

# 2024 | HOUSING IS SUMMIT

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS  
OF BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS AND IMPROVING LIVES



NATIONAL HOUSING CENTER | 1201 15TH STREET NW | WASHINGTON, DC 20005



HOUSING IS A CLPTA INITIATIVE



# WHAT IS HOUSING IS

*Housing Is*, an Initiative led by the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities, was founded a decade ago to break down silos between different systems and sectors to forge partnerships to improve life outcomes for families living in assisted housing.

- *Housing Is* creates collaboration across health, education, and housing sectors through shared goals, focused resources, and coordinated efforts.
- *Housing Is* strengthens our collective ability to serve low-income individuals and families effectively and efficiently.

## **How Does *Housing Is* Help You?**

*Housing Is* can provide assistance in a range of services including matchmaking to organizations with similar missions, providing technical assistance, and participating in pioneering research and cohorts.

## **Join the *Housing Is* Working Group**

The *Housing Is* Working Group is a collective of public housing authorities, and non-profit organizations working in health, education and housing sectors coming together monthly via virtual meetings and other forums to discuss cross-sector work, challenges and successes. To join the Working Group, please email the *Housing Is* Team at [HousingIs@clpha.org](mailto:HousingIs@clpha.org).

## **Take Advantage of [HousingIs.org](https://housingis.org)**

*Housing Is* offers an online hub for promoting effective programs and sharing innovative ideas. Join our community of practice at [housingis.org](https://housingis.org).

**[housingis.org](https://housingis.org)**

# SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

## THURSDAY MAY 9

- 8:00 am** Breakfast
- 9:00 am** **OPENING PLENARY** | Welcome to the 2024 Summit!
- 9:15 am** **WE ENVISION... CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF HOUSING IS**
- 9:45 am** **PLENARY 1** | Centering Cross-Sector Partnerships for Public Housing Sustainability
- 10:45 am** Break
- 11:00 am** **PLENARY 2** | Addressing Early Childhood Homelessness
- 12:00 pm** Lunch
- 1:15 pm** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1** | Resident Engagement
- Strategic Alignment in Public Housing: Leveraging HCV Waitlist Openings and Large-Scale Outreach for Homeless Populations
  - Linking PHA Participants with Training and Healthcare Employment
  - Collaborative Impact: Seattle's Public School System and PHA Partner for Educational Success
- 2:30 pm** Break
- 2:45 pm** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2** | Case Studies
- Improving Digital Literacy Outcomes Through Strategic Partnerships
  - The Intersection of Housing and Healthcare in Supportive Housing
  - Foundation for Success: Establishing Effective Partnerships Between Housing Authorities & School Districts
- 4:00 pm** Reception | Sponsored by Yardi

## FRIDAY MAY 10

- 8:30 am** Breakfast
- 9:30 am** Welcome Back Remarks
- 9:40 am** **VIDEO REMARKS** | Senator Chris Van Hollen, Maryland, Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman, New Jersey
- 9:45 am** **PLENARY 3** | Accelerating Systemic Housing and Medicaid Partnerships
- 10:45 am** Break
- 11:00 am** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS 3** | Funding and Policies
- Participant-driven Workforce Development: Front-line Perspectives on Adapting Workforce Development for Affordable Housing
  - Building Stronger Communities: Exploring Partnerships Between Medicaid and PHAs in Washington State
  - Higher Education and Housing Authorities Empowering Residents towards Postsecondary & Career Success
- 12:15 pm** Lunch
- 1:15 pm** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS 4** | Data and Research
- Voices in Harmony: A People-Centered Approach to Equitable Strategic Planning, Feedback, and Engagement
  - Connecting Data to Promising Practices in Continuity of Mental Healthcare
  - The Chronic Absence Epidemic: Data, Frameworks, PHA Interventions
- 2:30 pm** Closing Remarks
- 3:00 pm** Adjourn

# THURSDAY MAY 9

**8:00 – 9:00 am**      **Breakfast**

Lobby

**9:00 – 9:15 am**      **OPENING PLENARY**

Auditorium      **Welcome to the 2024 Summit!**

**Sunia Zaterman**, Executive Director, CLPHA

**Abra Lyons-Warren**, Director of Cross-Sector Initiatives, CLPHA

**Jeffery K. Patterson**, CLPHA Board President and Chief Executive Officer, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority

