

innovation challenge

Engaging new partners to drive innovation in housing.

Access to affordable housing in America continues to be a challenge for many.

In response, Fannie Mae is launching the Sustainable Communities Innovation Challenge (The Challenge). Backed by a two-year, \$10 million investment from Fannie Mae, this initiative is designed to advance sustainable communities—those providing residents opportunities for employment, health and wellness, and education.

The Challenge will generate innovative ideas to help us address the affordable housing crisis in America. Also, it will further support our broad mission to create housing opportunities that are safe, sustainable, and affordable, while managing risk to protect lenders, homeowners, and taxpayers.

Great ideas to solve our nation's housing challenges can come from anywhere – including from outside of the housing industry. Fannie Mae will support these innovative ideas through partnerships and funding for research, planning, idea development and marketing. When you accept The Challenge, you get a chance to turn innovation into action by helping Fannie Mae advance thriving communities throughout our country.

Phase 1: Affordable housing and economic opportunity.

The Challenge is a three-phase initiative. The first phase launched on December 18, 2017, and we are accepting proposal submissions through February 23, 2018. We are:

- 1 Seeking proposals** for research and design and idea development that focus on the intersection of affordable housing and economic opportunity.
- 2 Inviting submissions** from public, nonprofit and private sector organizations and businesses, as well as individuals and cross-sector teams from across the country.
- 3 Awarding contracts** to fund proposals with the greatest potential to effectively increase access to affordable housing within sustainable communities.

