

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Twenty-Two Marion Families Receive Life-Changing Home Repairs**



**July 21, 2021 Marion, Indiana** – Twenty-two Marion families will receive life-changing home repairs. In a year when many families have experienced economic shifts and financial challenges, fixing a leaking roof or broken furnace might feel financially unfeasible. Yet, Owner-Occupied Rehab (OOR) – a longstanding program of the City of Marion and Affordable Housing Corporation (AHC) – is making these essential home repairs possible for families.

“It has been an honor to partner with Affordable Housing Corporation to help homeowners in Marion. This program has helped hundreds of families stay in their homes and have a higher quality of life,” says Mayor Jess Alumbaugh.

Owner-Occupied Rehab (OOR) is a program funded by the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) designed to assist local homeowners – specifically those who are elderly, veterans, and disabled – with essential home repairs to improve quality of life and secure the integrity of the home. OOR addresses conditions in the home that, if left unattended, would create an issue with the integrity of the home or become a detriment to the residents' quality of life.

The City of Marion has partnered with AHC to successfully win three separate rounds of Owner-Occupied Rehab (OOR) grant funding over the years: 2015, 2017, and 2019. Through OOR, the City of Marion has been able to help dozens of homeowners complete essential repairs on their property, ranging from patching roofs to replacing windows to repairing furnaces.

“I applied for OOR to get some help on my property because I would like to get my neighborhood rejuvenated and keep people investing here,” shares Scott Maine, a Marion homeowner, veteran, and past OOR participant.

Once a homeowner submits an application to participate in OOR, the AHC staff work with each homeowner to assess the needs of the home and coordinate with local contractors to ensure the work is completed. OOR will fund up to \$25,000 in repairs on each house, which can cover the cost of a new furnace and window or the full replacement of a leaking and damaged roof. OOR not only benefits homeowners but local contractors as well, providing guaranteed contracts and job opportunities to HVAC, roofing, and construction professionals.

“Fixing a leaking roof or broken window can save a house from disrepair and allow a resident to remain in their life-long home... it also helps preserve Marion’s housing stock, improving overall economic conditions in the community,” shares Jacquie Dodyk, Executive Director of AHC.

Currently, the City of Marion and AHC are running the OOR program for the third time in five years. This OOR round will complete essential home repairs for twenty-two Marion homeowners over the next several months, assisting families in a time of economic stress and health anxiety—in a time where it is more important than ever for the City of Marion to be looking out for its residents.

If you know of a family member, friend, co-worker, or client in need of a home repair, visit our website to learn more about program eligibility and the application process: [www.ahcgrantcounty.com/owner-occupied-rehab](http://www.ahcgrantcounty.com/owner-occupied-rehab)

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