# **Participatory Models in Housing**

## **Promising Practices for Native Communities**

Sharon Welch 2021 Gramlich Fellow



What does **participatory design** look like on Native affordable housing projects?

What role should design play in **uplifting** native communities?



Generations of Detrimental and Discriminatory Policy

Colonial Period + Assimilation Systematic strtipping of native assets and identity	Termination End of federal assistance to tribes		ermination ng of power to tribes
1492	1953	1975 ISDEAA Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act	1996 NAHASDA Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act - Section 184 - Rural Dev 502

"The NAHASDA statute gives tribes the ability to identify their housing needs but yet we're still regulated by 2 CFR 200 ... When we identify our needs it still has to go to HUD for approval. And then if they don't like it, they tell you that you aren't in compliance. There are still so many regulations that we have to go through just to spend those dollars and yet the statute says that tribes have the right to decide what housing activities they'll be doing. There are a lot of issues there."

-Pueblo of Jemez Housing Authority Staff

### 7 - 13% of Section 184 loans have been used on reservations

#### Households and Housing in Tribal Areas Tribal Areas US US 40% 32% 30% 20% 18% 16% 12% 10% 6% 2% 2% 1% 0% Poverty Heating Plumbing Overcrowding Deficiencies Deficiencies

### Estimated need for 68,000 - 200,000 new units

Sep 28, 2020 at 12:35:31 PM +37.074984,-109.998367 84533 San Juan Bernard Black

Home, Navajo Nation; Courtesy of Buu Nygren



NHA development in Kayenta, AZ, Navajo Nation; Courtesy of Arizona Republic

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3A

Arctic Entryways added to HUD homes, Alaska; Courtesy of Michael Fredericks

And other







Multipurpose Leadership Building Design, Navajo Nation Courtesy of Navajo Engineering Construction Authority One cannot build any house...

Home as an asset

Home that creates pride

How can models of financing and design of Native housing provide homes that are assets to a family and instill pride?

#### Case Study 1: Native Partnership for Housing (NPH)





Navajo Nation, Courtesy of LA Times

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San Juan

House, Navajo Nation Courtesy of Buu Nygren





### Karigan Estates

Karigan Estates, Navajo Nation

3.45







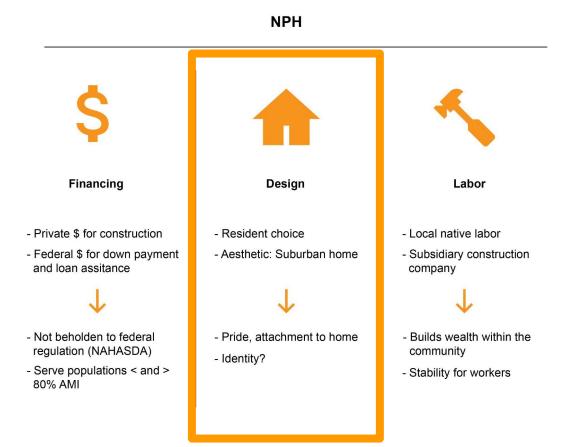
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### Cost: \$350,000 - \$447,000

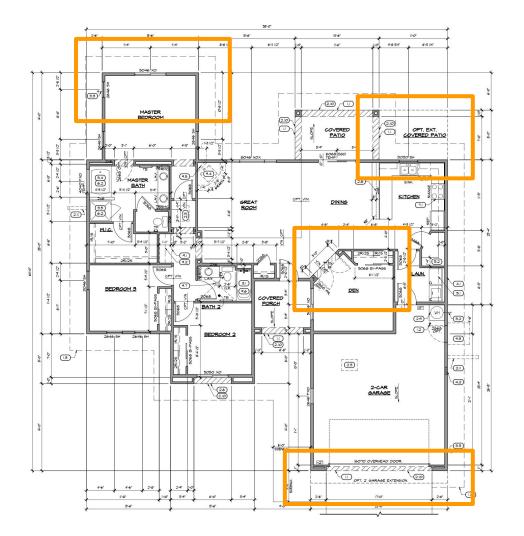
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Navajo Housing Authority Development, Kayenta













