



Skagit County Board of Commissioners

Ron Wesen, First District
Peter Browning, Second District
Lisa Janicki, Third District

January 4, 2024

Washington State Department of Commerce
1011 Plum Street SE
Olympia, WA 98504

Re: Letter of Support for Catholic Housing Services funding application for 2023 Housing Preservation Program NOFA #MHU-2023-04

To whom it may concern:

Skagit County is proud to support the Catholic Housing Services (CHS) Housing Preservation Program funding application for capital repairs at la Casa de Santa Rosa in Sedro-Woolley, Washington. Affordable housing is scarce in our community, and we must ensure current low-income units are well maintained and functional for residents.

Approximately 20 years ago CHS acquired and remodeled la Casa de Santa Rosa, a 15-unit low-income housing facility for farmworker families, with assistance from the Washington State Department of Commerce and Washington State Housing Finance Commission. The facility has been incredibly helpful in our community to provide a safe and affordable place to live for local families but is now in need of essential capital repairs.


The small number of units at this site, combined with the affordable rent levels, provides sufficient cash flow to operate the property but is insufficient to cover costly capital repairs. The funding will allow CHS to replace gas furnaces and water heaters with electric appliances, install camera systems to improve safety, and repair roof systems and exterior stairs, railings, and porches. These types of repairs and upgrades will maintain the lifespan of the building and improve the quality of life for current and future occupants.

We strongly encourage you to consider awarding funds to CHS and the families at la Casa de Santa Rosa.

Sincerely,

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Peter Browning, Chair


Ron Wesen, Commissioner


Lisa Janicki, Commissioner