Housing Development Programs

Our Housing Development Office provides a variety of programs to improve the health, energy efficiency, affordability, and stability of the housing stock in Erie County.

**HOME HEALTH**

The health and safety of our families start with the health of our home. We strive to remove home health hazards—such as lead, asbestos, mold, and others—and eliminate mobility challenges for senior or disabled residents.

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

Older homes, like those that are iconic in our region, are more likely to need weatherization and energy efficiency upgrades. These conditions can leave families with high energy bills as they attempt to stay warm in the winter and cool in the summer. We strive to leverage weatherization of homes to reduce energy burdens that strain family finances and to reduce the overall carbon footprint of our region.

**STABILITY**

Many families throughout Western New York struggle to maintain their housing stability because of the myriad financial pressures placed on households today. We strive to assist families in finding housing stability through emergency rental assistance, foreclosure prevention, and case management services.

**AFFORDABILITY**

Finding quality, affordable housing is a challenge for families throughout Western New York. We strive to expand housing affordability through the development of high quality, affordable housing, such as St. Martin Village that CAO constructed in 2011.
RESTORE

The RESTORE program is an owner-occupied repair program that specifically targets improving home health and safety for residents of the Fillmore and Ellicott Districts who are age 60 or older. All repairs are completed FREE OF CHARGE and enable residents of age in place through improvements to home health, safety, and mobility. Please call our office for more information on the availability of funds and eligibility requirements.

COMMUNITY HOME IMPROVEMENT RESOURCE PROGRAM

The Community Home Improvement Resource Program (CHIRP) enables residents, both homeowners and renters, to strategically layer a variety of home repair and energy assistance programs throughout the county to design an individualized home improvement plan. Through case management and home improvement counseling, CAO Housing Developments assists residents through the resource navigation process. Give us a call for more information on CHIRP.

RENTAL SEARCH ASSISTANCE

Finding affordable housing can be extremely difficult. Our rental search assistance program helps empower individuals to search for housing online, apply for affordable housing and voucher programs wait lists. For help with an affordable rental search please call our office or email Salisa Watson as swatson@caowny.org.

MASTEN HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Our Masten Home Repair Program provides funding to low and moderate-income households located in the Masten District to make necessary health, safety, and efficiency repairs to their homes. Grants for this program are based on funding availability. Please call to see if grant funds are available and for additional eligibility requirements.

“Guiding You to a Prosperous, Optimistic & Safe Future”

TAKE ACTION.

716.881.6543 | caowny.org

To inquire about CAO’s Rent & Mortgage Relief Programs email swatson@caowny.org.