THE 2024 IMPACT REPORT



**Building Communities** together

#### What's Inside



**Housing Appendix** 

The AHAC Report.....15

#### LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Federal Home Loan Bank System's 10th District is a little different from others throughout the country.

We serve Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma, a predominately rural and agriculture district where the majority of our members are community-based financial institutions.

Our members are at the heart of the towns they serve, in tune with the unique needs of their customers and communities.

When such a need arises whether it's a wholesale advance to fund a small business or down



payment assistance for a family — they continued to turn to FHLBank Topeka in 2024 to help their communities grow.

Our employees, too, embraced that community spirit this past year, strengthening our culture of respect, teamwork and growth. Like our members, they are at the core of the community we have here in the building and in Topeka where we call home. We're proud to make a difference by being a little different. The towns and institutions may be a smaller in District 10, but as you'll read in this report, together we make an enormous impact.

Jeffy B. Kunfer

Jeffrey B. Kuzbel President and CEO

#### OUR MISSION

## We make a difference by providing reliable liquidity and funding to help our members build strong communities

#### **OUR MEMBERS**

As a regional cooperative, FHLBank Topeka is owned by our members and designed to meet their local credit needs in all credit cycles.

FHLBank Topeka provides access to liquidity and support for housing and community development to financial institutions in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma, known as the FHLBank System's 10th District.

As of Dec. 31, 2024, our members include 666 banks, credit unions, savings and loans, insurance companies and community development financial institutions (CDFIs). Below is a look at the membership breakdown by institution type for 2024.

521

Banks

92 Credit

Unions

20 Savings & Loans

Insurance Companies **4** CDFIs

#### **COMMUNITY MINDED**

Community banks are at the core of our mission. We proudly serve a higher percent of members with less than \$1.461 billion in assets than any other FHLBank in the System.

93% of our bank members are community banks

Community-based financial institutions are best positioned to understand the unique needs of their communities — Like Bruning Bank in Bruning, Nebraska, whose agriculture lending business fluctuates with the farming cycle. "There are parts of the year we borrow a lot from FHLBank based on our customers' needs," Bruning President Jerry Catlett said. "It's helped Bruning and our customers not just grow but thrive."

Read Bruning Bank's story online

2024 IMPACT REPORT | OUR MISSION



## How do FHLBanks benefit the nation's economy?

Access to FHLBank liquidity ensures members can meet obligations under all conditions. The bank failures in early 2023, for instance, had institutions relying heavily on the FHLBank System. Because we are stable and reliable, we are able to support our members in any situation.

Our accordion-like structure and highly rated debt are a trusted resource for members through all economic environments.

#### **OUR PRODUCTS**

FHLBank Topeka has an array of products and services designed to provide liquidity and benefit our unique customer base.

### \$41.7 • Advances

Total FHLBank advances outstanding

billion

## \$8.9 billion

#### Advances are wholesale funds that provide members with liquidity, help manage

interest rate risk and allow them to meet the unique needs of their communities. There are multiple options designed for flexibility.

#### The MPF<sup>®</sup> Program

The Mortgage Partnership Finance® Program (MPF®) is a secondary market alternative where members sell fixed-rate mortgage loans to FHLBank, which facilitates mortgage lending in their communities.

Outstanding principal of mortgage loans

## \$7.5

Total FHLBank Letters of Credit outstanding

#### Letters of Credit

Letters of Credit are an alternative to traditional collateral to secure public unit deposits, helping ensure local funds stay in the community. They're also used to enhance bonds for local projects.

Outstanding balances are listed as of Dec. 31, 2024.



#### LIQUIDITY AND COLLATERAL

The System's unique architecture serves the broader financial industry by giving community lenders the confidence to keep liquidity flowing and by absorbing the shock of changing market conditions that may otherwise trigger extreme pressure on small institutions.

To benefit our members, FHLBank Topeka accepts community financial institution (CFI) collateral, which includes small business and farm loans as well as the typical single-family loans, multifamily loans, HELOCs and mortgage-backed securities. Acceptance of CFI collateral is important because it allows members to access advances using the types of collateral unique to their communities.

We proudly have the highest percent of CFIs in the System as of December 2023 and the highest percent of CFI collateral in the System.

#### How has collateral and liquidity impacted District 10 communities?

\$23

of the \$53 billion in CFI collateral Systemwide in '23 was pledged to FHLBank Topeka \$14 billion

the amount of Topeka liquidity that fueled small business loans 2023-2024



The amount of Topeka liquidity that supported small farm loans 2023-2024 "There was never any question that FHLBank would be there when we needed them. That persistence and that stamina has always been appreciated."

#### **Dennis Weber** CFO of High Country Bank

Founded in 1886, High Country Bank is the longest active state-chartered bank in Colorado. As its hometown of Salida has grown over the decades so has the financial institution's reliance on FHLBank products to meet its community's changing needs. First, they utilized advances. Now, they've added Letters of Credit to their toolbox to support public funds.

Whatever the product, Weber said, FHLBank's reliability has remained the same.

