

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I have recently become a Friend of the Colorado Housing Investment Fund and want to encourage you to become a Friend as well.

We are facing an affordable housing crisis in Colorado.

- 121,703 Colorado households are rent-burdened, meaning they are paying more than 30% of their household income on housing costs. These families are often forced to do without health care, car insurance, nutritious food and other family essentials.
- There are 42,354 Colorado households earning between \$40,000 and \$50,000 who could become homeowners with some simple assistance.
- According to the 2003 point-in-time survey, unemployment and inability to pay housing costs were the leading causes of homelessness in the Denver metro area; 67% are persons in families.

The Colorado Housing Investment Fund will be a dedicated and dependable source of public revenue to enable the creation and preservation of affordable housing opportunities throughout Colorado. It is an investment in Colorado's future to strengthen families and build communities. Housing trust funds are proven tools. Across the nation, 38 states have created housing funds that successfully provide grants and loans to support affordable housing development.

The Colorado Housing Investment Fund will create jobs and stimulate Colorado's economy.

- According to the *Colorado Housing Investment Fund Impacts Report* done by Economic Systems and Planning, Inc., a \$26.5 million trust fund will produce 3,400 affordable housing opportunities, create 3,200 jobs, generate \$334 million in economic activity and realize \$26 million in tax revenue annually, with \$13 million to local governments.
- Each dollar of equity investment in a trust fund would leverage an additional ten dollars of public and private investment in affordable housing.

The Colorado Housing Investment Fund is about Colorado's future. It is an investment that makes sense.

Please become a Friend of the Colorado Housing Investment Fund today. By signing the attached 1000 Friends form, you can help demonstrate that there is support for this investment. Legislators will see that folks from their district support this concept. We have already gotten over 500 Friends; please help us reach our goal of 1000 Friends. Make a difference today.

For more information, forms and resources, go to [www.colohousingfund.org](http://www.colohousingfund.org).

Sincerely yours,

(Ensure that you attach this [1000 Friends Form](#).)