

# PRINCIPLES FOR HEALTHY AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING

*We support healthy and affordable housing for all as a foundation for healthy, vibrant communities and inclusive growth.*

Good health requires that all of us live in homes that we can afford. A stable place to live supports the health of all people across the life course, as well as creates thriving communities.

**Healthcare Anchor Network (HAN)** members are at the forefront of a growing movement of hospitals and health systems working to deploy their institutional resources to tackle the social and economic determinants of health. For a hospital, addressing housing, one of the most important social determinants of health, isn't just the right thing to do for our patients and communities—it also helps bend the cost curve by creating a healthier community. Health outcomes improve and health care costs decline after people move into affordable housing.

Hospitals and health systems can be critical partners in addressing housing insecurity and supporting community stewardship of land and housing. As some of the key employers in our neighborhoods, not being

able to afford a home also impacts our ability to attract and sustain our workforce.

As locally rooted institutions, we are committed to partnering to solve these critical community challenges to improve health and well-being. We can work with expert partners, such as community development corporations (CDCs) and community development financial institutions (CDFIs), which are key to the ecosystem needed to support affordable housing, but which are often under-resourced.

The goal of stable and healthy homes that people can afford is a complex challenge that will require a range of different approaches and policy tools. Many health systems are investing in housing directly, but we need policy solutions, including policies that support and incentivize this work through tax and payment structures, and maintaining and expanding federal housing investments.

## HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SYSTEMS ENDORSING THE PRINCIPLES FOR HEALTHY AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING:

