

## Memorandum

TO: Joint Committee on Redevelopment of Abandoned and Foreclosed Homes  
FROM: Benjamin Sanchez – Housing Programs Manager  
DATE: 4/21/2025 (for meeting scheduled 4/28/2025)

**Subject: STRONG Homes Loan Progress Report**

The STRONG Homes Loan Program offers partially forgivable loans to homeowners throughout the City of Milwaukee. This program has helped stabilize neighborhoods and allowed families to remain in their homes during emergencies and needed essential repairs. This program has now been operational for over 10 years - 725 loans have been originated with an investment of over \$11.5 million from 2015 – 2024.

- **STRONG Homes Loans**

- 21 loans approved/closed to date
  - An additional \$447,835 of city funds invested during 2025
  - 85 applications currently in process

- **Community Outreach Events:**

- In 2025, our dedicated staff has made incredible strides in fostering positive change across the community. With a strong commitment to outreach and engagement, we have successfully participated in 15 impactful events, promoting contractor employment opportunities, housing initiatives, healing spaces, and community improvement programs led by the Department of City Development.
  - These efforts have touched the lives of more than 500 constituents, strengthening connections and expanding opportunities.
  - A major milestone was reached on April 22nd with the launch of the very first NIDC Contractor Training, empowering contractors with valuable knowledge and resources.
  - Additionally, on April 24th, NIDC staff proudly took part in the City of Milwaukee Vendor Fair, encouraging new contractors to contribute to vital housing rehabilitation projects.
  - We are thrilled to have selected our 2025 Targeted Investment Neighborhood partners, ensuring homeowners receive the support they need for meaningful rehabilitation efforts.
  - As we move forward, our staff remains committed to engaging directly with the community, attending in-person outreach events throughout the city for the remainder of the year, continuing to build a stronger, more vibrant Milwaukee.