

FCH PARTNERS WITH HUDSON RIVER HOUSING & LITCHFIELD COUNTY'S CENTER FOR HOUSING OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING EFFORTS



In late 2021 FCH invested \$160,000 to support two affordable housing efforts: [Hudson River Housing's](#) work with the [Tri-Town Coalition](#); a collaborative group of Amenia, North East, Millerton, and Pine Plains stakeholders actively working to advance solutions for affordable housing and [Litchfield County's Center for Housing Opportunity](#) (LC-CHO) an initiative of [The Housing Collective](#). In addition to unrestricted support to strengthen each collaborative's efforts, both initiatives have partnered with FCH to strengthen affordable housing community engagement efforts through two distinct mini-grant programs in each county.

The following details the community-led affordable housing efforts funded in the spring of 2022 through two regional mini-grant programs, implemented by Hudson River Housing and LC-CHO:

NORTHWEST LITCHFIELD COUNTY, CONNECTICUT

CORNWALL, CT

\$4,000

The Town of Cornwall adopted its Affordable Housing Plan in December 2021 which lays out strategies to increase affordable and attainable housing options in Cornwall over the next 5 years. These funds will assist the newly established Housing Plan Implementation Committee to research how other towns have created successful local housing funds and advocacy organizations to support their existing local housing organization – Cornwall Housing Corp. The Housing Plan Implementation Committee will also facilitate community conversations to share their findings and solicit community feedback and support for moving forward.

FALLS VILLAGE, CT

\$5,000

The Falls Village Community Development Corporation will produce a short film to share the story of the need for housing opportunities in their community through interviews with Falls Village individuals and families that are housing insecure. The short film will be shared throughout the broader community, screenings will include a panel discussion with the community.

NORFOLK, CT

\$5,000

Having just developed and adopted its Housing Plan, the Norfolk community has been primed to think about the importance of affordable housing and diverse living opportunities. This project is a collaboration between the Norfolk Foundation, Foundation for Norfolk Living, and the Yale-Norfolk Summer School of Art designed to connect housing and the arts. Activities undertaken will bring Norfolk residents together with Yale Norfolk art students to produce art that generates dialogue and engages the community in the next steps to meet the housing goals set out in Norfolk's Housing Plan.

SALISBURY, CT

\$5,000

The Town of Salisbury's Affordable Housing Commission in partnership with the Salisbury Housing Trust and Salisbury Housing Committee, Inc. will develop and implement a community engagement and communications plan including print and social media, a town newsletter and website articles, and arranging public information forums over the next 9 months. Funds will also be used to enable the participation of individuals directly impacted by the lack of affordable housing in community convenings and other affordable housing forums.

WARREN, CT

\$4,000

The Warren Affordable Housing Corporation will work in partnership with Warren Social Services to develop and launch a website to inform the community about Warren's affordable housing plans, benefits of affordable housing, and how residents can help the town meet its affordable housing needs, including volunteer opportunities. The launch of the website will include significant community outreach, including a mailing to every household and facilitation of town forums to solicit feedback from residents on the website and continue to build awareness of this new online resource.

NORTHEAST DUTCHESS COUNTY, NEW YORK

AMENIA, NY

\$10,000

The Town of Amenia in partnership with the Amenia Housing Board will implement two affordable housing community engagement projects in Amenia. The first project will develop cohesive materials and messaging, to communicate the need for affordable housing in Amenia – culminating in community events with speakers and interactive activities to gather insights and information about the town's affordable housing plans. The second project will engage residents through the process of updating the town's workforce housing code, through community forums and resident engagement.

NORTH EAST & MILLERTON, NY

\$5,000

The Town of North East, in partnership with the North East Community Center and the Village of Millerton, will work with a planner to generate recommendations to encourage the development or provision of affordable housing in the town and village. The planning process will be a collaborative effort of a steering committee consisting of elected officials, affordable housing experts, and individuals with lived experience. An open community event will unpack and describe the toolbox of recommendations brought forth by the committee and engage the community around the tools municipalities have access to, in an effort to strengthen relationships between residents and town government.

NORTH EAST & MILLERTON, NY

\$5,000

The North East/Millerton Working Group will organize an affordable housing expo with speakers and an interactive exhibit that highlights different types of affordable housing. In addition to raising awareness about the need for affordable housing, the expo will provide opportunities for community members to share questions and directly inform planning processes.

NORTH EAST & MILLERTON, NY

\$2,000

The NorthEast-Millerton Library will facilitate three virtual bilingual community conversations, to connect families to one another and stimulate dialogue through several housing related themes, including: what makes a house a home, the right to a safe and affordable home, and homes around the world. Information shared during sessions and through participant surveys will directly inform current affordable housing efforts of the Town of North East and the Village of Millerton.