Read High Country's story online

235 members supported their communities using HCD funds in 2024\*

1,308 households realized the dream of homeownership

housing units will be created or supported through AHP awards

\$5.3m awarded to Native American tribes and tribally designated

housing entities

\$555m total in 2024 allocated to support households districtwide

#### HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (HCD) PROGRAMS

All FHLBanks invest at least 10% of net income in statutory Affordable Housing Programs. When combined with voluntary programs, total contributions to HCD initiatives will grow to 15% in 2025. Our HCD programs include:

**The Affordable Housing Program** is a competitive grant program funding housing for seniors, people with disabilities and those with low to moderate incomes (80% of the area median income or AMI).

**The Native American Housing Initiatives Grants Program** offers tribes and tribally designated housing entities funding for housing needs. While we projected making \$3.6 million available, response from our members demonstrated the need for more. In total, we gave a share of \$5.3 million to 12 projects.

The Community Development Program (CDP) and Community Housing Program (CHP) are

discounted advances also available along with our housing grants. These low-cost advances fund community development, small business, rental and owner-occupied projects throughout our district.

**TurnKey** is suite of down payment assistance created to address the challenges of attaining homeownership. Comprised of three programs — The <u>Homeownership Set-aside Program</u> (HSP), <u>HSP Plus</u> and, new in 2024, <u>Homeownership Possibilities Expanded</u> (HOPE) — TurnKey is designed to reach homeowners at various income levels, housing situations and life experiences.

For a deep dive into our 2024 HCD programs, see the 2024 AHAC Report.

\*Reporting is per program and may have duplicates. Deduplicated number of members participating in 2024 HCD programs is 201.



#### OVERALL MEMBER USAGE OF PRODUCTS AND PROGRAMS

**Nearly 99% of counties in our district** have been impacted by members' use of our affordable housing and community development programs, Mortgage Partnership Finance Program and pledged collateral.



## \$403 million

committed in Standby Bond Purchase Agreements in 2024

FHLBank Topeka also serves as a standby bond purchaser for state housing authorities. In this role, we guarantee repurchase of bonds that cannot be remarketed quickly. In doing so, we serve as a liquidity facility, supporting the housing authorities in their issuance of securities to support affordable housing. We continue to explore opportunities to support housing authorities, and, for example, directly invested \$24.5 million in the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority's Welcome Home program in 2024, which enabled approximately 100 families at up to 150% AMI to buy a home.



#### #500F0RG00D

Once a year since 2018, we ask our members one question — **If you had \$500 to better your community, how would you spend it?** Our #500forGood program offers microgrants to fund passion projects across the district.

> 50 Number of #500forGood projects selected in 2024

\$25,000 Total amount donated to projects in 2024

\$100,000+

Money donated through #500forGood since it began

#### PARTNERSHIP WITH WASHBURN

Sharing a hometown and employing many alumni has created a strong link between FHLBank and Washburn University.

The connection grew in 2024 when our Corporate Communications team was looking for new ways to share stories from the #500forGood program.

Jessie Homerding, FHLBank Topeka's interactive communications specialist, approached Washburn film professor Matt Nyquist about working with students from the school to create short videos about some of the #500forGood projects. The professor liked the idea so much, he created a class for it – Corporate Film.

Working side by side with Jessie, budding filmmakers spent the spring semester selecting #500forGood projects to highlight, scouting interview locations, writing storyboards and scheduling interviews before heading out to film on location. FHLBank Topeka gave \$6,000 to the school to help fund their efforts.

The result of the first ever Washburn Corporate Film course was two short films about two #500for-Good projects – Greenhouse equipment for the Sterling and Lyons school districts sponsored by First Bank in Sterling, Kansas, and hearing assistance equipment for the Minden Opera House sponsored by First Bank and Trust in Minden, Nebraska.

"There are so many who benefited from this partnership, from Washburn to our members to the small community projects our members support," Jessie said. "Corporate Film gave students real world experience, and they witnessed what we do as a company right in their own backyard."

#### Watch the #500forGood films

## \$1,478,580

Total donated from charitable contribution funds to local, state and national nonprofits in 2024

## \$29,776

Total contributed to CAC in 2024 by FHLBank and business partners



Total raised during the 2024 fundraisers for the three CARE partner organizations

## \$11,890

Total contributed in 2024 through FHLBank Topeka's Matching Gift program

#### CHARITABLE GIVING

Community is at the heart of who we are. Our charitable giving efforts include supporting local nonprofits, advancing support for underrepresented populations and responding to urgent needs. We have a matching gift program to increase the generosity of employees, who we call business partners. Plus, business partners may choose to take part in several charitable committees that host fundraising and awareness opportunities throughout the year. **Community Affairs Committee (CAC)** partners with a local nonprofit with a housing component. The group organizes fundraisers and work days for the Bank to get involved. In 2024, CAC finished a two-year partnership with the Topeka Rescue Mission, which was the largest project the committee had ever taken on.