**9:15 – 9:45 am**      **We Envision... Celebrating 10 Years of *Housing Is***

This year the *Housing Is* Initiative is celebrating our tenth anniversary. To mark this milestone, we are releasing *We Envision...*, a comprehensive report reflecting on the Initiative’s accomplishments and looking towards the future of cross-sector partnerships that improve life outcomes. In this session, representatives from PHAs and partners highlighted in the report will discuss their innovative programs and collaborations that expand health, education, and digital equity opportunities for low-income individuals. We will also hand out copies of *We Envision...* and invite all attendees to share similar “ripples of hope” from their communities.

**9:45 – 10:45 am**      **PLENARY 1**

**Centering Cross-Sector Partnerships  
for Public Housing Sustainability**

Over the last three decades, the public housing program has been redefined. For most of its history public housing had been framed by stakeholders as simply a physical real estate portfolio, a collection of buildings and units. In 1992, a shift occurred. A national commission acknowledged the “public failure to recognize the needs of the individual and families living in distressed housing.” The definition of the program now encompasses the families that call public housing home. Today, this means that to fully serve public housing residents and rectify decades of disinvestment, health and education services must be completely integrated into public housing communities. As thought leaders begin work on a 10-year roadmap for the future of public housing sustainability they will champion cross-sector approaches that center public housing as the locus for services that

can help residents improve their life outcomes. Hear how communities are developing strategies to incorporate cross-sector approaches into recapitalizing public housing for the future.

**Sunia Zaterman**, Executive Director, CLPHA

**Richard J. Monocchio**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Public and Indian Housing, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

**Mary-Margret Lemons**, President, Fort Worth Housing Solutions

**Ivory Mathews**, CEO, Home Forward

**10:45 – 11:00 am** **Break**

**11:00 – 12:00 pm** **PLENARY 2**

## Addressing Early Childhood Homelessness

The first three years of life are the most critical for a child's development. This is also the age where children are more likely to experience homelessness, a stressor causing lifelong impacts which disproportionately affect families of color. Safe, stable housing is essential to mitigating these negative effects. This plenary will discuss communication and policy solutions for collaborative approaches between the homelessness/housing and early childhood development sectors to support upstream, cross-sector approaches.

**Barbara Duffield**, Executive Director, SchoolHouse Connection

**Katie Kelly**, Director, Communications and Community Initiatives, Pritzker Children's Initiative

**Rexanah Wyse Morrissette, Esq.**, Director, Executive Office and Strategic Initiatives, Children's Defense Fund

**12:00 – 1:15 pm**

## Lunch

Lobby

During lunch, the Public and Affordable Housing Professional Summer Learning Community will meet in the auditorium.



1:15 – 2:30 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1

Resident Engagement

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**PARTNERSHIPS TRACK**

Auditorium

**Strategic Alignment in Public Housing: Leveraging HCV Waitlist Openings and Large-Scale Outreach for Homeless Populations**

This session will explore effective strategies for aligning Housing Choice Voucher waitlist openings with large outreach events targeting individuals experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness, such as the annual Point-in-Time Count. Panelists will emphasize the need for collaborative efforts among Continuums of Care, counties, municipalities, and public housing authorities to streamline policy alignment, enhance the inflow process, and sustain housing for those with a history of homelessness.

**Alicia Alvarez**, Housing Specialist, Co-Lead, Nourish NJ, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Statewide Advisory Board of Persons with Lived Experience of Homelessness

**Renee Koubiadis**, Senior Policy Advisor, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

**Nieisha Law**, Administrator, Office of Housing Assistance, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

**Kasey Vienckowski**, Team Lead, Homeless Planning Team, Monarch Housing Associates



**HEALTH TRACK**

Room D

**Linking PHA Participants with Training and Healthcare Employment**

The San Diego Housing Commission's Bridges to Career Opportunity Program, a three-year healthcare training partnership, linked education, healthcare, and public housing authority participants. Participants completed a healthcare certification program and secured employment in the healthcare industry. Lessons learned and the program blueprint helped launch a new funding initiative to provide healthcare training for youth. This session will provide details about program development, partnerships established, lessons learned, and the outcomes reached for over two hundred participating residents in San Diego.

