



Emmet County Housing Ready Program Director

Are you ready to lead our efforts in becoming one of the first communities to solve the housing crisis?

Housing North, in collaboration with the Little Traverse Bay Housing Partnership (Partnership), seeks an individual to lead a Housing Ready Program in Emmet County, Michigan. The individual selected for this position will be a catalyst and principal point of contact within the community for information, tools, and resources to create local solutions to the workforce housing needs in Emmet County.

Housing North is a non-profit organization governed by a 10-member Board of Directors representing business, philanthropy, local government, and more. We build awareness, influence policy, and expand capacity so communities can create housing solutions that meet their unique needs in the rural 10-county region of Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford counties. Housing North works closely with and through local and county-level communities and partnerships. The local committee for Housing North is the Little Traverse Bay Housing Partnership.

Since 2017, the Little Traverse Bay Housing Partnership has brought together organizations and committed individuals from a cross-section of our housing "community" to identify ways to address our housing crisis and, collectively, make progress on this issue. The Partnership focuses on four inter-related areas: (1) increasing policy makers and the public's understanding of the housing crisis; (2) informing and participating in policy changes; (3) strengthening connections with and support to developers and builders; and (4) bridging the financial gap for workforce housing projects. The Partnership's efforts have greatly increased awareness of the housing issue by local governments, businesses, and the public, and have led to the creation of a local fund to help address pre-development costs. The Housing Ready Program Director will build on this foundation to take our work in Emmet County to a new level.

Scope of Work

Housing North and the Partnership seek to employ an individual to provide the services described below. The position is full time, employed by Housing North, and based in Emmet County.

Finance and Project Support

- Develop an active network of developers, builders, nonprofits, government agencies (e.g., Emmet County Land Bank and Brownfield Redevelopment Authorities);
- Develop a database of potential development sites;
- Provide assistance to developers and development partners (public officials, lenders, investors, and nonprofits), including:
 - Identify funding gaps and sources to meet local housing goals;
 - Work with project partners and other Partnership members to develop funding proposals;
 - Work with partners to create and support new local and/or regional workforce housing financing vehicles; and

- Ultimately helping to close deals and bring attainable housing projects of various scales to fruition.

Leadership and Representation

- Represent and/or work closely with Housing North and the Partnership as a spokesperson for efforts to increase workforce housing in Emmet County.
- Stay abreast of on-going local government activities related to housing.
- Collaborate with local, regional, and statewide nonprofits seeking to build, finance, and market workforce housing within Emmet County.
- Facilitate the development of innovative local policy-based programs, such as deed restrictions that limit occupancy to year-round residents, to help address drivers of the current shortage of affordable housing.
- Recruit, motivate, and support volunteers and their respective committees, including the Partnership.
- Assist local units of government on policy and regulation changes, and other initiatives that support the development of attainable housing, as requested.

Qualifications

The individual selected for this position is expected to have the following qualifications:

- At least 5 years of experience working in a public policy environment to influence land use decisions, housing policies and/or finance, economic development and/or real estate development; and
- A strong commitment and track record of collaboration with diverse partners and “leading from behind,” strong finance and communications skills, a background in housing or community development, and the ability to work in a complex system with undefined parameters.
- Compelling public speaking ability to advocate for housing projects.
- A bachelor’s degree in urban planning, public administration, nonprofit administration or real estate development is preferred.

This is a full-time position with benefits, including medical, travel and training stipend, and flexible schedule offered through Housing North. Funding commitments for this position have been secured through 2023 with extension beyond that time period possible. The hiring range is \$55-\$65K depending on qualifications. This position is expected to be actively and dynamically engaged with stakeholders throughout Emmet County, spending a significant amount of time networking, attending meetings, and giving presentations. Therefore, the candidate must be able to engage in in-person work within 3 months of hire. Interested parties can submit a cover letter, resume and salary requirements to Yarrow Brown, Executive Director, Housing North. This position is open until filled.

Inquiries are welcome and should be addressed to Yarrow Brown at yarrow@housingnorth.org.