**CARE** hosts an annual Month of Giving to benefit the United Way and two other nonprofits selected by business partners. In 2024, CARE fundraised for Let's Help and Project2Restore along with UW. CARE also facilitates FHLBank's participation in the Nancy Perry Day of Caring.

**The IDEA Council** facilitates FHLBank Topeka's cultural efforts including awareness events that promote mutual respect among business partners and an openness to new ideas. It also serves as a sounding board and discussion group for cultural issues in and out of the workplace.

**The Women's Resource Group (WRG)** is designed to help support business partners, regardless of gender identity, and serve as a resource for people in different parts of their career. WRG hosts events throughout the year focused on leadership, empowerment and mindfulness.

#### **BEYOND THE BENEFITS**

FHLBank Topeka aims to support the entire business partner experience, encouraging growth as a professional and a person and celebrating along the way.

#### Growth Mindset

Professional development continued to be a major focus at FHLBank Topeka in 2024. The Learning Portal was the major hub for opportunities to grow one's knowledge in their own field or topics outside their work such as leadership, creative thinking and more.

Additionally, the Bank increased live learning opportunities like Level Up, which focuses on communication and management tactics to grow careers, and FHLBank Academy sessions to educate business partners on the role of different departments.

20 Number of Level Up opportunities hosted in 2024

Culture of Celebration

15 Number of FHLBank Academy sessions hosted in 2024 51 Average FHLBank Academy attendance in 2024

## Part of building a strong community at the Bank is celebrating our successes together. FHLBank Topeka has a culture of celebration for wins at work, home and in our communities. Events are held throughout the year to network, recognize each other's efforts and promote life in and outside the office. In 2024, we created a DIY mini golf course, hosted a surprise coffee truck and had monthly First Friday receptions.

#### CULTURE STATEMENT

Our culture is reflective of our business partners as a whole.

FHLBank Topeka established our Business Partnership Culture Statement in 2023 to include the key characteristics of our work including serving our members, empowering action, communication and embracing high standards.

This statement reflects what is expected of business partners at FHLBank Topeka.

Combined with the new FHLBank Topeka Value Proposition (See <u>page</u> <u>14</u>), they paint a more complete picture of FHLBank culture.

Read the full Culture Statement

## How do Beyond the Desk events make an impact?

We value experiences that allow business partners to discuss ideas, explore new customs and gain new perspectives outside our own.

Cultural learning helps strengthen the community we have in our own building.

We know these important opportunities contribute to organizational resiliency by deliberately seeking diverse perspectives therefore fostering the innovation our members seek and deserve.

#### 2024 BEYOND THE DESK EVENTS BY QUARTER



**33** Number of cultural experiences hosted by the Bank in 2024 93% Percent of business partners who took part in a cultural event **121** Largest number of attendees for one event — Eden Village Speaker

#### **POVERTY SIMULATION WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Not many know what to do if you lose your social security card. For people with livable incomes, it's an annoyance. For those living at low or very low incomes, that annoyance can be life altering.

This past year, FHLBank Topeka Leadership, business partners and board members got to experience the hardship for themselves through Community Action Network's Poverty Simulation.

"During the first round of the simulation, my social security card got stolen, and I really had no idea what to do," said Tyrell Carstarphen, an operations risk analyst at FHLBank Topeka. "I was unable to cash any paychecks or really do anything because most places required confirmation of identity. You feel trapped." The Poverty Simulation is an interactive activity that gives participants a glimpse at the structural barriers facing those who live in poverty and shines a light on the personal and emotional repercussions they endure.

In the simulation, everyone is assigned a persona with a name, family, age, weekly income, bills they owe and life situations such as having a part-time job or owing child support. "The experience highlighted how limited financial resources, unexpected expenses and systemic barriers make it difficult for many to find and maintain affordable housing."

#### Lynn Jenkins

FHLBank Topeka Board Member

The simulation is then divided into four rounds, each representing one week of a month. The goal is to make it to work or school every week, get groceries, pay your bills and basically survive that month without getting your utilities turned off, getting evicted or going to jail.

"The experience highlighted how limited financial resources, unex-

pected expenses and systemic barriers make it difficult for many to find and maintain affordable housing," said Lynn Jenkins, who has served on the board since 2019. "I saw firsthand how the stress of poverty forces people to make tough decisions between rent, food, healthcare and other necessities."

Feedback from participants showed the Poverty Simulation took on more meaning because its link to our affordable housing mission. As we work to create programs for people at low income levels, it's important to have an understanding of their perspective so we better understand how to help.



#### PHIL DIXON & BASEBALL STATISTICS

Baseball buffs know 2024 saw an important step in statistics as Negro League players were added to the Major League Baseball record books for the first time.

The pain staking process to collect the data took more than three years, and FHLBank Topeka was lucky enough to host one of the researchers just weeks after the records were released.

Seventy-nine business partners turned out to hear author and historian Phil Dixon speak about the work they did to authenticate the Black athletes' numbers. Negro League statistics were not always published as well as "The presentation was done in such an engaging way. I could have spent the whole afternoon just listening to him tell stories."

