## **Annual Report**

# 2019



A summary of NIFA's efforts in the production, affordability and tenure of Nebraska's housing resources









The Nebraska Investment Finance Authority (NIFA) continues to serve the needs of Nebraska's individuals and businesses without the use of state or federal tax dollars for operating costs. As such, it remains among one of the most productive and cost efficient finance agencies in the nation.

For almost 37 years, NIFA has:

- Maximized federal resources through proficient and innovative financing
- Financed over 93,100 mortgages for affordable single family homes
- Financed the creation of over 24,400 affordable rental housing units
- Provided financial resources for beginning farmers and ranchers
- Financed manufacturing, health care and community development endeavors
- Offered technical assistance and support to communities, housing organizations and development professionals across the state

NIFA was created in 1983 as a quasi-governmental instrumentality of the State of Nebraska. In close collaboration with local and state officials, NIFA's Board and staff work together to carry out programs which enable NIFA to fund its operations, fulfill its mission and maintain a strong financial position.

It is our pleasure to share our 2019 accomplishments with you in the following report.

Sincerely,

Anthony Goins

NIFA, Chair-Board of Directors

anthony L. Low

Tim Kenny

NIFA, Executive Director

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### Homeownership Programs

NIFA has provided a first mortgage under our Homeownership Program to 93,126 borrowers totaling \$6.6 billion to date.

Of those, 18,373 homebuyers also received down payment/closing cost assistance and 781 have been active military or retired Veterans.







All Homebuyers using NIFA mortgages completed pre-purchase homebuyer education

#### 2019 Accomplishments

2,278
mortgage loans
totaling \$307.6 million
for homes in 71 counties

Issued \$360.2 million tax exempt single family housing bonds

households
receipt of
down payment &
closing cost assistance
grant funding from
Federal Home
Loan Bank of
Topeka

1,052
homebuyers
with low-rate
2nd mortgage loans
totaling close to
\$6.7 million
in downpayment
& closing cost
assistance

571 Lender Partners

296 Real Estate Agents

### **Multi-Family Programs**

Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC) Nearly \$1.23 billion since inception

Allocations of federal tax credits are used to leverage public, private and other funds to develop rental housing that provides affordable rents to low and moderate income residents.

Nebraska Affordable Housing Tax Credit (AHTC) Over \$117.9 million since inception

NIFA allocates the AHTC, a Nebraska state income tax credit created by the Nebraska Affordable Housing Tax Credit Act in 2016, to owners of affordable of rental developments that also receive an allocation of LIHTC.

Multi-Family Tax Exempt Bond Program \$398 million since inception

A program providing lower interest rate financing from the sale of tax exempt bonds to finance rental housing. The use of tax exempt bonds allows for the allocation of 4 percent LIHTCs to assist in development costs of the property.

CRANE (Collaborative Resource Allocation for Nebraska) 58 projects since inception

The focus and primary purpose of NIFA's "award winning" CRANE program is to target LIHTCs and AHTCs to "difficult to develop" projects for distressed populations.

#### 2019 Accomplishments

Awarded \$85 million in LIHTC & AHTC 192 units financed with multi-family bonds placed in service in 2019

Provided compliance training for 215 LIHTC property managers/staff



Modern & efficient online application process



Monitored 357 developments (12,936 units) for compliance

Sorensen Heights, Omaha



Partnered with
Nebraska Department
of Economic
Development on
joint application
for affordable housing
resources

Financed 16 affordable rental projects / 704 units

190 special needs units 12 rent-to-own units 114 elderly units 388 family units over \$111 million in production of affordable units

### Outreach Programs & Resources Provided

#### Capital City & Omaha A.M. Breakfast Clubs

Monthly early-morning networking opportunities in Lincoln and Omaha.

#### **Community Development Conversations**

Community meetings to discuss housing and community development needs and identify resources.

Housing Innovation Marketplace 18th annual conference - 418 attendees from 23 states
An annual conference that brings together community leaders and housing partners from across
Nebraska and the country to discuss affordable housing and community development.

#### Housing Study Grant Program 144 grants awarded totaling over \$1.9 million

The Housing Study Grant Program is designed to stimulate regional, community and neighborhood plans that encompass housing needs and community development opportunities in Nebraska.

