**PHARE: Showing Real Results**

**PHARE** is the Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund. Also known as the state housing trust fund, PHARE expands opportunity for people in need and revitalizes communities. It creates, rehabs, and supports local housing, and expands supportive services, homeownership counseling, home purchase, and blight remediation programs.

**PHARE WORKS**

**SUCCESSFUL**

PHARE is a success story, or rather, a network of stories. Each is unique but they all have the same ending – stronger communities and stronger families.

Almost 400 projects have been funded in 60 of Pennsylvania’s 67 counties since the creation of PHARE’s first dedicated funding stream in 2012.

**FLEXIBLE TO LOCAL NEEDS**

PHARE supports a variety of housing needs ranging from new construction to help for first time homebuyers to blight remediation and homeless assistance.

Because of its flexibility, local communities determine and then use funds to address the most pressing needs.

CONTINUED
ECONOMIC GROWTH

PHARE is helping boost local economies. Dollars spent on affordable housing provision go towards salaries and wages for employees and towards the procurement of various goods and services. This spending recirculates the dollars within the state economy, supporting additional business activity and employment throughout the state.

STRONGER FAMILIES —AND COMMUNITIES

PHARE has helped almost 6,000 households since 2012.

Local organizations have used PHARE to provide rental assistance, new and rehabbed homes for purchase and rent, homeowner repairs, home-buyer assistance, and demolition of blighted, abandoned properties to make way for future homes.

WELL-RUN, TRANSPARENT AND BUILT ON A PLAN

The story of PHARE’s success is well-documented because the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHFA) runs it in an open and transparent way.

Each year PHFA releases a plan for the use of the funds, providing the public an opportunity to submit ideas, and submits an annual report to the legislature.

BUILDING ON SUCCESS

Affordable housing is an economic driver. It creates jobs and new opportunities for working families, disabled individuals, and veterans.

PHARE is working but oversubscribed. We must increase state investment in this program to help more families, create more jobs, and decrease blighted properties across Pennsylvania.

WHAT’S NEXT: INCREASED FUNDING FOR PHARE

Currently, the amount of funds from the state’s Realty Transfer Tax (RTT) dedicated to PHARE is capped at $25 million annually. We urge the state legislature to lift the cap so that funds from the real estate market can be reinvested in affordable housing opportunities for Pennsylvania residents and families.