Jason Gray Director of Business Technology

those of the Major Leagues. Phil, who has personally interviewed more than 500 former players and their families, also shared stories from the Negro Leagues, giving business partners a look back at a different time in our country's history. It was a powerful presentation for fans baseball, statistics or American life.

#### VETERAN TRAVIS MILLS AT AMC

Cultural experiences aren't just for business partners.

This past year, we joined members at our Annual Management Conference to hear the incredible life story of Staff Sergeant Travis Mills, who lost his arms and legs during his third tour of duty. Travis was one of only five quadruple amputees to survive.

After recovering, Travis and his wife started the Travis Mills Foundation, which offers all-expenses paid trips for veterans and their families to Maine where they can adjust to their new way of life. With the motto "Never Give Up. "I'm in awe of the choice he made to keep moving forward and not only live his life but help others live theirs."

Terri McCune Executive Assistant

Never Quit," Travis encourages both veterans and civilians to face challenges head on. He doesn't say injured when thinking about his situation, opting instead for "recalibrated."

More than 100 business partners joined the simulcast of Travis' inspirational keynote. Feedback from business partners and members showed his message truly resonated with the crowd.



## What does it mean to be a business partner?

In 2024, we listened to business partners about what they value as part of the FHLBank community.

The feedback was used to create the Value Proposition (VP), which represents what every business partner can expect — beyond a paycheck — in exchange for their work.

The VP and our Business Partnership Culture Statement combined define what it means to be a business partner.

#### VALUE PROPOSITION

Living the culture statement and receiving the benefits of the Value Proposition allow FHLBank to support our members to the best of our ability and fulfill our mission.



## AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COUNCIL Annual Report

HOUSING APPENDIX





#### CASE STUDIES

17

HCD PROGRAMS 22

HCD NUMBERS 74

#### LETTER FROM THE AHAC CHAIR

As we reflect on this past year, I am thrilled to share the remarkable achievements and milestones we have reached together.

It has been a year of unprecedented progress, fueled by the unwavering dedication of our team, the commitment of our partners, and the incredible support of the communities we serve.

One of our greatest successes this year has been record-breaking funding for our programs. These resources have allowed us to expand our impact, reach more individuals in need and strengthen the programs we provide.

Alongside this success, we have also observed an extraordinary demand for funds.

During our 35th year of the Affordable Housing Program (AHP), we received a record amount of requested funding of more than \$95 million. We were able to award 26 applications totaling \$31,256,612 to improve or create 1,699 AHP housing units. It is

clear that the need for continued investment and support remains critical.

Beyond AHP, we provided much needed support through our TurnKey suite of down payment assistance programs designed to assist with making the dream of homeownership accessible and affordable.

Through TurnKey, we provided subsidy to 1,308 households, and we introduced a new voluntary program — Homeownership Possibilities Expanded (HOPE). With a focus on addressing challenges in workforce housing, HOPE was created to assist households that do not typically receive support from other down payment assistance programs but are still in need of subsidy to make homeownership a reality.

From accessible renovations for tribal elders to funding tribal programs for new Native American homeowners, the second year of the Native American Housing Initiatives (NAHI) Grants Program is poised to make a sizeable difference. In 2024, NAHI provided more than \$5.3 million to support tribal organizations working at the grassroots level, which are in

the best position to identify tribal needs.

The overwhelming response to our programs reinforces our mission and underscores the importance of our work. As we move forward, we remain committed to exploring innovative solutions to ensure we can meet the growing demand for housing challenges across our district.

Looking ahead to 2025, several new programs designed to support our members and their communities will be introduced. We are excited to see the impact our programs can have on our district, and we look forward to continuing this journey together.

With gratitude and optimism,

Nate Clynike

AHAC Chair

# Unlocking the Dream

#### New suite of down payment assistance products opens the door for homebuyers

An interesting thing happened in 2024 when FHLBank Topeka launched TurnKey, a new suite of down payment assistance products.

The money went fast. Very fast.

"The reactions last year — we had people cry. I think they were so thankful," said Larissa Kuhn, a vice president and Ioan officer at Golden Belt Bank in Hays, Kansas. "Homes are a dream, and some people don't ever achieve it. This helped make it possible."

New in 2024, TurnKey encompasses three programs designed to reduce barriers to homeownership by covering down payments, closing costs and eligible repairs. The Homeownership Set-aside Program (HSP) provides up to \$15,000 for first-time homebuyers at or below 80% area median income (AMI). The Homeownership Set-aside Program Plus (HSP+) increases that amount to \$25,000 for first-time buyers at or below 80% AMI in counties designated high cost or difficult to develop. The new Homeownership Possibilities Expanded (HOPE) grant provides up to \$12,500 to benefit the "missing middle" or homebuyers who don't traditionally qualify for down payment support. Recipients can have up to 150% AMI and do not have to be purchasing their first home.

Each of these TurnKey programs went live March 1, 2024, and in less than 24 hours \$3.5 million was spoken for. Within eight weeks, both HSP and HOPE were fully reserved.