**Azucena Valladolid**, Executive VP of Rental Assistance and Workforce Development, San Diego Housing Commission


**EDUCATION  
TRACK**

Room ABC

## Collaborative Impact: Seattle's Public School System and PHA Partner for Educational Success

This session spotlights the partnership between Seattle Public Schools and the Seattle Housing Authority, focusing on their combined efforts to enhance education for students that reside in SHA communities. Delving into their data sharing agreement, the session will balance the intricacies of resident privacy with the need for informed program development and examine the annual data matching process, highlighting dedicated staff involvement. The session will share practical examples of school partnerships and out-of-school programs. Attendees will learn how the SPS and SHA partnership is creating supportive educational environments and nurturing community growth.

**Rivka Burstein-Stern**, Director of Partnerships, Seattle Public Schools

**Jaycee Coleman**, Education and Youth Development Site Supervisor, High Point and Yesler Terrace

**Ariel Davis**, Education and Youth Development Site Supervisor, Rainier Vista and New Holly

**Marques Gittens**, Education and Youth Development Manager, Seattle Housing Authority

**2:30 – 2:45 pm**
**Break**
**2:45 – 4:00 pm**
**BREAKOUT SESSIONS 2  
Case Studies**

**PARTNERSHIPS  
TRACK**

Auditorium

## Improving Digital Literacy Outcomes Through Strategic Partnerships

Digital inclusion is now a fundamental component of housing stability and narrowing the digital divide is more important than ever. This session will feature two different partnerships as they share best practices and lessons learned from their programs seeking to achieve digital equity within low-income communities. First, Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority and the Columbus Metropolitan Library will present on their place-based digital navigation program designed to improve residents' digital literacy and connect residents to affordable devices and in-home broadband. The second partnership highlighted is between the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, The Jerome Bettis Bus Stops Here Foundation, and STEM Coding Lab on the (W.O.W.) CyberBus, a mobile classroom equipped with computers and internet access that allows for remote instruction for students and parents in HACP communities and the greater Pittsburgh area.

**Casey Mindlin**, Executive Director, STEM Coding Lab

**Sonja Nelson**, MBA, VP of Resident Initiatives, Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority

**Benjamin Reid**, Public Service Director, Columbus Metropolitan Library  
**Michelle Sandidge**, Chief Community Affairs Officer, Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh

**Bethany Vietmeier**, Executive Director, Jerome Bettis Bus Stops Here Foundation



**HEALTH TRACK**

Room ABC

**The Intersection of Housing and Healthcare in Supportive Housing**

This session will highlight the groundbreaking partnership between the Housing Authority of Salt Lake City and Sacred Circle Healthcare at Pamela’s Place and seek to inspire meaningful partnerships for positive social change. Panelists will offer a comprehensive exploration of this unique intersection of housing and healthcare, emphasizing its transformative impact on the lives of vulnerable populations.

**Josh Anderson**, Operations Officer, Sacred Circle Healthcare

**Tess Clark**, Commissioner and Resident, Housing Authority of Salt Lake City

**Shauntele Curry-Smid**, Strategy Officer, Sacred Circle Healthcare

**Lorena Horse**, Executive Director, Sacred Circle Healthcare

**Daniel Nackerman**, Executive Director, Housing Authority of Salt Lake City



**EDUCATION TRACK**

Room D

**Foundation for Success: Establishing Effective Partnerships Between Housing Authorities & School Districts**

This session showcases how Fort Worth Housing Solutions and the Fort Worth Independent School District established a mutually beneficial partnership, guided and supported by a nationally recognized educational model created by Urban Strategies, Inc. as part of a Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant. With a vision and goal of improving educational outcomes for youth in public housing, this session discusses how housing authorities can develop effective working relationships with their school districts to coordinate educational resources and meet the needs of low-income students and their families.

