

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Steele County Housing Coalition is to identify community housing needs and provide reasonable housing goals that promote affordable housing options within Steele County. The Steele County Housing Coalition reviewed housing market conditions and factors to draft the 2021 Steele County Housing Needs Assessment. The report aims to identify what types of housing is needed, how to develop property in a cost-effective manner, and discuss available resources to aid with housing initiatives.

## **PROCESS**

The process of conducting the Steele County Housing Needs Assessment included:

- Community partners identification, assessment, and collaboration;
- Review current housing studies and demographics;
- Assessing current and projected housing conditions and gaps;
- Identify affordable housing goals;
- Selecting appropriate partnerships to achieve those goals;
- Develop a community presentation to inform about housing needs.

A variety of resources were utilized to obtain information for the Housing Assessment. The Steele County Housing Coalition collected and analyzed data from January 2020 to June 2021. Data sources included:

- 2020 U.S. Census Bureau
- 2019 American Community Survey
- Minnesota Housing Partnership County Profile
- City of Owatonna 2020 Housing Study
- Steele County 2016 Housing Study

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Quantify the monthly rent for an affordable housing unit in Steele County and the corresponding household income.
- Partner with Cities, County, Civic Groups, and Citizens to implement the affordable housing plan in Steele County.
- Share with the community the need for affordable housing through a communication plan.
- Identify and secure grant funding to assist Builders, Developers, and Partnering Agencies in the development of affordable housing.
- Collaborate with the City, County, Utilities and Landlords to develop programs and partnerships that assist in minimizing building overhead expenses.