Outreach Partnership Program 5 active partnerships - 27 partner organizations since inception A partnership with local community development organizations to expand their knowledge and use of NIFA's programs in the generation of affordable housing stock and to increase their long-term capacity to meet the affordable housing needs of their communities.

#### Profile of Nebraska - Nebraska Statewide Dashboard 17th annual

An annual comprehensive study that makes information about economic, demographic and housing conditions in counties and cities more readily available for planning and grant writing.

### No Federal or State tax dollars used for outreach programs



Trained 929 attendees at educational conferences

Networking Meetings 10 Omaha A.M. 10 Capital City Breakfasts

Outreach
Partnership
Program
\$160,000 in
matching capacity
building
grants

Housing Study Grants Program 15 grants awarded

NIFA awarded \$109,650

Matching grants totaling \$153,350

### Natural Disaster Response

Homeownership Program 6 mortgage loans totaling \$741,736 - 2 received closing cost assistance NIFA made \$3 million in loan financing available to eligible borrowers from certain FEMA designated counties for the purchase of an existing or newly constructed property in Nebraska.

#### Multi-Family Programs Funded 134 new units in severe flood impacted areas

Twelve existing Low Income Housing Tax Credit properties applied for and were approved to provide temporary housing to displaced households.

#### **Housing Study Grant Program** \$42,140 in grant funds awarded

Opened for a third round of funding in May of 2019 to allow studies in areas directly affected by the floods. Funds were awarded to Gage, Knox and Sarpy counties for county wide studies addressing flooding and housing issues.

#### **Outreach Partnership Program 2 partners**

Provided matching funds to community organizations addressing the needs of families affected by flooding. Communities served by the Greater Fremont Development Council and Central Nebraska Economic Development District were some of the hardest hit in the state.







### Workforce Housing

Workforce Housing Match Funds Over \$4.2 million in match funds since inception

A program created for the development, production, implementation and financing of Workforce Housing.

#### 2019 Accomplishments

Workforce
Housing Units

11

Communities

>

47

of those units meet NIFA's moderate income guidelines

- Over \$1.4 million of NIFA Match Funds loaned to facilitate development
- In total, Rural Workforce Housing Funds have generated over \$29 million in development to date

### Beginning Farmer/Rancher Programs

Beginning Farmer/Rancher Program 1,045 loans to date totaling almost \$128.5 million

Assists farmers and ranchers to obtain agricultural loans at interest rates generally lower than those in the conventional farm credit markets.

Governor's Agricultural Excellence Awards Program 24th year of sponsorship

An awards program that recognizes and financially rewards 4-H Clubs and FFA Chapters in Nebraska for outstanding performance.



#### 2019 Accomplishments



Participated in over \$1.6 million to finance 720 acres

Average interest rate savings of 1% below market rates

#### PROVIDED

No-cost networking & resource information forum for military veterans interested in farming

#### **AWARDED**

\$50,000 to 4-H Clubs & FFA Chapters for superior performance in connection with the Governor's Agricultural Excellence Awards

#### COLLABORATED

With local producers to seek methods for establishing sustainable high quality food hubs

### **Finance**

#### **Finance Department**

Single Family Housing Bonds: \$1.3 billion outstanding; Conduit Bonds for Agriculture, Development, Heatlhcare and Multi-Family housing: \$76 million outstanding

The finance department is responsible for monitoring expenditures and obligations, issuing and managing NIFA bonds, directing the investment of all monies and accounting for all assets. The finance department staff also works with department managers to create budgets and make key strategic decisions throughout the year.

#### **Industrial Development**

NIFA encourages the investment of private capital in order to stimulate economic activity, create jobs, provide adequate health care facilities and expand the tax base throughout the state. NIFA does this primarily through technical assistance.

#### 2019 Accomplishments

ISSUED	\$360.2 million in tax-exempt bonds in furtherance of NIFA's homeownership program
RECEIVED	\$82.2 million in payments from mortgages funded with existing bond issues, which were recycled into new loans thereby preserving bond issuance capacity
PURCHASED	\$229,000 in loans from Omaha Habitat for Humanity's First Mortgage and Roof and Repair Programs
ISSUED	\$3.9 million in Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Bonds
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	https://www.nifa.org/about/bond-financials/financial-information
TRANSPARENCY WEBSITE	Transparency website: https://spending.nifa.org/