

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Relations

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Avenues for Hope has Raised More Than \$240,000 for the Homeless

Donations are Still Needed by December 31 to Help Provide Warm and Stable Housing

BOISE, Idaho – [Idaho Housing and Finance Association](http://idahohousing.com) and the [Home Partnership Foundation](http://homepartnershipfoundation.org) are pleased to announce that the Avenues for Hope Housing Challenge has raised more than \$240,000 to date from the community, with more donations coming in hourly, for participating Idaho nonprofits. Campaign funds will support shelters and housing service providers, working statewide to prevent homelessness and improve affordable housing options.

Community involvement in the campaign is up this year with more than 1,400 donations so far. The goal for the seventh annual Avenues for Hope Housing Challenge is to exceed \$500,000, with the online fundraiser concluding at midnight December 31. Donations of \$25 or more can be made at avenuesforhope.org.

To incentivize donations and provide increased support to Idaho's housing service providers, at least \$200,000 is being offered in the form of challenge prizes and matching funds. Idaho Housing and generous sponsors are matching donations with at least \$.25 to every \$1 donated. These funds will be awarded to the nonprofits in addition to the donations they receive from the community.

"We're thrilled to see the generosity of donors- so far we've received \$100,000 more than this time in 2016. Even so, the need is great during the colder winter months with more than 4,000 Idahoans experiencing homelessness last year," said Gerald M. Hunter, President of Idaho Housing. "There's still plenty of time to donate and we encourage Idahoans to come together in the spirit of the holidays and support these nonprofits who work tirelessly to restore the hope of individuals and families within our community."

Donors can direct gifts to any of the 48 participating nonprofits, according to their location or types of services they provide. The more donations a nonprofit receives, the more matching funds and grant prizes it is eligible to win. If you don't have a specific nonprofit to support, gifts can be made to the "Home Partnership Foundation" which will direct funds to help address critical, unmet housing needs. Real-time campaign progress can be viewed online at: avenuesforhope.org/#leaderboard.

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The Home Partnership Foundation, along with Idaho Housing and 28 other businesses sponsoring the campaign, are contributing at least \$200,000 to support the matching funds and challenge grant prizes. Nearly \$100,000 has been awarded so far including:

Benefactor Bonuses of \$5,000 each have been awarded to 19 nonprofits as matching prizes for receiving a single donation of \$5,000 or more. Awardees thus far include Astegos, Community Resource Center of Teton Valley, Corpus Christi House, Family Promise of North Idaho, Family Promise of the Palouse, Good Samaritan Home, Home Partnership Foundation, Idaho Falls Rescue Mission, Idaho Youth Ranch, Matt's Place Foundation, NeighborWorks Pocatello, Safe Passage/Women's Center, Sojourners' Alliance, St. Vincent de Paul North Idaho, The Community Builder, The House Next Door, Trinity New Hope, Union Gospel Mission, and Voices Against Violence. Each participating nonprofit is eligible for one Benefactor Bonus prize.

Early Bird prizes of \$500 each were awarded to six nonprofits that were the first participants to receive 20 donations. These prizes went to CATCH, Inc., Corpus Christi House, Family Promise of the Palouse, Good Samaritan Home, St. Vincent de Paul Southwest Idaho, and The House Next Door.

Random Daily Drawings of \$100 each are awarded each campaign weekday and announced on Twitter [@avenuesforhope](https://twitter.com/avenuesforhope). Winners so far include Idaho Falls Rescue Mission, Corpus Christi House, Bonner County Homeless Task Force, NeighborWorks Boise, Boise Housing First, First Story, NeighborWorks Pocatello and Sojourners' Alliance.

Thousands of dollars in grant prizes and matching funds remain available and can be won by nonprofit participants through the end of the campaign. A list of all campaign prizes is provided on the Avenues for Hope website at: www.avenuesforhope.org/#prizes.



