

Southwest Regional Housing Forum

August 11, 2026, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. | Prairie's Edge Casino Resort, Granite Falls

9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Coffee, Light Breakfast and Check In

10:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Welcome

10:15 a.m. to 10:25 a.m. Regional Housing Data and Housing Research Presentation

Regional Housing Data paints a picture of housing affordability in the Southwest Region. From home costs and rental rates to average wages, this key data will help us identify regional housing needs to inform solutions.

Minnesota Housing Partnership

10:25 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Community Voices, Community Solutions: Addressing Housing Together

This panel will highlight local efforts to meet housing needs in the community. Panelists will emphasize the importance of collaboration and including the perspectives of lived experience of housing instability in planning and decision-making.

11:00 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. Break

11:10 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. Pre-Development & Technical Assistance

Learn about the first steps your community can take to get started on your community housing goals. Find out about available technical assistance and community planning support, as well as the financing options to cover pre-development expenses. ***Greater Minnesota Housing Fund***

11:20 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Southwest Minnesota Housing Institutes, Minnesota Housing Partnership

12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. Lunch

Lunch remarks: 12:35-12:45 p.m. - Andrea Brennan, CEO & President, GMHF in celebration of 30 years

12:45 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. Minnesota Housing Agency Updates and Overview

1:15 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. Discussion: Housing Priorities and the Future of Housing in the Region

1:45 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Multifamily Development Panel

Communities need all types of housing from supportive housing to workforce housing. Learn how developers and local partners are leveraging multifamily financing to expand housing options in their communities.

2:30 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. Break

2:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Homeownership Development and Opportunities Panel

Discover how communities are using a variety of approaches to increase single family development, preserve manufactured housing and expand homeownership opportunities in their community. Panelists will highlight funding sources and strategies they used to increase the supply and affordability of homeownership.

