

# Kalamazoo Family Co-Housing

[www.kalamazoo.coop/family](http://www.kalamazoo.coop/family)

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We are a group of families and individuals planning to create an inter-generational, family-friendly cooperative community within Kalamazoo. We will work with Kalamazoo Collective Housing (KCH), a cooperative housing organization dedicated to providing affordable housing and encouraging positive change in Kalamazoo.

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In order to support each other and achieve our goals of self-sufficiency, health, safety, and conservation, our group has identified several **key priorities**:

## **The Homes:**

- *In town:* As a partner with KCH, which serves the urban community, the family co-housing group will be located within the neighborhoods surrounding downtown Kalamazoo.
- *Separate Houses:* The project will consist of between 4 and 10 unattached houses on the same block, court, or street.
- *Mix of ownership:* Some houses will be bought by members; others may be bought by KCH and rented to members.
- *Affordability:* No houses in the project should cost more than \$100,000 in order to remain accessible to a wide range of incomes.

## **Community Goals:**

- *Shared Property:* One property will be reserved as community space for the group. It could be purchased by KCH or by another member or group of members. All co-housing members will share the costs of this property.
  - *Outdoor Space:* There should be enough space for basic gardens and play areas for children to explore.
  - *Safety:* The community should be in a low traffic location, within a safe neighborhood. Courts, dead-end streets, or cul-de-sacs could be particularly suitable.
  - *Community Cooking and Meals*
  - *Shared Resources:* The group will share tools, equipment, skills, and other resources with each other.
  - *Accessible:* The community should be close enough to bus routes to make car ownership unnecessary.
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## **How can I get involved?**

We have identified four roles that you may fit into.

- **Buyer.** You'd like to join the group, and are planning to buy your own house. You are able to invest between \$50,000 and \$100,000 for the purchase of a house and any associated fees and renovation costs.
- **Renter.** You'd like to join the group, and are interested in renting space in a KCH owned Family Co-Housing property. Costs for renting will depend on the property, but will not exceed the average cost of a similar rental within Kalamazoo.
- **Investor.** You may already love where you live, but you'd like to support the project by committing to providing a loan or financial gift when the time comes. You are more than welcome to attend any of our organizing meetings, but they are not necessary.
- **Supporter.** You love the idea, and are willing to support the group by sharing your time, energy, or other non-monetary resources.

## **Staying Connected.**

The best way to stay up to stay informed is to visit our website regularly. If you'd like to be part of our email conversations and updates, sign up for our mailing list.