

SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

We Need Your Help!! For over 20 years, your Central Nebraska Economic Development District has been fighting the hard fight to build new housing and improve existing homes in our region. **And now, budget cuts to housing funds are now making that fight even harder to compete with larger communities.**

Why do we need housing in the CNEDD region? **The bulk of our housing stock was built prior to 1980, with the majority in each of our counties built before 1940!** An aging population, paired with an aging housing stock, the homes that might be available just aren't meeting the needs of today. Most families need more space and more updates to meet safety codes. Housing prices have been through the roof, and then having to make major renovations on top of that means it just isn't feasible for many families. **So, they go to where the desired housing is available, and our aging communities die out.** Enticing families back to the rural areas means we must have the homes they need, ready and waiting.

According to the Nebraska Banker's Association Housing Workforce, building just 1% of an area's current housing stock would cover the bare minimum of increasing housing demand. **As you can see from the graphic below, our counties can't keep up with even that 1%.** Not that they aren't trying, but it will take more than just one or two communities' efforts to conquer this housing crisis.

WHAT CAN WE DO? CONTACT YOUR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE AND LET THEM KNOW FUNDING HOUSING IS CRITICAL FOR KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES, OUR REGION, AND OUR STATE, THRIVING.

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