



January 23, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
California State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of Habitat for Humanity International, Habitat for Humanity California, our wide network of local affiliates, and our volunteers in California, we want to thank you for making housing a central pillar of your “California for All” agenda.

Habitat for Humanity is grateful for your commitment to addressing California’s housing affordability crisis. Within your first two weeks as Governor, you took significant steps to deliver on your campaign promise to build 3.5 million homes by 2025. By dedicating more than \$1.7 billion in one-time and ongoing affordable housing funds to address this crisis—with \$500 million to local governments to combat the homelessness epidemic, \$500 million to support the low-income housing tax credit, and another \$500 million to encourage housing for the “missing middle”—you have laid the foundation for substantial change in California’s housing framework.

The policy initiatives, laid out in your Executive Orders, combined with the funding tools allocated through the budget, provide practical reforms to tackle these issues head-on. From appointing a new homeless czar, to spurring development on state-owned surplus land, to reforming zoning ordinances, and addressing the complex CEQA review process and reducing impact fees, each policy plays an important role in the current state of our crisis and each requires significant attention to ensure that Californians have a safe and affordable place to live.

Habitat for Humanity assists low and very low-income families, serving those from 30 percent to 80 percent of the area median income. We envision a world in which everyone has a decent place to live. We thank you for your commitment and dedication to that vision and for providing us with the resources to ensure Californians not only reside but thrive in their communities. Habitat for Humanity is committed to working with you and with the legislature to support this mission and to achieve a California for All.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Ellis".

Sharon Ellis
Chair
Habitat for Humanity California

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adrienne Goolsby".

Adrienne Goolsby
Vice President, U.S. and Canada
Habitat for Humanity International