

# ANAWIM HOUSING GRANT ANNOUNCEMENTS



# ANAWIM HOUSING

SPRING 2019

## HUD Renewing Funding of \$2.25 Million for Anawim Program

On January 26th, 2019, The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced that they were renewing funding to thousands of local homeless programs. Anawim Housing is set to receive \$2.25 million to renew our Permanent Supportive Housing Programs, which currently house over 200 individuals (adults and children). The renewal funds will help our department continue to grow and provide housing for even more individuals coming from homelessness in the coming year.

## IFA awards Anawim \$412,715 for TBRA Program

Anawim Housing was also awarded \$412,715 in HOME dollars through the Iowa Finance Authority. This will allow us to serve at least 20 individuals and families for 24 months through our TBRA program (Tenant Based Rental Assistance). This funding will help cover security deposits, provide rental assistance and supportive services.

Anawim continues to be the largest provider of permanent supportive housing in Iowa.



ANAWIMHOUSING.ORG

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Home is Everything.

## A Letter from the President

The Anawim front door opens each day for families and individuals seeking a home. If you were to spend a morning at our reception desk, you would hear stories from every path imaginable. To not know where you will live is terrifying for anyone and usually comes with a distressing history of culminating events.

When a person contacts us, the most common need is a safe, affordable place to live. For this, the solution is a trustworthy, tenant-landlord relationship. For times when our tenants' needs are greater, we respond by offering dedicated supportive services including access to rent relief and community resources.

The level of involvement can be much deeper. Our program team provides a permanent solution for families and individuals who experienced homelessness and were referred to us through our partnership with Centralized Intake at Primary Health Care. As the largest Permanent Supportive Housing program provider in the state of Iowa, over 200 of our units are home to families and individuals receiving one-on-one care, creating the opportunity for stability and ultimately a healthy, happy life.

Sometimes, people come to us with hope and excitement while others may be coming from a crisis, only knowing the next right step is to walk through our front door. Their journey with us starts at that very moment.

We hope you will consider finding ways to support and get involved with Anawim this year and join us at one of our upcoming events. We look forward to seeing you soon.

RUSS FRAZIER  
ANAWIM HOUSING

# Anawim Celebrates the 10th Anniversary of 9 HOMES IN 9 DAYS



Hubbell Realty  
Company  
**Extreme**  
9 HOMES IN 9 DAYS

The **9 Homes in 9 Days Project** [which was completed in seven days], was a unique partnership where Anawim and Hubbell Homes created housing for nine new families in honor of the popular ABC program, **Extreme Makeover: Home Edition**.

In 2009, countless volunteers met at the corner of 21st and Forest Avenue in Des Moines to work together for this build. More than 130 companies contributed time, talents and other goods towards the building project. Anawim staff, Monica Muhammad helped the new families move into the homes.

*"I was able to coordinate the move in process with lots of help from the Property Management team. We all worked together to get each family moved in the units as quickly as possible. And all families took possession within nine days after the project was completed,"* Muhammad said.

With the addition of nine new homes, Anawim's housing portfolio included 220 affordable places to live. In ten years, we have grown substantially serving more than 1000 homes through Anawim-owned properties, managed properties through Allterra Property Solutions, and through our Permanent Supportive Housing Programs.

The **9 Homes in 9 Days Project** was a great opportunity for Anawim to gain recognition, serve more families and enhance the neighborhood.



L TO R: ARNASHA, ROMAN, MARQUIS, VIRMONA, AZMIAUNA, RANASHA, MALAKAI



# Virmona's Story

How one mother's journey led her to Anawim Housing and helped her AND her kids find healing, happiness and hope

We take for granted what stable housing can provide. It's not just a place to call home or a roof over a family's head. Stable housing changes lives, alleviates poverty, and offers a firm foundation so individuals and families can gain stability and live happy, healthy lives.

Virmona came to Anawim in 2015 with her six children and was accepted into our Permanent Supportive Housing Program. Our Programs assist individuals and families who have experienced a housing crisis and live with a mental illness, a substance use disorder, a physical disability, or a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS.

Virmona knows the reality of housing instability and the unseen impact it can have on a family and the surrounding community. Her family was displaced from a living situation due to safety concerns and black mold. She moved the kids a number of times before they settled into their current home.

Without stable housing, individuals and families become transient—moving frequently from place to place. This transience can lead to absenteeism and high transfer rates for students in school.

Without stable housing, it is difficult for individuals to access the physical and mental health care they need. Instead, individuals experiencing homelessness rely on crisis services like emergency departments and county jails. Once housed, our participants are more likely to see their primary care doctor regularly and take preventative health measures that are otherwise impossible without stable housing.

When you are experiencing homelessness, you're focused on survival—getting through the day or meeting your basic needs. Securing safe, stable, and affordable housing has given Virmona and her family the foundation to work toward their goals and become active members of the community.

Since connecting with Anawim Housing, Virmona has worked directly with her program manager to access resources that benefit her family. She has enrolled her kids in basketball and gymnastics and found an after-school program for one of her sons who loves science. She home-schools her youngest daughter and is preparing to send her


to Kindergarten this fall. Virmona also prioritizes time for herself. She sings in her church choir and performs in community theater productions. Virmona has learned that in order to be the best parent she can be, she needs to take care of herself too.

Anawim Housing program managers connect participants with resources that will help them meet their goals. For some, this mean accessing health care, substance abuse treatment, or job development. For others, it means reconnecting with family, applying for Social Security benefits, or volunteering in the community.