Campaign dates:	December 12 at 8 a.m. through 12 midnight on December 31, 2017
Donations accepted:	http://www.avenuesforhope.org
Campaign video:	https://youtu.be/bnR8GSP_aD4
Social media hashtag:	#AvenuesforHope
Campaign logos/graphics available for download:	http://www.avenuesforhope.org/resources
Results announced:	Early January 2018

48 Nonprofit Organizations participating in the Avenues for Hope Housing Challenge

NORTH IDAHO		
Affordable Housing Foundation	Family Promise of the Palouse	Salvation Army of Lewiston
Bonner Homeless Transitions	Matt's Place Foundation	Sojourners' Alliance
Family Promise of Lewis Clark Valley	Moscow Affordable Housing Trust	St. Vincent de Paul North Idaho
Family Promise of North Idaho	Safe Passage/ Women's Center	Union Gospel Mission
SOUTHEAST IDAHO		
Aids for Friends	Family Services Alliance of SE Idaho	South Central Community Action Agency
Bingham Crisis Center	Gateway Habitat for Humanity of Pocatello	Southeastern Idaho Community Action Agency
CLUB	Idaho Falls Rescue Mission	The Mahoney House/Lemhi County Crisis Intervention
Community Resource Center of Teton Valley	NeighborWorks Pocatello	Voices Against Violence
Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership		
SOUTHWEST IDAHO		
Advocates Against Family Violence	First Story	Shepherd's Home
Astegos	Good Samaritan Home	St. Vincent de Paul SE Idaho
Boise Housing First	Home Partnership Foundation	The Community Builder
Boise Public Schools Education Foundation	The Idaho Youth Ranch	The House Next Door
CATCH	International Rescue Committee	The Jesse Tree of Idaho
Catholic Charities of Idaho	LEAP Charities	Trinity New Hope
Corpus Christi House	Nampa School District	Women's & Children's Alliance
Faces of Hope Foundation	NeighborWorks Boise	

About the Avenues for Hope Housing Challenge

The Avenues for Hope Housing Challenge is designed to rally support for 48 participating nonprofits that manage the day-to-day work of serving more than 4,000 homeless Idahoans. 2017 is the seventh year for Avenues for Hope, which has awarded more than \$1.47 million to nonprofits statewide since it began in 2011.

Organized by Idaho Housing and Finance Association and its foundation, the Home Partnership Foundation, the campaign helps both the chronically and temporarily homeless, including domestic violence victims, veterans, people with disabilities, vulnerable youth, seniors, and low-income Idaho residents. Donations support emergency shelters, homelessness prevention services, and affordable housing programs throughout the state.

Avenues for Hope sponsors include Academy Mortgage, Bank of Commerce, Bank of Idaho, Banner Bank, Barclays, Boise Housing Corporation, Citizens Community Bank, Eide Bailly, Evergreen Home Loans, Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, First Interstate BancSystem Foundation, George K. Baum & Company, Guild Mortgage Company, Idaho Housing and Finance Association, Idaho Independent Bank, Idaho Power Company, KeyBank, Mountain West Bank, New Beginnings Housing, Northwest Integrity Housing, P1FCU, Skinner Fawcett LLP, Stifel, The Pacific Companies, Thomas Development Co., TitleOne Corp., Wells Fargo, and Westcor Land Title Insurance Co.

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About the Home Partnership Foundation

The Home Partnership Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) organization created by Idaho Housing and Finance Association 12 years ago with a mission to help people build a strong foundation for their lives through stable, safe, and affordable housing.

The foundation strengthens communities across Idaho by encouraging tax-deductible charitable gifts to support shelters and shelter services for the homeless and disadvantaged, help avoid eviction actions to stabilize households and prevent homelessness, encourage asset-building and education to achieve economic independence, build equity-sharing funds to make workforce housing attainable, and facilitate tax-advantaged land donations for affordable housing purposes.

Website: www.homepartnershipfoundation.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/HomePartnershipFoundation

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/avenuesforhope>

About Idaho Housing and Finance Association

Idaho Housing and Finance Association is a financial services and housing business organization. IHFA's mission is to improve lives and strengthen Idaho communities by expanding housing opportunities, building self-sufficiency, and fostering economic development.

Website: www.idahohousing.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/idahohousing

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/idahohousing>

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