The 9th Annual Avenues for Hope Housing Challenge is off to its best-ever start with more than $160,000 raised. In a little less than 48 hours, Avenues for Hope eclipsed the amount raised in the first two years of the campaign.

The online fundraising campaign assists 80 nonprofits that manage the day-to-day work of helping Idahoans find safe, stable, and affordable housing. The 20-day effort helps benefit chronically and temporarily homeless, domestic violence survivors, veterans, people with disabilities, vulnerable youth, seniors and low-income Idahoans.

"Many of our neighbors are struggling as housing affordability in the state has become very tight," Idaho Housing and Finance Association President Gerald Hunter said. "It's why this year we hope to raise $1 million to help participating nonprofits maintain and expand their housing and homelessness prevention services."

Many of the participating nonprofits rely on this additional funding to not only help them with their mission, but to keep their doors open.

"Without The Home Partnership Foundation, that and the Avenues for Hope, we wouldn't be existing today," Sojourners’ Alliance Executive Director Steve Bonnar said.

Nonprofits can also win monetary bonuses during the campaign based on a number of categories, including most donations, random drawings, or even social media efforts. The total prize pool and matching funds donated from 40 sponsors is up to $300,000.

The campaign runs from Dec. 12 through midnight Dec. 31, 2019.

** Participating nonprofits: 

**North Idaho:**
Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse, Bonner Community Housing Agency, Bonner Homeless Transitions, Boundary County School District, Children’s Village, Family Promise of Lewis Clark Valley, Family Promise North Idaho, Family Promise of the Palouse, Habitat for Humanity of North Idaho, Lake Pend Oreille School District, Moscow Affordable Housing Trust, Safe Passage, Sojourners’ Alliance, St. Vincent de Paul North Idaho, The Salvation Army of Lewiston, Union Gospel Mission

**Southeast Idaho:**
Southwest Idaho:

Avenues for Hope Sponsors:

Platinum: Regence BlueShild of Idaho, Wells Fargo, Idaho Housing and Finance Association

Silver: Academy Mortgage, Micron Technology, Mountain West Bank, Stifel, The Hawkins Family Foundation.
