

As a result of the ongoing affordable housing crisis and the county's public policy priorities to address it, Planning Division staff started the Dane County Housing Initiative (DCHI) in 2015, in partnership with UW Madison, and Dane County municipalities, as well as other housing stakeholders.

DCHI develops information, research and resources, hosts a website, an annual housing summit and issues an electronic newsletter. Monthly steering committee meetings also provide a forum for information exchange and networking residents, municipal and regional staff and elected officials, researchers, housing providers, service providers, and those with housing assistance needs.

In an effort to build on Dane County's ongoing programming in workforce and affordable housing, and the increasing momentum and interest from Dane County municipalities, DCHI launched the Dane County Regional Housing Strategy (RHS) in 2021. The RHS will build on and support the broad range of housing work in the region, assess regional needs, and identify a vision with shared priorities that partners can work on, and work towards together.