As we approach the end of another transformative year, I am excited to share with you the exciting impact we have achieved at Virginia Housing Alliance (VHA). **2023 has been a year of growth**—we added three new full-time staff: a new Director of Policy & Advocacy, an Education & Events Associate, and a Resource Development Specialist, and moved offices to accommodate our expanding team.

**Looking forward to 2024, our sights are set on even more ambitious goals.** We aim to double the Virginia Housing Trust Fund, secure $100 million in ongoing rental assistance for low-income families through our new 5000 Families Campaign, and launch the BIPOC Leadership Institute (BLI)—a groundbreaking professional development program for emerging leaders of color in the affordable housing space.

We invite you to join us in celebrating the achievements and milestones that we shared in 2023. Together, we have laid the groundwork for positive change, and we are eager to continue this journey with your ongoing partnership.

**Thank you for your continued support in our mission to expand housing opportunities and end homelessness in the Commonwealth.** We look forward to the exciting opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.

Sincerely,

Brian Koziol
VHA Executive Director
CAPACITY BUILDING

- **2,853 hours** of professional development
- **16 VISTAs placed** in housing and homelessness organizations
- **$1.9M cash resources** leveraged by VHA VISTAs
- **6 VISTAs hired** by their host organization

The VHA VISTA program prides itself on providing our VISTA members with professional development opportunities, building upon the program's legacy of developing a pipeline of individuals (VISTAs) who will continue to work in affordable housing/homeless services post-service term.

ADVOCACY

- **$30M increase** for permanent supportive housing programs for individuals with mental illness, disabilities, or substance abuse disorders
- **Launched the 5000 Families Campaign** advocating for $100M in rental assistance
- **500+ emails sent** on behalf of VHA to Members of Congress
- **Statewide Housing Needs Assessment** successfully advocated for DHCD to conduct a housing needs assessment every 5 years

EDUCATION

- **887 participants** educated through VHA trainings
- **980 attendees** at VHA’s annual conferences and events
- **10 training sessions** spanning a range of educational topics across the housing spectrum
- **85 VHA Members** across the housing continuum
VHA Members span across the entirety of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Our 85 active members work across the state and serve hundreds of thousands of Virginians.

The support and collaboration of our members ensures that a unified voice is working at the local, state, and federal level to end homelessness and expand affordable housing in Virginia.

### VHA Member Benefits

**VHA Members enjoy:**

- Opportunities to shape the legislative agenda for VHA during General Assembly sessions and state and federal lobbying days
- Eligibility for capacity-building support through the AmeriCorps VISTA program, facilitated by VHA
- Opportunities to serve on VHA committees and planning teams for events
- Priority and discounted registration for all VHA conferences, events, and trainings
- Networking at member-only events
The Value of VHA

VHA is the only organization in Virginia that drives impact across the entire continuum of affordable housing – from homelessness to housing development – and advocates for support of each segment of the sector.

"VHA is the ONLY reason my knowledge has expanded around what legislation we have and, more importantly, what we need to advocate for moving forward. **To me, if you are a housing provider, it is a requirement - not an option - to be a VHA member. How else will our industry grow?**

- Erica Sims, CEO, Maggie Walker Community Land Trust

“The greatest benefit of VHA membership to our organization has been the AmeriCorps VISTA program...our past three VISTAs were excellent, helping Southside completely overhaul our resident services, fund development, communications, and outreach. **They’re great for capacity building**, which small nonprofits always need help with, and they come with a lot of passion and unique skills and experiences.”

- Robbie Franklin, Director of Real Estate Development, Southside Community Development & Housing Corporation
Looking Forward to 2024

Riding the momentum from 2023, VHA has our sights set on reaching even greater heights in 2024 with a series of ambitious goals and plans, including:

- Launching the VHA BIPOC Leadership Institute (BLI);
- Establishing the 5000 Families Pilot Program to provide ongoing rental assistance to low-income families with children;
- Strategically increasing investments in the Virginia Housing Trust Fund to expand the supply of homes for low income households;
- Expanding training opportunities for affordable housing professionals across the housing spectrum.

We look forward to partnering with you in 2024!
About Virginia Housing Alliance

Virginia Housing Alliance (VHA) advocates for the expansion of housing opportunities and ending homelessness throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. As the only statewide voice on affordable housing and homelessness, VHA supports its members and the clients they serve through advocacy, education, and capacity building. Working with our members and national partners, VHA’s team develops forward-looking solutions to address housing affordability and end homelessness. VHA is the only organization in Virginia that drives impact across the entire continuum of affordable housing – from homelessness to housing development – and advocates for support of each segment of the sector.

Tracing its roots to the 1980s, VHA has a strong track record of advocating for the expansion of housing opportunities, educating the public about housing challenges in Virginia, and building the organizational capacity of housing nonprofits across the state.