



Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency
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**MassHousing to Host Western Massachusetts Trade Fair
for Minority and Women-Owned Businesses**

The Western Massachusetts Minority and Women Business Enterprise Trade Fair will feature nearly 40 exhibitors chosen for the specific procurement needs of general contractors, property management companies, resident associations, government agencies, and other private sector institutions.

BOSTON – November 18, 2013 – MassHousing will host its 6th Annual Western Massachusetts Minority and Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Trade Fair on Thursday, Nov. 21, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center at One Atwood Drive in Northampton.

The Trade Fair will feature nearly 40 exhibitors chosen for the specific procurement needs of general contractors, property management companies, resident associations, government agencies, and other private sector institutions.

The MassHousing M/WBE vendor program helps Minority and Women-Owned Businesses benefit from the economic opportunities created by MassHousing-financed rental housing. In fiscal year 2013, the 520 rental housing developments financed by MassHousing generated approximately \$198.7 million in contracts for goods, services and supplies. Of this amount, \$37.5 million (18.9%) went to MBEs and \$24.8 million (12.5%) went to WBEs.

As part of its effort to encourage equal opportunities for M/WBEs, MassHousing tracks the expenditures for property maintenance as well as goods and services within the apartment communities that the Agency has financed.

For more information about the Trade Fair, please visit masshousing.com or call 617-854-1825.

About MassHousing

MassHousing (The Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency) is an independent, quasi-public agency created in 1966 and charged with providing financing for affordable housing in Massachusetts. The Agency raises capital by selling bonds and lends the proceeds to low- and moderate-income homebuyers and homeowners, and to developers who build or preserve affordable and/or mixed-income rental housing. MassHousing does not use taxpayer dollars to sustain its operations, although it administers some publicly funded programs on behalf of the Commonwealth. Since its inception, MassHousing has provided more than \$16 billion for affordable housing. For more information, visit the MassHousing website at www.masshousing.com, follow us on Twitter [@MassHousing](https://twitter.com/MassHousing), subscribe to [our blog](#) and [Like us](#) on Facebook.