**LaTonya Copeland-Berry**, Senior Project Manager, Urban Strategies, Inc.

**Lachelle Goodrich**, Stop Six Choice Neighborhoods Director, Fort Worth Housing Solutions

**Tyronda Minter**, VP, Educational Initiative’s, Urban Strategies, Inc.

**Shanice Roberts**, Education Specialist, Urban Strategies, Inc.

**Dr. David Saenz**, Chief of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships, Fort Worth Independent School District

**4:00 – 5:00 pm**

Lobby

**Reception**

**Sponsored by** **YARDI**



# FRIDAY MAY 10

**8:30 – 9:30 am**

## Breakfast

Lobby

**Abra Lyons-Warren**, Director of Cross-Sector Initiatives, CLPHA

**9:30 – 9:40 am**

## Welcome Back Remarks

Auditorium

**9:40 – 9:45 am**

## Video Remarks

**The Honorable Chris Van Hollen**, United States Senate, Maryland

**The Honorable Bonnie Watson Coleman**, U.S. House of Representatives,  
New Jersey

**9:45 – 10:45 am**

## PLENARY 3:

### Accelerating Systemic Housing and Medicaid Partnerships

For the last ten years, the *Housing Is* Initiative has promoted the deep value of health and housing cross-sector partnerships to address the social determinants of health, health related social needs, and improve health overall for low-income residents and communities. Today, we are finally seeing the systemic adoption of these crucial partnerships within the Medicaid and Medicare systems. This panel will share progress to date on bridging Medicaid systems with housers and other partners to address health-related social needs.

**Kelly Cronin**, Deputy Administrator for Innovation and Partnership,  
Administration for Community Living, U.S. Department of Health and  
Human Services

**Rhonda Hauff**, Chief Executive Officer, Yakima Neighborhood  
Health Services

**Lowel Krueger**, Executive Director, Yakima Housing Authority

**Jack Rollins**, Director of Federal Policy, National Association of  
Medicaid Directors

**10:45 – 11:00 am**

## Break

**11:00 – 12:15 pm**

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS 3**  
**Funding and Policies**



**PARTNERSHIPS TRACK**

Room D

**Participant-driven Workforce Development: Front-line Perspectives on Adapting Workforce Development for Affordable Housing**

In this panel, housers and workforce partners imagine a future where stable housing serves as the foundation for economic empowerment for residents of affordable communities across the country. Panelists will share lessons learned on the ground about working alongside residents in their workforce development journey, as well as ways to increase capacity for housing organizations. The session will focus at the tactical level on opportunities and challenges in delivering workforce development that is directly responsive to resident needs and mitigates the systemic barriers that often stand between residents and these transformative opportunities.

**Reynaldo Aponte**, Instructor, JobTrain

**Tarlon Badiee**, Program Manager, MidPen Housing

**Brenda Castillo-Garza**, Vice President, Resident Services, MidPen Housing



**HEALTH TRACK**  
 Auditorium

**Building Stronger Communities: Exploring Partnerships Between Medicaid and PHAs in Washington State**

This session will explore partnerships between Medicaid and PHAs in Washington State. Washington’s Aging and Long-Term Supports Administration and Health Care Authority work to administer various Medicaid-reimbursable pre-tenancy and tenancy-sustaining support services. This session will highlight partnerships generated between the Spokane and Seattle Housing Authorities and Washington’s Medicaid programs and discuss how PHAs can offer support services, either independently or in collaboration with local provider networks. Conversations will center on how these collaborations address health inequities and drive systemic change, illustrating successful strategies for integrating housing with health services to enhance community well-being and support.

**Jessica Chow**, Health and Housing Program Manager, Seattle Housing Authority

**Whittney Joy Howard**, Housing Integration Unit Manager, Home and Community Services Aging and Long-Term Support Administration, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

**Pamela Parr**, Executive Director, Spokane Housing

**Rachael Steward**, Deputy Director of Housing Operations, Seattle Housing Authority

**Scott Tankersley**, Foundational Community Supports Program Administrator, Washington State Health Care Authority

**Sean Walsh**, Senior Supervisor, Aging and Disability Services, City of Seattle



## EDUCATION TRACK

Room ABC

### Higher Education and Housing Authorities Empowering Residents towards Postsecondary & Career Success

Seeking to highlight the innovative partnerships required to redefine the relationship between public housing and higher education, this session features presentations and a moderated discussion between two long standing postsecondary/housing partnerships. The Southern California College Attainment Network will focus on the resident experience and what it means to create a college-going culture across the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, as well as how they measure Project SOAR's impact and relevant outcomes. College Unbound, an accredited bachelor's degree granting institution that works with housing authorities to build degree pathways for employees and, in turn, their capacity to tackle systems change, will share stories grounded in the experiences of the Chicago Housing Authority's first CU graduate. College Unbound will also share how they measure and understand success beyond degree attainment.

