

# Affordable Housing & Community Connections Annual Report Fiscal Year 2022-23



This was the year of building and breakthroughs. We built our team and achieved many milestones to advance the Town Council's affordable housing and equitable community engagement goals. Key highlights in our work over the last year include:

- Bringing UNC Health to the table for the first time to partner with the Town on affordable housing through a [historic \\$5 Million contribution to establish an Affordable Housing Revolving Loan Fund](#).
- Achieving key policy changes to reduce barriers to affordable housing: [expedited review](#), [source of income protection](#), and [housing choices](#).
- Dedicating [\\$10 Million to support affordable housing projects](#) in the community, the largest single-year contribution in Town history that will result in 300 new affordable homes in five developments.
- Creating pathways for under-engaged populations to participate in Town government. Close to 200 residents participated in programs and engagement opportunities like the [Peoples Academy](#), [Summer Youth Employment](#), [Community Conversations](#), and more.
- Leading equity-centered community engagement focused on going out into the community to engage residents and community partners historically under-engaged by the Town. Our team facilitated 215 community meetings, more than double what we accomplished ever before. We compensated residents for their lived experience and provided language interpretation, food, transportation, and other forms of support to reduce barriers to participation.
- Adding four new talented and passionate local government professionals to our team, strengthening our team's capacity to accomplish our department's mission.

I look forward to continuing to work together with residents, community partners, and other Town departments to create more affordable housing opportunities and build a more equitable and inclusive community in Chapel Hill.

In service,

*Sarah Viñas*

Director of Affordable Housing and Community Connections

## MISSION

Creating Partnership  
Catalyzing Affordable Housing  
Building Community



## VISION

A vibrant & inclusive community where  
all residents have access to affordable  
housing & opportunities to thrive

# Fiscal Year 2022-23 Successes

## Affordable Housing



### Highlights

**\$16**  
Million



Town budget for affordable housing strategies

**163**



affordable housing units approved by Council

**10%**



of total units approved by Council that are permanently affordable

**100%**



of funding available allocated to projects

**25**



affordable units developed with support from the Town

**16**



affordable units preserved with support from the Town

**693**



affordable units in the pipeline to be developed in the next 5 years

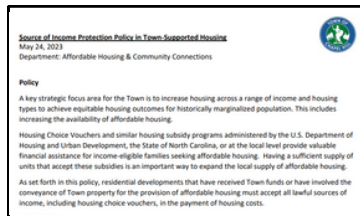
**\$10**  
Million



deployed to community partners for projects



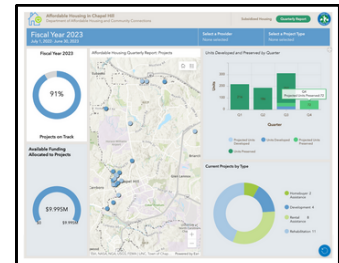
Secured historic \$5 Million contribution from UNC Health to establish an Affordable Housing Revolving Loan Fund



Council approved a Source of Income Protection Policy



Council approved an expedited review process for projects that include at least 25% affordable units



Launched an enhanced Affordable Housing Dashboard Tool

### Awards and Features



Habitat for Humanity Weavers Grove Award



Homestead Gardens project featured at the NC State-wide Affordable Housing Conference

The Town's Strategy to Develop Affordable Housing on Town Land featured at the ICMA National Conference



Community Home Trust Exceptional Innovation Award

# Fiscal Year 2022-23 Successes

## Community Connections



### Highlights

**\$1.1 Million**



Town budget for Community Connections Strategies

**40**



nonprofits awarded Human Services funding

**64**



Town meetings included interpretation

**215**



community engagement meetings facilitated

**46%**



Town employees trained on language access

**58**



residents graduated from the Peoples Academy

**194**



residents from under-engaged groups who participated in paid engagement

**9,454**



readership of our newsletter to off-campus UNC students



Completed the Gaps Analysis & Engagement Study



Completed the Human Services Racial Equity Assessment



Increased staff capacity to carry out Community Connections work, hiring three new staff positions

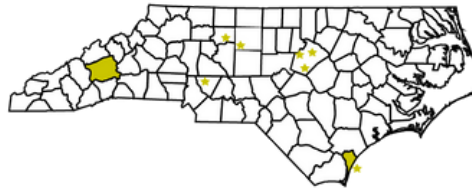


Held first ever bilingual English-Spanish Peoples Academy

### Awards and Features



Building Integrated Communities Initiative featured in Governor Roy Cooper's Immigration Round Table



Language Access Work featured at the NC State-Wide Language Access Summit



Good Neighbor Initiative featured in the International Town Gown Association Webinar



To learn more about our work:

[www.townofchapelhill.org/housingandcommunity](http://www.townofchapelhill.org/housingandcommunity) | [www.chapelhillaffordablehousing.org](http://www.chapelhillaffordablehousing.org)