"In one day, we provided 260 households with an opportunity to realize the dream of homeownership," said FHLBank Topeka's Community Investment Officer Kylie Mergen, who heads the team overseeing all housing and community development programs. "In total, we supported more than 1,300 homeowners through TurnKey. I think that illustrates the great need that is out there and why these products are essential to our members and the communities they serve."

Jacque Wallman, a senior vice pres-

ident at First Bank of Nebraska, said the TurnKey launch couldn't have come at a more opportune time for her customers. Like the fast nature of which it was reserved, the TurnKey funds helped speed up the homebuying timeline.

"With the rising prices of homes, current rates and the dramatic increase of homeowner's insurance, we are seeing some customers not comfortable with the higher monthly payments," she explained. "But every homebuyer that has used the TurnKey assistance has been thrilled. It has helped many customers be able to purchase a home sooner than they planned."

Larissa at Golden Belt Bank said her customers, too, were more than appreciative of the grant. Not only is it simple to apply, she explained, it's so beneficial it's now part of their calendar year. "These are some of the main grants we try to steer people to. It's a well-oiled machine. I feel like the admission process is easy. It's black and white," Larissa said in February 2025, just weeks before the second round of TurnKey was about to open.

"We have customers that say I know I want to buy a house and are scheduling their year around it. This is first-time homebuyer season."

## **Funding for Families**

### Denver's new Theodora Hotel designed to keep parents and kids together

There are nearly 10,000 people experiencing homelessness in the Denver area, according to the city's 2024 point in time count by Housing and Urban Development.

More than 30% of those individuals are moms, dads and children living together without a home.

Unfortunately, help isn't often offered in family size.

"Most shelters either accept men or women," said Bret Bridgewater, vice president of building services and safety for Volunteers of America Colorado. "Families can't usually stay together. That's what makes Theodora one of a kind."

The Theodora Family Hotel is a five-story, 60-unit temporary housing facility for families and veterans experiencing homelessness. The project, which broke ground in 2024, was designed with families in mind. It features hotel-style units with kitchenettes, balconies and a courtyard with a playground.

The hotel location has a bit of a

history too. What was once a Travelodge in the 1950s was converted into housing for the growing homeless population in Denver more than 60 years ago.

The aging facility, however, could no longer meet the needs of the city's underhoused. It was torn down to make way for the new Theodora construction, which Bret said, is a major improvement.

"It's being built with trauma-informed design specifically for those folks we serve," he explained. "There are so many things we've never had before. We've never had a playground before. It was just parking lots. Parents can watch their kids play from the dining room or on the balconies. Kids can just be safe and not on a busy street."

The Theodora Family Hotel is partially funded by a \$540,000 Affordable Housing Program grant from FHLBank Topeka in partnership with FirstBank in Lakewood, Colorado. FirstBank Senior Vice President Tyler Parry said the support was essential



The new Theodora Family Hotel in Denver, set to open in May 2025, features original work from a local artist on the exterior of the five-story building.

for the project to begin.

"It gets more and more important to have this type of funding," he explained. "These projects that have this community need and impact, they're expensive. Grant sponsors are vital."

Along with funding from FHLBank, Theodora received a grant from the city of Denver, which is helping make the project even more unique. Denver requires projects of this type to have public-facing art to ensure the building not only serves the community through its purpose but beautifies the neighborhood as well.

"There were 140 different artists who applied," Bret said, adding that artists who had experienced homelessness were highly encouraged to submit work. "What the winning submission looks like is two hands, one hand is holding a dandelion and it's blowing across to the other hand. It symbolizes us catching the folks who need a hand up."

#### NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING INITIATIVES | OKLAHOMA

## **A Q&A with CNHA**

Comanche housing director discusses the vital need for funding and repairs

In 2023, FHLBank Topeka launched the Native American Housing Initiatives grants program (NAHI) to address the long and lingering struggles impacting housing for tribal members.

In year one, there was \$1 million of voluntary funds allocated to NAHI, which quickly grew to \$3 million as the applications rolled in and the scale of the need for funding became more apparent. In year two, the NAHI allocation started at \$3.6 million. Once again, the total ballooned to more than \$5.3 million based on the size of the need.

One of the original recipients of NAHI was the Comanche Nation Housing Authority (CNHA), which received \$500,000 to expand its Elder Rehabilitation Program, a social welfare initiative addressing living conditions and improving housing needs for Comanche elders.

Nora Sovo, the executive director of the CNHA, took a moment to discuss the importance of the NAHI grant for her tribe. What about this project for CNHA made you want to apply? The Comanche Nation has approximately 3,000 elders, the majority living on fixed incomes. Repairs to maintain their homes in safe and sanitary conditions are beyond their means, both physically and financially.

The goal of the Housing Authority is to assist our elders by addressing and reversing the safety and welfare issues of inadequate housing, allowing them to age in place in alignment with our culture and traditions. We are always looking for funding to support these projects.