**Niña Abonal**, Project SOAR Program Director, Southern California College Attainment Network

**Adam Bush**, President, College Unbound

**Lina Calderon-Morin**, Deputy Director, Southern California College Attainment Network

**Salin Geevarghese**, Founding Director and CEO, SGG Insight, Mixed-Income Strategic Affairs

**Crystal Palmer**, Manager of Residents Engagement in Community, Chicago Housing Authority

**12:15 – 1:15 pm**

Lobby

## Lunch



1:15 – 2:30 pm

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS 4**  
**Data and Research**



**PARTNERSHIPS TRACK**

Room ABC

**Voices in Harmony: A People-Centered Approach to Equitable Strategic Planning, Feedback, and Engagement**

This session seeks to emphasize the powers of collaboration across sectors, data sharing, and community organization and to develop best practices for cross-sector partnerships. Speakers will share innovative strategies to best gather resident input, emphasizing the importance of equitable feedback and active engagement of stakeholders. By keeping a people-centered approach and prioritizing the voices of families, clients, residents, community-based organizations, and leaders, panelists will stress the importance of integrity throughout the process and discuss how to uplift communities by ensuring their needs and ideas are heard and acted upon.

**Marc’ C. Bady**, Chief Inclusion and Empowerment Officer, Fresno Housing Authority

**Dr. Janine Nkosi**, EdD, Professor of Sociology and Director of Housing, Faith in the Valley

**Shaheed Nkosi**, Cofounder, Radical Possibilities CoLab



**HEALTH TRACK**

Room D

**Connecting Data to Promising Practices in Continuity of Mental Healthcare**

Featuring both the National Center for Health in Public Housing and Opportunity Home San Antonio, this session will reiterate the disproportionate impact that lack of access to primary care and preventative services has on HUD-assisted families and emphasize the crucial role partnerships play in advancing health equity for residents. NCHPH will share their research analysis of resident health needs, and OHSA and their County’s Center for Healthcare Services will provide a deep dive into their relationship and launch of onsite behavioral health services.

**Cecil King**, Clinical Director, Center for Healthcare Services

**Dr. Jose Leon, MD, MPH**, Chief Medical Officer, National Center for Health in Public Housing

**Kevin Lombardi**, Manager of Health Research, Policy and Promotions, National Center for Health in Public Housing

**Joel Tabar**, Director of Resident Services, Opportunity Home San Antonio



EDUCATION  
TRACK

Auditorium

## The Chronic Absence Epidemic: Data, Frameworks, PHA Interventions

Chronic absence has nearly doubled since the pandemic. It is especially high in economically challenged communities. By meeting low-income students at home, PHAs are uniquely positioned to address this attendance crisis and advance a more equitable post-pandemic learning recovery. The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading and Attendance Works will discuss their work that aims to reduce chronic absence and the opportunities for PHA-led partnerships that work towards this goal. Attendance Works will share the latest data and outline a framework for partnerships with schools, while two CLPHA member PHAs in the Campaign's 2023 PHA Honor Roll network will discuss their current attendance strategies and outcomes.

**Maria Casey**, Associate Director of Staff Development, Attendance Works

**Doreen Eley**, Resident Empowerment Assistant Director, Fresno Housing Authority

**Gary McCurdy**, Community Builder, Tacoma Housing Authority

**Robert McAfee, Sr.**, Community Builder, Tacoma Housing Authority

**Erica Vaughan**, Consultant, Campaign for Grade-Level Reading

2:30 – 3:00 pm

Closing Remarks

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Sponsorship of the *Housing Is* Summit is not an indication of endorsement by CLPHA.

# BREAKOUT SESSIONS ROADMAP



## HOUSING IS EDUCATION

These four sessions focus primarily on intersections between housing and education.

