



California Wildfire Mitigation Project

Lake County Home Hardening Program

What is home hardening?

Home hardening addresses the most vulnerable components of your house with building materials and installation techniques that increase resistance to heat, flames, and embers that accompany most wildfires.

NCO has partnered with [California Office of Emergency Services \(Cal OES\)](#), the [California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection \(CAL FIRE\)](#), and the [County of Lake](#) for the **Lake County Home Hardening Program**. You can learn more about this partnership on the [California Wildfire Mitigation Program website](#).

The program has committed to implementing **home hardening** measures for residential homes within the Kelseyville Riviera Community Association over the next 2-year period.

The program will provide defensible space and home hardening retrofit measures to hundreds of residence. With nearly 1,500 homes prequalified within the specified area, the emphasis of the initiative is on implementing a targeted wildfire cluster resilience strategy.

Lake County homes eligible for this program *must be within* the jurisdiction of the Kelseyville Riviera Community Association. Homes outside this jurisdiction are not currently eligible. The program will offer Riviera homeowners the opportunity to retrofit, harden, and create defensible space while targeting low-to-moderate income households.

The Lake County Home Hardening Initiative is currently in the mid-stages of development and will begin to open applications in a phased approach in the near future.

Mission & Values

Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation's (RCHDC) mission is to *provide decent, affordable housing to low- and moderate-income persons*. Incorporated in 1975, RCHDC has almost 50 years of extensive history developing and managing housing. RCHDC's corporate office is in Mendocino County, however, our housing portfolio expands across six Northern California Counties including, Mendocino, Lake, Humboldt, Del Norte, Siskiyou, and Tehama.

RCHDC's success in carrying out its mission is evidenced by the following:

- Assisted families in the construction of 431 single-family homes through the USDA – Rural Development Mutual Self-Help Housing Program.
- Owns 15 rental developments and fee manages 1, reserved exclusively for qualified Low-Income Seniors. Together these 16 developments consist of 499 units.
- Owns 10 rental developments and fee manages 12 communities reserved for qualified Low-Income Families. Together these 22 developments consist of 663 units.
- Owns 10 rental developments and fee manages 2 communities consisting of 372 units reserved exclusively for individuals with various forms of disabilities, status of homelessness or other special needs.
- Presently has 40 units under construction.
- Presently has 247 units in the predevelopment phase.
- Facilitated 22 homes becoming permanently affordable through the Community Land Trust.

The organization's current vision further emphasizes our commitment to the people we serve. *RCHDC is committed to being an industry leader on the North Coast of California, providing low and moderate-income housing. The agency strives to be a strong, dynamic, and flexible organization; effective at achieving its mission through its efforts and its partnerships-public and private.*

RCHDC contracts with various community-based non-profit service providers and County entities in Northern California for the provision of behavioral health and supportive services for our permanent supportive housing developments. RCHDC also has a proven track record and extensive history of sustainable business practices and financial and personnel management systems in place. An annual audit is completed for each development operated by RCHDC as well as a consolidated audit of the organization.

RCHDC's Board of Directors is composed of highly competent and dedicated individuals. Many of these Board members have business experience in the fields of real estate, banking, and business. The Board oversees the Chief Executive Officer and other Corporate Staff managing the day-to-day operations of the corporation in a professional and responsible manner.

At RCHDC, we know that strong organizational behavior creates a strong organizational culture and believe that positive employee experiences have the potential to foster organizational success. RCHDC treats employees with respect and dignity, provides employees with fair and adequate compensation, offers opportunities for personal and career growth and development, and a healthy and comfortable work environment.