA
- Harkins Builders
- Housing Alexandria
- IMEG
- JBG SMITH
- Klein Hornig
- Krockner, Michelle
- Lincoln Avenue Capital
- McGuireWoods
- McLaughlin, Brian
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- Murphy McCabe, Shelley
- NFP Affordable Housing Corp.
- NHP Foundation
- Norcross, Jill
- Pascal, Craig
- Pathway Homes
- PNC
- Poje, Jerry
- Rebuilding Together DC - Alexandria
- Selden, Fred
- Spotts, Michael
- Stratford Capital Group
- The Community Builders
- Truist
- Virginia Housing Alliance
- Wellington Development
- Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley & Walsh
- Wesley Housing