**THURSDAY | MAY 9**

**Collaborative Impact: Seattle's Public School System and PHA Partner for Educational Success**

1:15 – 2:30 pm | Room ABC

**Foundation for Success: Establishing Effective Partnerships Between Housing Authorities & School Districts**

2:45 – 4:00 pm | Room D

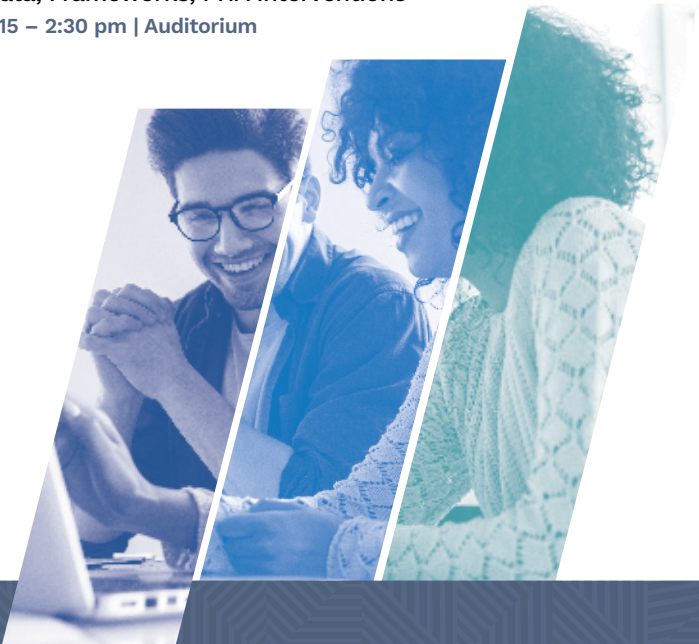
**FRIDAY | MAY 10**

**Higher Education and Housing Authorities Empowering Residents towards Postsecondary & Career Success**

11:00 – 12:15 pm | Room ABC

**The Chronic Absence Epidemic: Data, Frameworks, PHA Interventions**

1:15 – 2:30 pm | Auditorium





## HOUSING IS HEALTH

**These four sessions focus primarily on intersections between housing and health.**

**THURSDAY | MAY 9**

**Linking PHA Participants with Training and Healthcare Employment**

1:15 – 2:30 pm | Room D

**The Intersection of Housing and Healthcare in Supportive Housing**

2:45 – 4:00 pm | Room ABC

**FRIDAY | MAY 10**

**Building Stronger Communities: Exploring Partnerships Between Medicaid and PHAs in Washington State**

11:00 – 12:15 pm | Auditorium

**Connecting Data to Promising Practices in Continuity of Mental Healthcare**

1:15 – 2:30 pm | Room D



## HOUSING IS PARTNERSHIP

**These four sessions focus primarily on how partnerships help advance cross-sector work.**

**THURSDAY | MAY 9**

**Strategic Alignment in Public Housing: Leveraging HCV Waitlist Openings and Large-Scale Outreach for Homeless Populations**

1:15 – 2:30 pm | Auditorium

**Improving Digital Literacy Outcomes Through Strategic Partnerships**

2:45 – 4:00 pm | Auditorium

**FRIDAY | MAY 10**

**Participant-driven Workforce Development: Front-line Perspectives on Adapting Workforce Development for Affordable Housing**

11:00 – 12:15 pm | Room D

**Voices in Harmony: A People-Centered Approach to Equitable Strategic Planning, Feedback, and Engagement**

1:15 – 2:30 pm | Room ABC

WIFI LOG-IN INFORMATION

Select "NAHB Guest" | Username/email: [clpha@nahb.org](mailto:clpha@nahb.org) | Password: CLPHA2024

# #HousingIs2024

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**HOUSING IS**  
Building Partnerships. Improving Lives.

The *Housing Is* Initiative, led by the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities, helps build a future where systems work together to improve life outcomes. This is our 10th annual *Housing Is* Summit, the preeminent event dedicated to collaboration among the housing, education, and health sectors.

[clpha.org/housing-summit](http://clpha.org/housing-summit)

**CLPHA**  
Strengthening Neighborhoods. Improving Lives.