





## **AHAC Mission and Responsibilities**



- Understand the Chatham County Affordable Rental Housing Strategy Toolbox and help implement priorities
- Review policies and procedures related to affordable housing
- Advise County leadership in developing strategies to support affordable homeownership, rental, and transitional housing opportunities
- Promote public awareness of affordable housing topics through fair housing workshops, RFPs, and community surveys
- Submit an annual report to the Board of County Commissioners

#### **AHAC Goals**



- Increase the **number & diversity** of affordable rental and purchase options.
- **Preserve existing** legally-binding and naturally occurring affordable housing.
- Ensure rental quality.
- Support low-income renters.
- Foster healthy communities.
- Improve economic mobility.

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# Accomplishments in 2024

### **Housing Trust Fund**



- Updates to Policies, Applications, and Scoring Guides
  - o Applications are more accessible and the process is more efficient
- Recommendation of Awards
  - One applicant awarded funds for preservation services
  - o A Strategic Housing Efforts account supports outreach and research
- Reporting and Oversight Efforts
  - Three prior recipients have met with AHAC to discuss fund use and the impact of the HTF in Chatham County
  - o Denied applicants receive constructive feedback and may reapply

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## **Results: Oak View at Siler City**



- 72-Unit affordable family housing development
- Serves families at 30-60 percent of Area Median Income
- Opened in April of 2024, now full!
- Developer, Wallick Communities, was awarded Housing Trust Fund dollars in 2022 and 2023 as a supplemental source to their Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.



## **Policy Recommendations**



- Unified Development Ordinance
  - AHAC supported policies friendly to affordable housing in the UDO, including density support and diversity of housing types
- Impact Fee Policy Updates
  - Recommended improvements to expand impact fee reimbursement eligibility and extend the required affordability period

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#### **Mobile Home Communities**



- Scope of Mobile Home Communities in Chatham County
  - Mobile homes are a major source of existing affordable housing
  - o Their status is precarious in the face of upcoming development.
  - o A working group was established to engage with residents and parks.
  - Collaborated with the planning office to find information on the number of mobile home hookups and the condition of those hookups.
- Creating an outreach plan
  - The working group created a survey of mobile home park residents and developed a distribution strategy with community partners.
  - o The Strategic Housing Effort account will assist with logistics.