## How did you use NAHI funds to support this program?

The grant provided funding to repair the homes of 99 tribal elders including such services as addressing safety issues, remedying water and sewer line breaks, repairing and replacing heat and air conditioning, replacing leaking roofs and more. Additionally, renovations were made to meet accessibility



Before and after photos show bathroom repairs the Comanche Nation Housing Authority funded with an FHLBank Topeka NAHI grant.

and safety improvements including accessible bathrooms, showers, handicap railings and ramps.

### How did the homeowners react to the repairs?

Elders are often hesitant to ask for assistance and are extremely grateful for services received. One example — Being able to use your bathroom facilities without fear of falling is life altering.

Why was the NAHI grant important for your community? Not only are elders held in high esteem, but they are also culturally important to the Comanche Nation for their contributions to the history, traditions and language. Native communities have a shared history of overcoming challenges to their very existence and are bound by common traumas and successes.

Our elders are the keepers of the history and the values of the Nation. Providing services that allow them to remain in their homes among their families is important to the community as a whole.

## Small Town, Big Idea

### Paola, Kansas, organization using tiny homes to fight rural homelessness

Homelessness is often thought of as an urban problem, but rural parts of Kansas are not immune.

My Father's House, a charitable housing organization on the outskirts of Kansas City, received a \$1 million Affordable Housing Program grant from FHLBank Topeka and member First Option Bank to help those experiencing homelessness outside big city limits.

"1,089 — That's the estimated population of rural homelessness in Kansas," First Option Bank CEO Blake Heid said at a groundbreaking ceremony in December 2024.

Blake, who serves on the board of My Father's House, along with Beth Waddle, the CEO of the philanthropic organization, proudly dug shovels into Paola, Kansas, land to break ground on the site of a future community of tiny homes for the underhoused.

Representatives from FHLBank Topeka were also onsite to kickoff the AHP project, which will start with the construction of 14 efficient houses in an area of the state that has few other options.

"Miami County, Kansas, has the lowest vacancy rates of any southeast Kansas county in rental homes," Beth said. "The houses that are available are not within an affordable price range. We saw a need for this tiny home project to increase available affordable housing options."

The goal of the tiny home community is to offer safe and affordable transitional housing to help people recover. While some may utilize the space temporarily, Beth said tenants are welcome as long as they are in need.

Grant funding will allow My Father's House to install sewer systems, lay asphalt and build gutters and curbs on six acres of land for the initial wave of houses. While 14 tiny homes are the first goal, the big picture is to create a community of more than 40 affordable places to live.

"These tiny homes will house some



First Option Bank CEO Blake Heid and My Father's House CEO Beth Waddle break ground on a new project to build 14 tiny homes in Paola, Kansas.

of the community's most vulnerable people -- those recovering from homelessness and/or addiction, those living with mental and physical disabilities and many whose social security or disability income simply doesn't afford them the opportunity to rent in many areas," Beth said. "We are excited to create a supportive community in which the tenants give and receive support from each other and in which professional providers offer a variety of services and educational opportunities aimed at helping tenants live their best lives."



## **Financing the Farm**

### Discounted advances help Nebraska lendors fund agriculture at low costs

It's known as the Cornhusker State, but Nebraska farmers know something about beans, wheat, hay and a lot of other crops too.

Agriculture is so prevalent that one in every four Nebraskans you meet makes a living off the ag industry.

With more than 44,000 farms statewide, FHLBank Topeka members in Nebraska are crucial partners to the farming field.

And to ensure food makes it from farm to table, financial institutions look to FHLBank Topeka for discounted rates on customer loans.

"We are very much an ag bank," said Sandra Owens, executive vice president at First State Bank of Randolph. "We use FHLBank Topeka discounted advances for the long-term fixed rates. That's our go-to for this kind of lending."

FHLBank Topeka offers two types of advances at below market rates and available in terms of four months to 30 years.

The Community Housing Program (CHP) provides discounted advances for owner-occupied or rental projects to help make housing more affordable across the district. The Community Development Program (CDP) is focused on commercial, small business and ag lending to strengthen economic development in FHLBank Topeka's four states. "We use FHLBank Topeka discounted advances for the long-term fixed rates. That's our go-to for this kind of lending."

Sandra ()wens

Executive Vice President
First State Bank of Randolph

CDP advances are a natural fit for Nebraska lenders and their customers.

"They appreciate the fixed terms," Sandra explained. "It offers them a rate we wouldn't be able to offer them otherwise."

Sandra said her institution took out two CDP advances for local farms in northeast Nebraska in 2024.

First Bank and Trust Company of Minden also took advantage of the CDP advances this past year, funding two ag projects in their area.

Senior Vice President of First Bank of Minden Doug Hammer said discounted advances are an easy and fruitful way to meet their ag customers' needs.

"It's very simple, and FHLBank Topeka is very helpful," Doug said. "I'm sure we would use CDP again."