"It's been a struggle, however it gets better. If it wasn't for Anawim, I wouldn't be mentally where I am today. I smile more. I breathe a lot easier. They say that if a parent is depressed, then so are the kids. The kids feel it. And my kids, they're happier and I feel like if it wasn't for Anawim doing everything that they did to try and get me the help that I needed, then we wouldn't be where we are today. A lot of people think Anwim is just about housing, and it's not. They have many different resources." - Virmona

Through the Anawim program, Virmona pays no more than 30% of her income toward rent and utilities. This means she has more to spend on food, healthcare, and other basic necessities. Poverty is deeply connected to housing. When we provide stable, supportive housing, we provide individuals and families with the chance to live a better life.

"It's a blessing. It's so refreshing to have somebody else in your corner when you feel like you don't have anybody in your corner." - Virmona ■



Inspiring stories like Virmona's are why the Anawim Housing Foundation exists. The Foundation was created to support the people Anawim is honored to serve through Permanent Supportive Housing Programs. Learn more about our Programs here: <https://www.anawimhousing.org/live-here/programs>

# WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



The reason behind everything we do at Anawim is the people we serve, and we could not do the work we do without **your** support. Visit our website for all the ways that you can get involved!

[www.anawimhousing.org/give-here/ways-to-get-involved](http://www.anawimhousing.org/give-here/ways-to-get-involved)

## Attend an Event!

**The Anawim Housing Men's Breakfast**  
April 25th | 7:30-8:30AM  
At The Cub Club

The Men's Breakfast is an early morning meet-up for anyone interested in learning more about Anawim Housing and the work being done in our community. Enjoy breakfast at the ballpark and hear about ways you can help us make an impact.  
RSVP at: [www.anawimhousing.org/announcements/91](http://www.anawimhousing.org/announcements/91)



## Come on a Property Tour!

Join us for a Spring Home Tour of Anawim's properties throughout Des Moines. We host two property tours a year, one in the Spring and in the Fall. These tours are a wonderful way to get out in the community and see first-hand the work Anawim is doing and the safe, affordable homes we provide!

**Spring Home Tour**  
May 22nd  
11:30AM-1:00PM  
At Anawim Housing

RSVP at:  
[www.anawimhousing.org/announcements/93](http://www.anawimhousing.org/announcements/93)



**Women Empowering Families Spring Event**  
May 7th | 5:00-7:00PM  
At The River Center

Women Empowering Families is a group that directly supports the families and individuals that are housed with Anawim Housing. Members give yearly at a supporting level. We host two annual events. Our Spring Event on May 7th will be in celebration of Mother's Day. Guests will collect items to create sweet gift bags to be gifted to our many Anawim mothers!  
RSVP at: [www.anawimhousing.org/announcements/85](http://www.anawimhousing.org/announcements/85)



## Volunteer!

Visit our "Ways To Get Involved" webpage on our website to fill out our **Volunteer Interest Form!**

We have various group and individual volunteer opportunities throughout the year such as:

- Clean-Up Days
- Adopt a Playground
- Adopt a Free Library
- Community Garden Help
- Mentorship Opportunities, etc.

**Volunteer Property Clean-Up Day**  
June 7th | 1:00PM-4:00PM

RSVP at: [www.anawimhousing.org/announcements/97](http://www.anawimhousing.org/announcements/97)

## Supply a Meal

Help provide a lunch for our Full Circle program group that meets **once a week!** To help, please visit our "Ways To Get Involved" webpage and fill out a Volunteer Interest Form

## Donate Items

We accept donations of new or gently used items for our families moving in with very little or coming from homelessness such as:

- paper towels
- all-purpose cleaner
- disinfectant wipes
- scrubber sponges
- dish soap
- gift cards
- pillows, etc.

Visit our "Ways To Get Involved" webpage to learn more



Sign Up for our **Monthly E-News!**

Sign up online at:  
[www.anawimhousing.org](http://www.anawimhousing.org)

Follow us on Social!



# Home is Everything

## podcast series



We are excited to introduce the Anawim Housing "Home is Everything" podcast series! The focus of our podcasts is to discuss in detail the many facets of work Anawim Housing does in our community - from Permanent Supportive Housing, to affordable housing. You'll hear stories of inspiration and learn more about Anawim through engaging discussions with president Russ Frazier and staff, partners, advocates, and individuals that call Anawim home.

Podcasts are released every two months and available online at:

[www.anawimhousing.org/about-us/home-is-everything-podcast-series](http://www.anawimhousing.org/about-us/home-is-everything-podcast-series)



Photo: Russ Frazier is joined by special guest, Anawim Program Manager, Dan McBee to discuss Permanent Supportive Housing on our upcoming episode

Subscribe to our podcast and follow us on social media to be notified as soon as a new episode is released!

## ABERDEEN APARTMENTS SIOUX CITY, IA

### Ribbon Cutting

On November 30th, Anawim Housing joined Arch Icon Construction and Midwest Housing Equity Group for the official ribbon cutting of the Aberdeen Apartments in Sioux City. Anawim is excited to be partnering on this unique housing project - providing 46 units.

Aberdeen Apartments are the conversion of the former Sioux City Central Annex, which was utilized for athletics for the former Central High School. The project received funding from Low Income Housing Tax Credits and Historic Tax Credits. These apartments help serve a severely strained housing market in Sioux City. Today the building is fully leased.



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