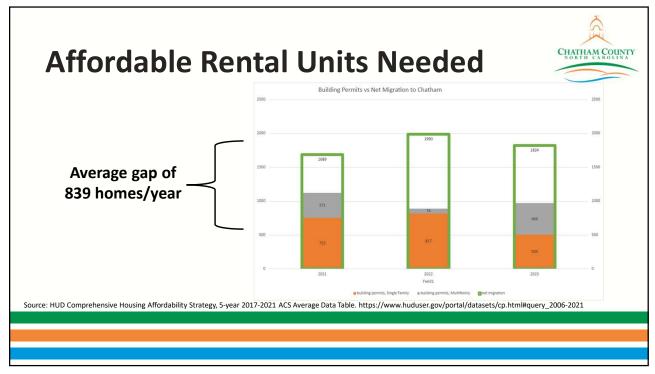
## **Relationship Building**

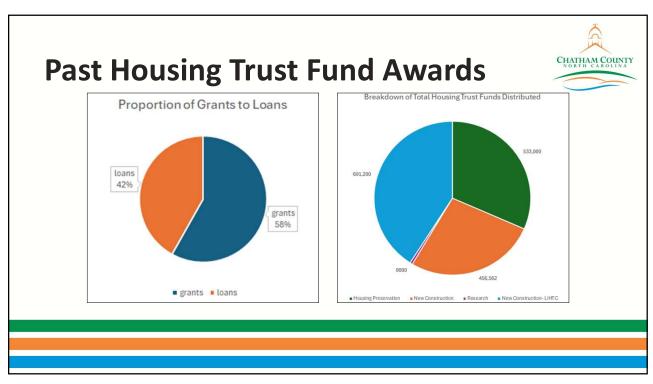


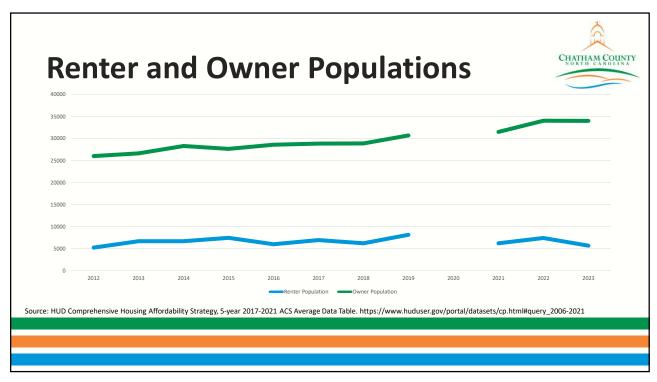
- Engagement with Housing Developers
  - AHAC collaborated with Chatham County Housing and Community Development Officer, Jamie Andrews, to have a consistent housing developer outreach strategy including timelines, goals, and materials.
- Deepened Partnerships Across the Housing Spectrum
  - AHAC hosted multiple groups, including past Housing Trust Fund recipients, planning board staff and members, service providers, and staff of Pittsboro, Goldston, and Siler City to build a more comprehensive understanding of the housing work being done across Chatham County and what gaps exist.

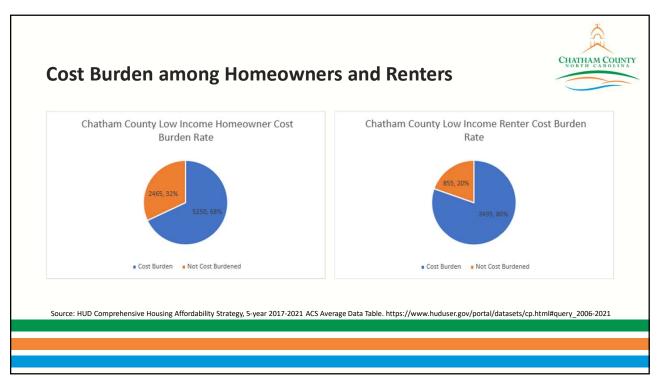
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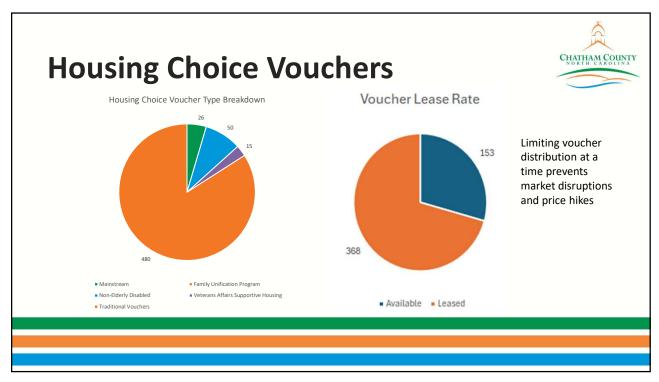


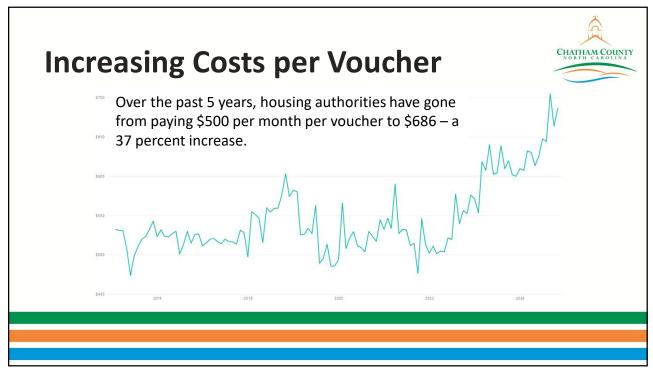












#### **General Trends**



- Most low-income Chatham residents are cost burdened by their housing costs
- Trends point to increased cost burden in the future.
- Need for landlord engagement to support utilization of housing voucher assistance
- While coordination among service providers has increased impacts in the community, even more capacity and innovative strategies will be necessary to meet the needs seen in community.

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#### **Future Activities**



- More comprehensive action planning process for 2025
  - o Identify member priorities and key themes
  - Develop goals and actionable strategies
  - Convene time-limited and action-oriented working groups
  - o Employ Strategic Housing Effort account for outreach and research
- Strengthen Housing Trust Fund oversight and expand interest
- Build relationships within the county housing community and external housing advocates and allies
- Ensure alignment with Strategic Plan and long-term goals
- Advocate for good housing policy and actions