## WHO DO YOU PICTURE WHEN YOU THINK OF 'AFFORDABLE HOUSING'?

IF YOU AREN'T PICTURING PEOPLE LIKE THIS, THINK AGAIN





PRESENTATION FOR THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, MENDOCINO COUNTY, MARCH 9, 2021

## **OUTLINE**



- Goals and Strategies
- Who We Work For
- Projects: Past Current Future



#### AREA OF FOCUS

Westport to Navarro Bridge

#### OUR START

- 4+ years
- Healthy Mendocino

#### THE TEAM

- Volunteers committed to action
- Coordinated by Elizabeth Swenson
- County Supervisor and City Staff
- Individuals from organizations that work with at-risk families and individuals
- Individuals interested in improving living conditions
- Individuals interested in helping the economy by providing workforce housing

#### HOW WE WORK

- Meet monthly
- Team sets goals, develops strategies, designs and implements projects
- Reviews and adjusts annually or as needed

## MENDOCINO COUNTY HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Households paying more than 30 % of income toward housing are considered housing "costburdened"... ...those exceeding 50% of income are considered "severely" cost-burdened...



43.3%

----- COMPARED TO ------





### MENDOCINO COUNTY RENTERS PAYING 30% OR MORE

58.6%

COMPARED TO -----



**CA COUNTIES** 





#### GOALS

- Decent housing for every north coast resident
- Address serious and chronic housing challenges

#### STRATEGIES

- Work with local organizations; City, County and State to create and implement affordable housing strategies
- Ensure GP mill site policy makers include affordable and diverse residential zoning
- Engage and inform the community about housing needs, challenges and opportunities

# "A RIGHT TO HOUSING MEANS CREATING A HOUSING SAFETY NET THAT OBLIGATES THE GOVERNMENT TO NOT ONLY HELP PEOPLE ON THE STREETS... BUT ALSO PREVENT HOMELESSNESS IN THE FIRST PLACE."

- LA COUNCILMEMBER RIDLEY-THOMAS



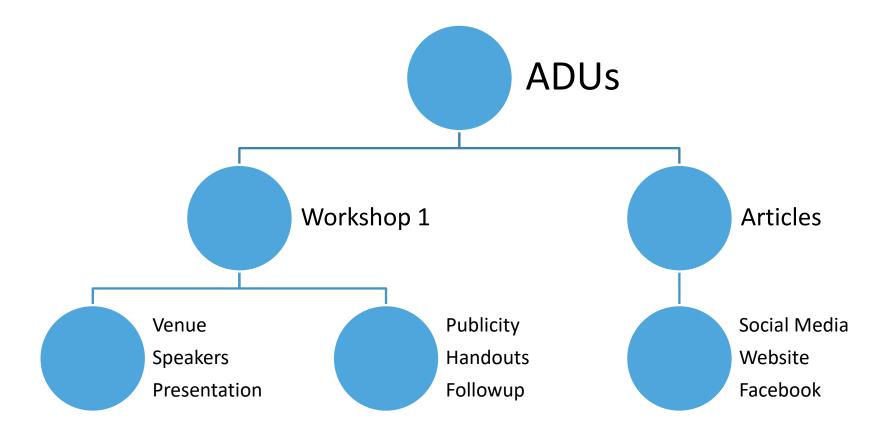
#### WE WORK ON BEHALF OF OUR COMMUNITY

- People at-risk of losing their homes
- Employers, local governments, neighborhood coffee shops who want to hire but can't because applicants can't find housing
- Seniors and people with disabilities who have deficiencies in their dwellings and housing costs too high for fixed incomes
- Young adults and families forced to leave because they can't afford to live here
- Children struggling with school because they're couch surfing
- Everyone who can't afford high housing costs

## "HOUSING IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO HUMAN FLOURISHING. WITHOUT STABLE SHELTER, IT ALL FALLS APART".

- MATTHEW DESMOND, AMERICAN SOCIOLOGIST

## SAMPLE: FOCUS AREA / PROJECTS / ACTIONS

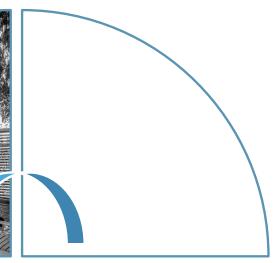


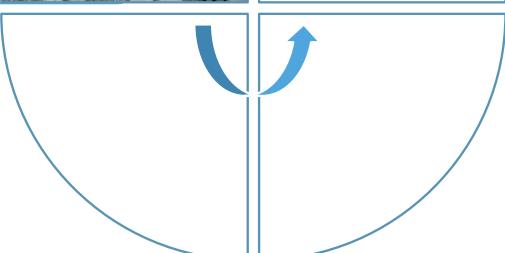
• City & County General Plan Housing Elements

• Accessory Dwelling Unit Workshops (ADU)

- Danco's Plateau
- HUD Vouchers
- GP Mill Site Planning
- Web & Facebook
- Articles & Presentations
- City & County Housing Advocacy







**PROJECTS** 

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## **PROJECTS**



ne dificultades en pagar s lemente sea un/a candidata



a una lista de programas gubername o comunitarios.

Apoyo para la mejora de sus ingresos

A cción contra desalojos de vivienda

Progra se de ayuda para servicios públicos

As ncia con su renta o hipoteca

Programas de alimentación y nutrición

Action Team

th Mendocino Coast email: hatmendocoast@gmai

#### **PRESENT**

• How to Save Your Home

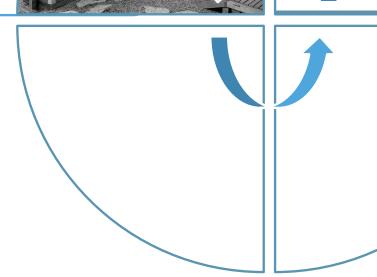
 City Economic Development Housing Advocacy

• City Housing Element Update

Web & Facebook

Articles and Presentations

City and County Housing Advocacy



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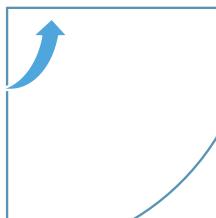
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#### **FUTURE**

- Community Land Trust
- Shared Housing Hub
- Tiny Home Village
- Community Development Commission
- 3<sup>rd</sup> ADU Workshop
- GP Mill Site Planning
- Person to Talk to about Housing
- Web & Facebook
- Articles and Presentations
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Action Team - North Mendocino Coast email: hatmendocoast@gma

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#### **CAPTURE OPPORTUNITIES**

- ❖ Be Creative & Bold
- Find State & Federal Grants
- Form Partnerships & Alliances
  - Create Vehicles to Invest in Affordable Housing

## WHY?

- My best friend had to move
- My disabled friend couldn't figure out how to get the help she needed
- I see a woman that lives in her car every time I leave my house
- It might be me someday
- If I don't, who will?



## QUESTIONS?

## **THOUGHTS?**

## **SUGGESTIONS?**

## TALK TO US





#### How to save your home / Como conservar su hogar



If you are struggling to pay your rent or mortgage you may qualify for community or government assistance. This document contains resources that can help if you're concerned about being evicted, having housing legal

problems or need help paying your rent, mortgage, or utilities. It also provides sources for income assistance and



Si tiene dificultades para pagar la renta o la hipoteca, es posible que califique para recibir asistencia comunitaria o gubernamental. Este documento contiene recursos que pueden ayudarle si le

preocupa ser desalojado, si tiene problemas legales relacionados con su vivienda, o si necesita ayuda para