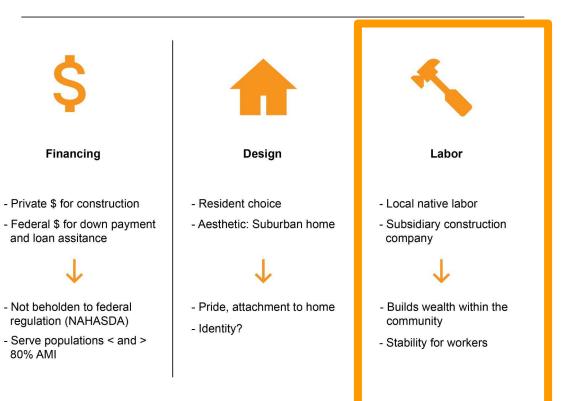








#### NPH





#### NPH: Conclusions

#### QUALITY + RESIDENT CHOICE $\rightarrow$ STABLE HOME VALUE + PRIDE

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- High quality construction to lower maintenance costs + maintain the home's value over time
- Financing to allow lower income residents to move into high quality homes



- High quality materials and construction
- Choice in design to instill pride and a sense of ownership
  - Suburban aesthetic



Local labor to keep wealth in the community

### Case Study 2: Come Dream, Come Build



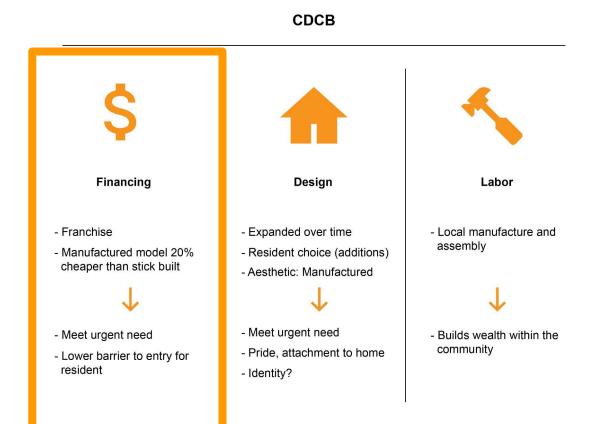


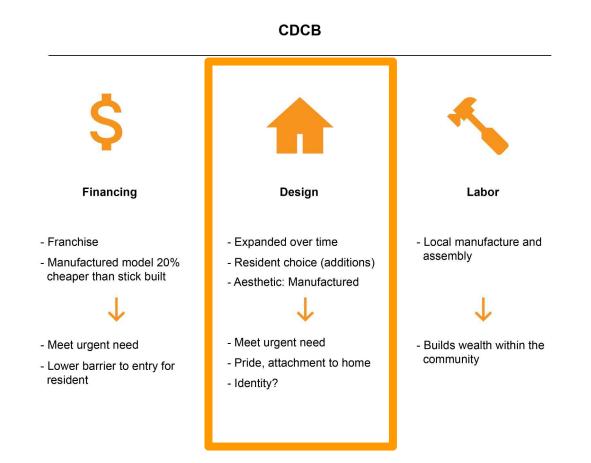






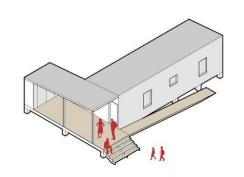


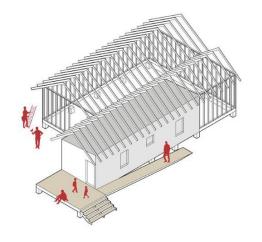
 

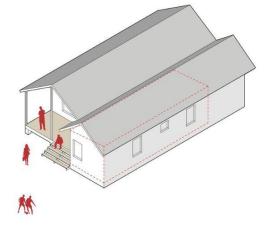


## MiCASiTA Housing Model









Conceptual Drawing Courtesy of BcWorkshop



#### CDCB Financing Labor Design - Franchise - Expanded over time - Local manufacture and assembly - Manufactured model 20% - Resident choice (additions) cheaper than stick built - Aesthetic: Manufactured - Meet urgent need - Meet urgent need - Builds wealth within the community - Pride, attachment to home - Lower barrier to entry for resident - Identity?

### CDCB: Conclusions



- Privately funded construction
- Less expensive than a stick built model in order to lower barrier to entry



- High quality prefabricated unit that can be expanded
- Choice in how home is expanded to instill pride and a sense of ownership



- Local labor to keep wealth in the community

What role can design play in Native affordable housing projects?

Design must

1. Design must create new visions for what Native housing can look like

2. Understand local identity + context

3. Allow for residents to be involved in decision making

### **Conclusions - Pathways Forward**



Federal policies need to be less restrictive and rooted in an understanding of the full financial picture of a community/ individual



Housing developments need to meet urgent need but also address the long-term

- Quality



Labor should bring wealth into the community where possible



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