\$13.7 Total amount of CDP advances in millions issued in 2024

**\$447.5** Outstanding balance in millions for all CDP/CHP advances as of Dec. 31, 2024

Total number of CDP advances issued in 2024 (No CHP were issued)

21

#### 2024 HCD PROGRAMS | AHP & TURNKEY

Program	Uses	Beneficiaries	Funding	Terms
<b>Affordable Housing Program (AHP)</b> Owner-occupied and Rental	Gap financing for the acquisition, rehabilitation or new construction of owner-occupied and rental housing	Households with income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI)	Grants of up to \$1.5 million per project \$31,256,612 approved in 2024	<ul> <li>Competitive program</li> <li>Must meet regulatory guidelines and eligibility/feasibility requirements</li> <li>Must demonstrate need for subsidy</li> <li>5-year retention period for owner-occupied purchase projects and 15-year retention period for rental projects</li> <li>Owner-occupied rehabilitation is not subject to retention</li> </ul>
Homeownership Set-aside Program (HSP) Part of TurnKey	Down payment, closing cost and purchase-related repair assistance	First-time homebuyer households in FHLBank's district with incomes at or below 80% of the AMI	Grants of up to \$15,000 per household More than \$12,906,185 disbursed and 894 first-time homebuyers assisted in 2024	<ul> <li>Non-competitive, first-come, first-served program</li> <li>Must meet regulatory guidelines and eligibility/feasibility requirements</li> <li>5-year retention period</li> </ul>
Homeownership Set-aside Program (HSP+) Part of TurnKey	Down payment, closing cost and purchase related repair assistance	First-time homebuyers in high- cost areas of FHLBank Topeka's district with incomes at or below 80% of the AMI	Grants of up to \$25,000 per household More than \$1,439,284 disbursed and 58 first-time homebuyers assisted in 2024	<ul> <li>Non-competitive, first-come, first-served program</li> <li>Must meet regulatory guidelines and eligibility/feasibility requirements</li> <li>5-year retention period</li> </ul>
Homeownership Possibilities Expanded (HOPE) Part of TurnKey	Down payment, closing cost and purchase related repair assistance	Homebuyers purchasing homes in FHLBank Topeka's district with incomes at or below 150% of the AMI	Grants of up to \$12,500 per household More than \$4,277,857 disbursed and 1,130 homebuyers assisted in 2024	<ul> <li>Non-competitive, first-come, first-served program</li> <li>Must meet regulatory guidelines and eligibility/feasibility requirements</li> <li>5-year retention period</li> </ul>

#### 2024 HCD PROGRAMS | CDP, CHP & NAHI

Program	Uses	Beneficiaries	Funding	Terms
Community Development Program (CDP)	Financing for qualifying commercial loans, farm loans and community and economic development initiatives	Small businesses, farms, agribusiness, public or private utilities, schools, medical and health facilities, churches, day care centers or other community and economic development projects	Regular, callable and amortizing fixed rate or adjustable rate advances with a minimum amount of \$10,000 priced below FHLBank's regular rates \$15,466,400 in advance commitments in 2024	<ul> <li>Non-competitive; available terms from four months to 30 years</li> <li>Eligibility requirements apply</li> <li>Members must comply with FHLBank credit guidelines</li> </ul>
Community Housing Program (CHP)	Financing for owner-occupied and rental housing	Households earning at or below 115% of the AMI	Regular, callable and amortizing fixed rate or adjustable rate advances with a minimum amount of \$10,000 priced below FHLBank's regular rates \$38,455,400 in advance commitments in 2024	<ul> <li>Non-competitive; Available terms from four months to 30 years</li> <li>Eligibility requirements apply</li> <li>Members must comply with FHLBank credit guidelines</li> </ul>
Native American Housing Initiatives Grants Program (NAHI)	Grant funds intended to build the capacity of tribal organizations in support of housing for tribal members in FHLBank Topeka's district	Native American tribes and tribally designated housing entities impacting housing for Native Americans including tribal members residing in FHLBank's district	Grants from \$100,000 to \$500,000 per recipient \$5,313,498 awarded in 2024	<ul> <li>Competitive application program</li> <li>Recipients must provide housing services to tribal members in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma</li> </ul>

#### **PROGRAM HEAT MAP**

The District 10 map shows how



One HCD program in use

## **PROGRAM IMPACT** By the **Numbers**

#### **Facts and Figures** from District 10

Each year, all FHLBanks allocate at least 10% of their net earnings from the prior year to affordable housing and community development initiatives in their district.

At FHLBank Topeka, these statutory funds are awarded through our Affordable Housing Program (AHP) and Homeownership Set-Aside Program (HSP).

Additionally, we provide millions of dollars outside that regulatory requirement to subsidize our many voluntary housing and community development (HCD) programs.

The following is a look at all our HCD programs and how our statutory and voluntary funds were used in partnership with our members to build stronger communities in 2024.

Continued on page 11



#### **Statutory Programs**

This past year — 2024 — marked not only the 35th anniversary of AHP but also a significant funding milestone. FHLBank Topeka surpassed \$400 million in subsidies since AHP's inception, and more than 78,000 units have been supported through the program.

At FHLBank Topeka, up to the greater of \$4.5 million or 35% of our annual required AHP contribution goes to HSP. The remaining portion is provided to members through our AHP General Fund.



