



## Monadnock Interfaith Project

*Building An Interfaith Coalition for Community Understanding and Social Justice*

[WWW.MIPNH.ORG](http://WWW.MIPNH.ORG)

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### February 2022

Dear friends,

May the longer days and brighter sunshine bring you moments of joy in these waning days of winter. MIP has been busy. Please read on for updates on our community organizing work!

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### Affordable Housing Campaign Update

In January, the MIP Housing team gave a presentation to the Cheshire County Commissioners on Affordable Housing Trust Funds. The commissioners are interested in further exploring this idea as a strategy to expand access to affordable housing in our region.

MIP leaders next met with the Greater Keene & Peterborough Chamber of Commerce president and Cheshire Medical Center leaders. The business community acutely sees the need, and shares an interest in expanding access to housing.

This Spring a workgroup will be convened to develop a concrete proposal for consideration by Cheshire County. The workgroup will seek representation from housing organizations, the business community, Cheshire County staff, MIP, housing developers, and those directly impacted by lack of affordable housing.



**Affordable Housing Trust Funds (AHTF)** are typically established by local governments. AHTFs receive ongoing dedicated public funding to support the production and preservation of affordable housing and increase opportunities for people to access decent, affordable homes.

In a county similar to Cheshire, over 800 new affordable housing units have been created, renovated, or preserved in the last 12 years through an AHTF!

We are also aware that accessing land for affordable housing

development is a huge part of the challenge. If you know of potential land ready for development, please let us know!

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## **Deepening Congregational Involvement**

MIP is prioritizing connection and involvement of congregations and faith communities. If you'd like to learn more, please reach out to [MonadnockInterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:MonadnockInterfaith@gmail.com)

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## **Welcoming Refugees - What is being done in our region?**

Many of us who live in and around the Monadnock Region of SW New Hampshire and SE Vermont have been asking ourselves that question as we learned that families from Afghanistan and other countries are being relocated to the northeast. The Keene Immigrant and Refugee Partnership (KIRP) reached out to regional residents to form **Team-Monadnock**, a "Neighborhood Support Team"(NST).

[Click here to find out about how you can make a difference for refugee families.](#)

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## **Successful End of Year Fundraising!**

MIP raised nearly \$5,000 in our end of year appeal. Thank you!! When you feel inspired to give, donate online via [the MIP Website](#) or send a check written to "Monadnock Interfaith Project" mailed to PO Box 161, Keene, NH 03431.

We are so grateful for the many ways we are working together. We wish all of you well. Stay in touch!

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Visit our website [MIPNH.org](http://MIPNH.org)

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Know someone interested in interfaith efforts? Forward this email.

Contact MIP anytime at [monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com)

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**In faith, hope, and love,**  
**Monadnock Interfaith Project**  
A 501c(3) non-profit organization.