BISMARCK, ND – Taxpayer contributions to the North Dakota Housing Incentive Fund (HIF) are being put to work. The Industrial Commission announced today that the North Dakota Housing Finance Agency (NDHFA) has allocated a total of $4.3 million in flexible financing for the development of 306 new rental units. The fund is capitalized by contributions from state income and financial institution taxpayers.

“North Dakota is strengthening its communities, with neighbor helping neighbor,” said Gov. Jack Dalrymple. “The Housing Incentive Fund received more than $6.3 million during its initial fundraising campaign and those dollars will go to work to create homes for North Dakota families, seniors and workers.”

“The fund is a unique way for individuals and businesses to make an impact in their communities,” said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem. “The contributions made to HIF will make these communities stronger by providing affordable housing choices for local residents.”

“Every dollar counts in affordable housing development,” said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. “Without the support of North Dakotans – both private and corporate citizens – we would not be able to get these much-needed projects off the ground.”

NDHFA received nine HIF development applications for $3.9 million during a funding round that ended Dec. 31, 2011. The projects were awarded conditional commitments as follows:

- Beach - $268,000 to Lutheran Social Services Housing for the construction of Rimrock Apartments, 12 family units. Total development cost is $1,321,250.
- Belfield - $225,000 to Lutheran Social Services Housing for the construction of Belfield Apartments, 12 family units. Total development cost is $1,551,650.
- Crosby - $240,000 to Crosby Housing LLC and the Divide County Economic Development Council, Inc. for the construction of the Crosby Housing LLC 12-plex, targeted to families. Total development cost is $1,350,000.
- Grand Forks - $454,545 to Valley Homes and Services for the construction of Cherrywood Village, 30 units for elderly households. Total development cost is $4,753,682.
- Kenmare - $240,000 to the Kenmare Development Corp. for development of the Kenmare CDC Housing 12-plex, targeted to families. Total development cost is $1,350,000.
- Kenmare - $240,000 to Moure Equipment for the development of the Kenmare Gooseneck Equipment 12-plex, targeted to families. Total development cost is $1,350,000.
- Williston - $200,000 to Lutheran Social Services Housing for adaptive reuse of the city’s former junior high school building into Legacy at Central Place. All 44 units are targeted to elderly households. Total redevelopment cost is $8,453,707.
• Williston - $1,000,000 to the Williston State College (WSC) Foundation for the construction of WSC Foundation Housing – College and City, 74 units for the workforce and families. Total development cost is $10,000,000.

• Williston - $1,000,000 to the WSC Foundation for the construction of WSC Foundation Housing – Essential Services, 64 units for the workforce and families. Total development cost is $8,395,833.

Two projects in Crosby and Minot previously received allocations worth $440,000 for the development of 44 units.

Applications for the next quarterly development funding round are due by March 31.

NDHFA is encouraging the state’s taxpayers to continue supporting the incentive fund with a contribution.

“North Dakotans can now have a say in how their state tax dollars are spent,” said Mike Anderson, NDHFA executive director. “Through their continued support of HIF, state taxpayers can help create affordable rental housing where it’s most needed in our state.”

Contributors to the fund can target their dollars to a specific project or ask that their contribution be designated for use in a specific community.

“The projects that received allocations and new projects that are in the pipeline need the continued support of North Dakota taxpayers to remain on track,” Anderson said. “Because taxpayers can target their funds, the Housing Incentive Fund still needs more contributions to ensure that the projects can begin construction as soon as possible.”

Any entity with a state income or financial institutions tax liability can contribute to HIF. In exchange for the contribution, the taxpayer receives a dollar-for-dollar tax credit. For taxpayers making quarterly estimated tax payments, a contribution to HIF may be used to offset their estimated payments. The agency will continue to issue tax credits to contributors on a first-come, first-served basis until its $15 million maximum threshold is reached.

More information on HIF is available at www.ndhousingincentivefund.org or by contacting Jolene Kline or Bill Hourigan at info@ndhfa.org, (701) 328-8080, (800) 292-8621, or (800) 366-6888 (TTY).

The Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Governor Jack Dalrymple, as chairman, Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, oversees the NDHFA.

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