

Community Housing Affordability Collective: Overview

The Community Housing Affordability Collective (CHAC) is the collective engine for improving housing affordability in Calgary through cross-sector collaboration and community-based advocacy.

Vision

CHAC is a network of organizations and individuals that recognize a need to improve housing affordability in Calgary through collaboration and advocacy. CHAC uses a collective impact model that coordinates efforts and builds a common agenda, to advance the affordable housing outcomes of plans across Calgary that cannot be accomplished individually by any member organization. It will not replace or supersede current community initiatives or plans of individual organizations; rather it will provide alignment between plans and initiatives and allow advancement of actions that individual organizations do not have the capacity to tackle on their own, or that require coordination of multiple organizations.

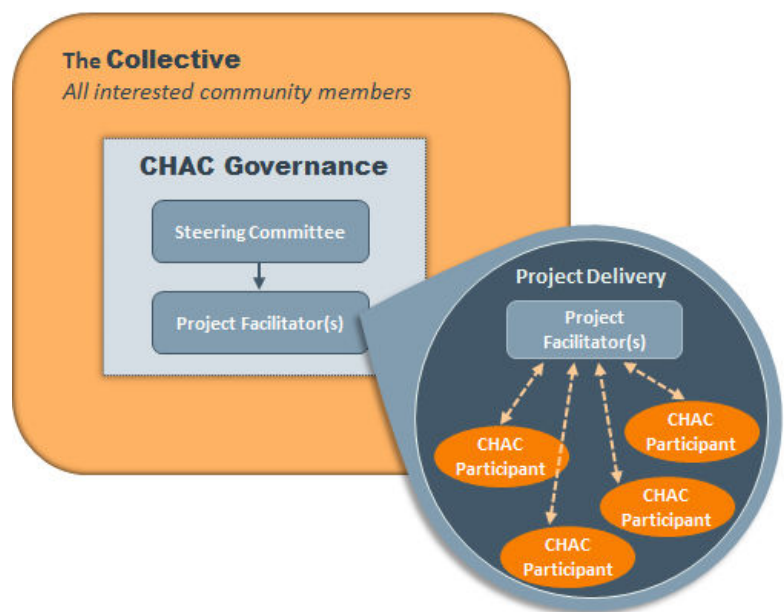
Their vision, approved by the original Advisory Group organizations and City Council, is that in the future, Calgary will have housing that:

- Supports choice along the entire housing spectrum
- Is safe, appropriate and in suitable locations
- Allows Calgarians to meet their lifetime needs
- Is affordable to all Calgarians across all income levels

Governance and Project Delivery

CHAC is governed by a 12 to 15 member Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is responsible for developing priorities for the Collective and measuring progress against these priorities, as well as maintaining updated staffing and resourcing plans.

While the Steering Committee will set an initial strategic direction, implementing CHAC's priorities will require project facilitation and coordinated action from a variety of interested individuals and organizations. The Steering Committee will determine a staffing and resourcing plan for each project undertaken by CHAC and find a suitable lead facilitator. Facilitators will manage project delivery, providing administrative support and coordinating the actions of interested participants, whose voluntary participation around specific initiatives will be the primary driver of CHAC's progress.



Collective Participation

CHAC is a broad-based coalition with an inclusive and flexible structure. To that end, participation is voluntary and open to all organizations and individuals with an interest in housing affordability in Calgary. For example, participants may include for-profit and non-profit housing providers, public agencies, social service providers, individuals with lived experience in affordable housing, and any interested member of the general public.

One of the primary purposes of CHAC is to bring stakeholders together and establish a collective voice for the housing community. This will require coordination, communication and engagement, enabled through governance. The CHAC Steering Committee will keep Collective participants informed of progress, priorities and activities to get involved in through many forms, which may include: a portal to share information, lessons and data, sessions and workshops with the broader community, regular conferences/community forums, social media, email updates, etc.

CHAC participants are invited to get involved in any action undertaken by the Collective. While they are invited to contribute to one or more CHAC projects aligned to their interests, there is no requirement for any participant to support or formally endorse all actions undertaken by the group. Participation may take many forms, including:

- Sharing of information, plans, research, lessons learned, and resources with other CHAC participants, in order to facilitate effective collaboration and communication across organizations.
- Staying abreast of CHAC's priorities, projects, and accomplishments by reviewing quarterly updates and other communications provided by the Steering Committee.
- Providing feedback to the Steering Committee to inform and support CHAC's projects and priorities.
- Championing and advocating for CHAC's vision and action plan.
- Attending CHAC events.
- Volunteering to advance any project identified in the CHAC action plan.
- Assuming a leadership role as a facilitator for one or more specific projects.
- Joining the CHAC Steering Committee.