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Senator Dassler-Alfheim celebrates 40th year of WHEDA Housing Grant Program Program assists organizations that provide emergency shelter and temporary and low-income housing invest in facility improvements

Madison, WI – On Monday, the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA), of which Senator Dassler-Alfheim is a board member, announced the opening of applications for the 2025 cycle of their Housing Grant Program.

"Housing is a top issue in the Fox Valley. Availability and affordability are huge concerns for renters and owners across the board, and this program ensures that people in crisis have a bed to sleep in and a roof over their head until they can get back on their feet," said the Senator. "Investing in low-income housing helps bring down costs for everyone by freeing up inventory for first-time homebuyers."

The program will award \$2 million this year in grant money to organizations that offer temporary or permanent housing to low-income individuals and those in need of emergency housing. Qualifying organizations, such as non-profits, cooperatives, community development, redevelopment, and housing authorities, local governments, and Native American tribal authorities, can receive up to \$50,000 through the program to make facility improvements. Improvements include adding handicap-accessible features, acquiring new sites or buildings, new construction, and more.

"This program supports organizations right here in the Fox Valley that help those who need it most," said the Senator. "I'm happy to congratulate them on 40 years of uplifting the people of Wisconsin and to do what I can as a WHEDA board member to ensure their continued success."

Last year, over \$2 million was awarded to more than half of applicants, including four organizations in Senate District 18: Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Day By Day Shelter, Pillars, and Covey. As federal funding uncertainties continue to threaten the future of these organizations, programs like this have never been more important. Since the program's inception in 1985, the Foundation has awarded grants to over 33% of received requests, amounting to \$32.9 million. Applications for this cycle must be submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. on July 31, 2025. Questions should be sent to <u>wheda.foundation@wheda.com</u>.

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