#### Affordable Housing Program

The AHP General Fund is a special program that helps members provide financing for owner-occupied and rental housing for very low-, low- and moderate-income households using subsidized advances and direct subsidies.

Nonprofit groups, for-profit developers, government agencies and public entities apply for the grants through an FHLBank member.

The 2024 funding round of this competitive grant included the statutory allocation, AHP Extra



and unappropriated funds. AHP Extra is a voluntary contribution to supplement FHLBank's statutory AHP requirement.

The 2024 AHP General Fund awarded 26 projects a total of \$31.25 million to support 1,699 housing units across all four states. Due to strong earnings in 2023, the 2024 funds were nearly double the amount awarded the prior year. Historical data is illustrated in Table No. 1

#### CHP and CDP

The Community Housing Program

(CHP) and Community Development Program (CDP) are governed by FHLBank Topeka's Member Products policy.

Under CHP, FHLBank Topeka provides advances to members to finance the construction, acquisition, refinancing or rehabilitation of renter- or owner-occupied housing for households at or below 115% of the AMI.

Under CDP, we provide advances to members to extend long-term fixed rate credit for community development including the finance of qualifying commercial loans, farm loans and community and economic development initiatives.

Member participation in CHP and CDP has declined over the years. However, for 2024, all states have projects approved to help members finance qualifying commercial loans, farm loans and community and economic development initiatives in the areas they serve.

Continued on page 12





#### TurnKey

FHLBank's TurnKey suite is designed to provide down payment assistance and address the challenges of attaining homeownership in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. In 2024, it consisted of three programs — HSP, HSP Plus and Homeownership Possibilities Expanded (HOPE).

HSP provides down payment, closing cost and repair assistance to first-time homebuyers earning at or below 80% of the area median income (AMI) for households purchasing or constructing homes in our four-state district.

HSP is a statutory program, and the maximum subsidy per household is \$15,000. Historical data is illustrated in Table No. 2.

The Homeownership Set-aside Program Plus (HSP+) provides down payment, closing cost and repair assistance to first-time homebuyers earning at or below 80% of the AMI for households purchasing or constructing homes in High-Cost Areas and non-metropolitan Difficult Development Areas in our four-state district.

Continued on page 13



2024 TURNKEY IMPACT					
	Colorado	Kansas	Nebraska	Oklahoma	District Total
Households Supported	57	651	406	194	1308
Member Participation	9	74	58	25	166
Subsidy Disbursed	\$1,287,284	\$8,904,663	\$5,669,448	\$2,761,932	\$18,623,327

26

HSP+ is a statutory program, and the maximum subsidy per household is \$25,000.

New in 2024, HOPE is a voluntary program for the "missing middle" or homebuyers that do not traditionally receive support but need assistance with down payment, closing costs or eligible repairs. HOPE is <u>not</u> limited to first-time homebuyers, and household income can be at or below 150% of the AMI. The maximum subsidy is \$12,500.

# Voluntary Programs

#### NAHI

The Native American Housing Initiatives Grants program (NAHI) is a voluntary grant program introduced in 2023. This program provides Native American tribes and tribally designated housing entities with access to grant funds intended to support housing for tribal members in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

A total of \$5,313,498 was awarded to 12 recipients in 2024.

#### **MSU Denver**

FHLBank Topeka formed a partnership with the Metropolitan State University of Denver in 2024 to fund the creation of a new school focused on all aspects of the affordable housing field including finance, development, property management and residential services. The FHLBank Topeka Affordable Housing Institute at MSU Denver opened in the winter of 2025. FHLBank gave \$1 million in voluntary funds in 2024 to support the school.

#### AHP Extra

AHP Extra supplements our statutory AHP funds. It awards projects that did not score high enough to receive funds solely through the statutory contribution.



#### 2024 MEMBER PARTICIPATION AND OVERALL IMPACT

2024 AWARDS AND GRANTS				
Program	Program Funding Impact			
Affordable Housing Program (AHP)	\$31,256,612 awarded to support 1,699 housing units	48		
TurnKey Suite of Programs	\$18,623,327 in grants disbursed supporting 1,308 households	166		
Native American Housing Initiatives (NAHI)	\$5,313,498 awarded to 12 tribes and tribally designated housing entities	13		
Total Awards and Grants	\$55,193,436 to support more than 3,000 households	227		

235 members supported their communities using HCD funds\*

1,130 households supported through advance commitments

> 1,308 households realized the dream of homeownership

**1,699** housing units to be created or supported through AHP awards

\$5.3m awarded to Native American

tribes and tribally designated housing entities

\$555m allocated in 2024 to support households

#### 2024 ADVANCE COMMITMENTS

Program	Funding Impact	Member Participation*
Community Development Program (CDP)	\$15,466,400 in advance commitments, creating three jobs and retaining 11 jobs	6
Community Housing Program (CHP)	\$38,455,400 in advance commitments to support 1,130 households	2
Total Advance Commitments	\$53,928,800 to support 1,130 households and create or retain 14 jobs	8

\*Reporting per program and may have duplicates. Deduplicated number of members participating in 2024 HCD programs is 201.





## Building Communities together

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