



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Southwest Iowa Planning Council offers unique housing opportunity for area communities through Homes for Iowa program

Pre-constructed homes offer a solution for affordable housing.

Atlantic, Iowa – Southwest Iowa Planning Council (SWIPCO) is offering communities in the region a unique opportunity to obtain an affordable housing solution through the Homes for Iowa program. Reservations are needed now to ensure a spot for 2024 construction.

Housing in rural Iowa continues to be a struggle as demand continues to surge and supply remains low. Homes for Iowa (HFI) may help meet that demand for low to moderate income households. Pre-constructed homes can be reserved and delivered to be put on a prepped site and foundation.

HFI is a public-private partnership with Iowa Prison Industries. The non-profit organization trains and staffs a home building operation near the Newton Correctional Facility. The minimum-security offender crew builds the homes with training from Homes for Iowa. HFI sells the homes to the public through area Councils of Governments and coordinates moving logistics. The homes are quality 2x6 stick built construction that come ready for utility hook-up.

These new construction homes come with the affordable price-tag of \$80,000 for a 2-bedroom and \$95,000 for a 3-bedroom, delivery included. Several floor plans are available to choose from.

The initial homeowner must earn below \$113,000 taxable income (after credits and deductions) based off their most recent tax return. Some other requirements may apply.

All offenders in the program enter voluntarily, typically through a recruitment and interview process. Crew members receive training in all aspects of the homebuilding process and can earn numerous certificates. Skills they can carry with them as they move out of the system.

Homes for Iowa has already successfully constructed and placed over 75 homes in 36 counties throughout the state of Iowa.



Find out more about the program by visiting <https://www.swipco.org/housing-swihtf/homes-for-iowa/> If an area county, community, or stakeholder is interested in procuring these homes in their area then contact SWIPCO's Ann Anstey, Grants Specialist II in the office at (712)243-4196 or (866)279-4720 ext. 260 or email ann.anstey@swipco.org.

Homes need to be reserved as soon as possible if they are desired for a 2024 placement. It would also be a good time to get plans made and a place in line for projects beyond the next calendar year.

SWIPCO is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

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