



Homeword

Sustainable Communities for All

Mission

Homeword uses sustainable methods to provide safe, healthy homes people can afford and strengthens community through housing counseling and education for those in need.

Safe, Healthy, Affordable Housing

Homeword is a statewide Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO). We provide high-quality, sustainably built homes that our residents are proud to live in and that the community as a whole is proud to support.

Our development portfolio includes innovative multi-family and single family new construction, rehabilitation and adaptive re-use projects. We leverage local, statewide and regional relationships with many affordable housing agencies and advocates to ensure the success of our homes and programs.



"My home is safe and affordable. The location is wonderful. It's close to the river, trail and bus stop. I feel safe here. I am proud to live here." - Bonnie



Regional HomeOwnership Center Programs

Homeword is a HUD-approved housing counseling agency and one of three Regional HomeOwnership Centers in Montana. Since 1997, our HUD-certified housing counselors and educators have served over 12,500 people, teaching them financial literacy, renter education and homebuyer education as well as providing them with financial, renter, homebuying and foreclosure prevention counseling as the first steps towards self-empowerment and self-sufficiency.

"It felt amazing to bring our son, Joey, home to a place we owned – a permanent situation that was safe and stable. A place that is so much more than a house. It is where I run my business, where my husband – an Iraq veteran – feels safe, secure and at peace and where we build memories with our two young children." - Lauren

Made in Montana

Homeword's offices and Regional HomeOwnership Center are located in Missoula, Montana. Homeword has developed or preserved 691 homes for more than 1,100 Montanans, including 436 children, at 22 properties in 10 communities around the state.

Our HomeOwnership Center counseling and education programs serve over 1,000 people in the Missoula community each year.



People

Staff

Thirteen highly-skilled community members, with various extensive professional backgrounds and a strong passion to further our mission, work together to empower Montanans through safe homes, counseling and education.

Leadership Team

- Andrea Davis, Executive Director
- Heather McMilin, Housing Development Director
- Karissa Drye, Operations & Program Director
- Matt Joseph, Finance Director

Other Staff Members

- Ashley Grant, Housing Project Manager
- Brendan Moles, Housing Services Coordinator
- Chris Moyles, Facilities Project Manager
- Erin Ojala, Administrative Specialist
- Katie Sadowski, Financial Education Coordinator
- Jennifer Betz, Asset Manager
- Jessica Burson, Fundraising & Marketing Manager
- Julie Stiteler, Housing Project Manager
- Stacey Miller, Finance Coordinator

Volunteer Board of Directors

Each year our volunteers, including ten volunteer Board members, give more than 600 hours of their time and expertise to help us serve thousands of Montanans. Our Board members lend their areas of expertise in architecture, construction, law, accounting, commercial lending and banking, nonprofit communication and social services, to ensure Homeward's success in empowering Montanans.



Notable Awards

Homeward

- City of Missoula/Missoula in Motion Transportation Best Practices Award (2016, 2015, 2013, 2005)
- Missoula Job Service Executive Committee Employer of Choice (2014)
- Sonoran Institute Building from the Best of the Northern Rockies Award (2007)
- Montana State Extension Office EcoStar Award (2006)
- Orton Family Foundation Inaugural PLACEMATTERS Innovator in Place Award (2006)
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Best Practices Award (1998)
- Missoula Historic Preservation Award (1998)

Our Properties

- Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis Innovation Award (Solstice/2011)
- Montana Historic Preservation Award (Ouellette Place/2011, Acme/2007)
- Affordable Housing Tax Credit Coalition Charles L. Edson Tax Credit Excellence Award in Green Housing (Equinox/2010)
- City of Billings Bright and Beautiful Award (Southern Lights/2009)
- Affordable Housing Tax Credit Coalition Charles L. Edson Tax Credit Excellence Award in Green Housing (Orchard Gardens/2006)
- Home Depot Foundation Award of Excellence for Affordable Housing Built Responsibly in Rental Housing (Orchard Gardens/2006)
- Montana Contractors Association Environmental Excellence Award (Orchard Gardens/2005)
- Certificate for Design Excellence in Affordable Green Housing from American Institute of Architects (Gold Dust/2005)
- Enterprise Foundation Met Life Foundation Award for Excellence in Affordable Housing (Fireweed Court/2004)
- Missoula Historic Preservation Award (Lenox Flats/2001)
- Fannie Mae Foundation Maxwell Award of Excellent for Production of Low Income Housing (Fireweed Court/2000)