

News & Updates February 2020

The Montana ROC Family Grows!



NeighborWorks Montana recently welcomed Clear Creek Court in Havre and View Vista Community in Livingston to the Montana ROC family. This makes 13 resident owned communities across Montana, totaling 527 homes. For these 13 communities it means they have gained the ability to control their own rent rates and decide upon improvements together.

Clear Creek Court in Havre has a total of 39 occupied homes and is the first ROC in the Hi-Line area. Upon electing their board of directors, some of the first tasks the residents will take on are creating policy, deciding how the common areas will be maintained, and overseeing the general operation of the park.

View Vista Community in Livingston has 49 homes and 33 apartment units and is the first ROC in Park County. Located in the heart of Livingston, the park could have easily been redeveloped for other uses but is now preserved as homes that the residents in that area can enjoy and afford.

Safe and stable homes that are also affordable are increasingly out of reach in Montana. ROCs preserve an important source of unsubsidized affordable housing for working families, seniors and people with low incomes. Owning a home in a ROC is typically half as expensive as renting an apartment.

NeighborWorks Montana guides residents through the purchase process and continues to support them as they build the skills and leadership they need to manage their communities. In most manufactured-home parks, homeowners own their homes and pay lot rent to the park owner for the use of the land. In resident owned communities the lot rent goes to the resident cooperative and is managed to meet community needs and maintain affordability.

There are over 250 ROCs nationwide. NeighborWorks Montana provides the ROC program in Montana as part of the ROC USA® Network. The ROC USA® Network is made up of nine non-profit affiliates across the country. The ROC program helps to provide safe, secure and affordable housing in perpetuity, and it eliminates the risks for residents of rent increases or being evicted without cause.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a ROC, please feel free to contact Danielle Maiden at NeighborWorks Montana - by phone (406) 407-6444, or by email dmaiden@nwmmt.org.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR THE 2020 HOUSING PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE!

This year's conference is taking shape and the plenary speakers have been booked. We are excited to be joined by:



Benjamin Winchester,
Rural Sociologist & Senior
Research Fellow with the
University of Minnesota



Greg Handberg, Senior Vice
President Properties with
Artspace



Sarah Elkins, Chief
Storyteller with
Elkins Consulting

New this year, we are offering four afternoon tours, each with a different focus, as well as an onsite professional development session. This year's host for the networking reception is the Montana Historical Society, giving us a wonderful opportunity to network with one another while appreciating our state's history.

So many great opportunities for learning, sharing, and networking means you don't want to miss this year's conference! The event website is live and registration is now open with early bird prices which are available until April 17.

PARTNER WITH US BY BEING A SPONSOR!

The Montana Housing Partnership is actively seeking sponsors for the 2020 Housing Partnership Conference, and spaces are filling quickly! If you are interested in learning more, please contact Michelle Rogers at mrogers@nwmt.org or call 406-604-4547. Join this great and growing list of amazing organization today!

