The right to vote guarantees every citizen a voice in our democracy. Voter registration is the first step to exercising that fundamental right. Too often, however, citizens face obstacles that prevent them from registering to vote or updating their registrations. These barriers do not affect all voters equally.

Because voters must re-register each time they change their residential address, and renters move more frequently than homeowners, renters often must go to additional lengths to keep their registrations current. This burden contributes to the stark voter turnout gap between renters and homeowners – and even greater disparities between low-income and high-income individuals.1

We, the undersigned 22 providers of affordable housing, are committed to closing this gap. As owners and operators of affordable housing, we are in a unique position to facilitate voter registration for our community members and help them overcome barriers to participation. When we welcome new residents into our properties, we must take the opportunity to welcome them as voters, too.

We therefore pledge to:

• Integrate nonpartisan voter registration into the lease-up and income recertification processes in our properties. As residents fill out paperwork and prepare to move into their homes, we will ensure that they are ready to vote at their new addresses. Where permissible by state law, we will offer voter registration forms to new residents, provide assistance, collect completed registrations, and transmit them to local election officials.

• Encourage nonpartisan voter education and mobilization in the 2022 election cycle through activities, such as: publicly posting flyers and sending reminders about voter registration and voting options; hosting community events where voter registration is available; applying to become voter registration agencies and/or polling places; providing accessible, nonpartisan voter education materials; and/or coordinating transportation to the polls.

• Undertake voter registration and engagement activities in a fully nonpartisan manner and in compliance with all relevant state election laws.

As affordable housing providers, we are committed to creating strong communities where our residents thrive. Promoting our residents’ access to the fundamental right to vote is essential to fulfill this purpose.

Signed,

ACTION-Housing, Inc.  
Beacon Communities  
Brompton Community Housing Development Corporation  
Church Housing Corporation  
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless  
Dominium  
Jonathan Rose Companies  
Landex Development, LLC  
Neighborhood Associates Corporation  
Peabody Properties  
Pennrose  
Portfolio Resident Services  
Preservation Management, Inc.  
Preservation of Affordable Housing (POAH)  
Royal American Management  
Texas Inter-Faith Management Corporation  
The Community Builders, Inc--Chicago Region  
The NRP Group  
TM Associates Management, Inc.  
West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation  
WinnCompanies  
Wisconsin Housing Preservation Corporation

1 https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/voting-and-registration/p20-585.html