

December 2024



Dear Friends,

In this time of celebration, joy, giving thanks, and giving to others, we at the Frankfort Area Community Land Trust (FACLT) are filled with gratitude for the support that has fueled our mission to provide attainable housing in the Frankfort/Elberta and Benzie County area.

Thanks to you, our partners and generous donors, we have made meaningful progress in tackling the critical housing challenges facing our community.

We celebrate three families moving into homes on Grove Place—homes built with local contractors, fair wages, and a commitment to preserving the character of our community. These households, including a librarian, a brewer, a graphic designer, a food store manager, a carpenter, and a student counselor, represent the vibrant workforce that keeps our area thriving.

**Yet, the need for attainable housing remains critical.** Without affordable homes, essential workers like teachers, healthcare professionals, tradespeople, and those who work in our restaurants and stores are forced to leave, destabilizing our local economy and diminishing the multigenerational, year-round community we all cherish.

## OUR SOLUTION

FACLT offers a unique, sustainable model to address these challenges:

- **Community-Owned Land:** By holding land ownership within the trust, we reduce the cost of homeownership, ensuring long-term affordability. Homeowners gain equity while preserving the trust's capacity to serve future generations.
- **Building Internal Capacity:** We are scaling up operations, expanding volunteer engagement, and securing funding to increase housing availability over the next five years.
- **Broader Community Engagement:** Through rebranding, awareness campaigns, and partnerships, we aim to grow a united network of supporters dedicated to a shared vision of attainable housing.

## YOUR IMPACT

By joining us, you help turn this vision into reality. Together, we can:

- Build more homes for local families, creating stability and community roots.
- Support local working people and businesses, reinforcing a resilient economy.
- Preserve our community balance by creating pathways from renting to homeownership.

If you have made a gift to FACLT in 2024, we thank you for your support and friendship. We truly view you as members of the FACLT family!

Should you wish to consider making a year-end gift to FACLT, please know that your support—whether through a one-time donation, an annual gift, or a multi-year commitment—helps us now and in the future.

## WAYS TO GIVE

- ♥ Donate online at [frankfortlandtrust.org](https://frankfortlandtrust.org)
- ♥ Mail a check: *Frankfort Area Community Land Trust, P.O. Box 254, Frankfort, MI 49635*
- ♥ Donate appreciated assets (stocks, bonds, real estate)

For more details, please contact us by email at [info@frankfortlandtrust.org](mailto:info@frankfortlandtrust.org).

Together, we can ensure Frankfort/Elberta and Benzie County remain welcoming to everyone—seasonal residents, year-round families, essential workers, and all who contribute to the heart and vitality of our community.

Thank you for your generosity and belief in our mission. Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a healthy and happy New Year.

Warm regards,

The Board of Directors

**Frankfort Area Community Land Trust**

*Jay White {President}, Margie DeVine {Vice President}, Andrew Brickman {Treasurer}, and members Neil Brilliant, Todd Bruce, Ryan Fiebing, Timothy Jones, Kaitlin Matesich, Doug Rath, and Nancy Reid.*

P.S. Stay connected! We'll be in touch in the first quarter of 2025 with more updates and exciting details about our next projects. In the meantime, follow us on social media for the latest news.