

Katie Hobbs Governor Joan Serviss Director

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## 2023 HOUSING FORUM BRINGS TOGETHER COALITION TO BUILD AN ARIZONA FOR EVERYONE

**PHOENIX, AZ** – The Arizona Housing Coalition (AZHC), in partnership with the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH), will host the annual Arizona Housing Forum at the JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass Resort from August 23-25, bringing together hundreds of affordable housing and homelessness stakeholders committed to building an Arizona for everyone.

The 2023 Arizona Housing Forum provides an unparalleled opportunity for affordable housing and community development professionals to learn, network, and share ideas that create and improve housing and community development choices in Arizona.

"The Arizona Housing Forum gives us a unique opportunity to share with and learn from community partners across the state to find faster, smarter solutions to our affordable housing needs," said ADOH Director Joan Serviss. "It also allows us to gather input on how the state can allocate our historic investment in the Housing Trust Fund."

This annual event attracts more than 500 attendees representing public and private sectors and showcases speakers and breakout sessions on innovations in housing, Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) best practices, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and timely topics in the housing industry. The forum's theme, *Let's Get Loud*, focuses on bringing voices together to advocate for safe, affordable housing for all Arizonans.

"The AZ Housing Forum is an unmatched opportunity for developers, investors, on-the-ground staff, and policy makers from across the region to share ideas, strengthen existing partnerships, and form new connections aimed at addressing the state's housing crisis," said Nicole Newhouse, Executive Director of the Arizona Housing Coalition.

Keynote speakers at the Forum include Dr. Richard Antoine White, "RAW Tuba," and Dr. George Hammond. Dr. White is an author, inspirational speaker, and Principal Tubist for the New Mexico Philharmonic & Santa Fe Symphony. Dr. Hammond is Director, Economic and Business Research Center at the University of Arizona Eller College of Management. Governor Katie Hobbs and Tucson Mayor Regina Romero will also share remarks with attendees during the opening plenary session on Thursday, August 24.

Friday, August 25, afternoon sessions will be open to the general public and will allow for public commentary on the state's Consolidated Plan, Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP), and plans for the 2024 Housing Trust Fund.

Both ADOH Director Serviss and AZHC Executive Director Nicole Newhouse will be available at the Forum to discuss affordable housing initiatives and solutions to our current housing shortage and rising rates of homelessness.

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## About the Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH)

Established in 2002, we administer programs to create, preserve, and invest in affordable housing statewide. Rather than building and owning housing, we manage programs that convey mostly federal funding to organizations and governments who apply for funding and meet criteria developed by state and federal law. These community partners, in turn, build and own the housing our state needs.