

Who We Are

Dovetail Partners is a nonprofit organization that fosters sustainability and responsible behaviors by collaborating to develop unique concepts, systems, models and programs. Dovetail excels at solving complex business problems and helping responsible firms succeed. We help regions define programs that increase job creation and the quality of resource-based industries. Dovetail Partners collaborates with communities to build successful working relationships and connect community resources.

We seek to

- Challenge concerned and motivated "thinkers"
- Affect positive change as quickly as possible
- Provide objective information in an accessible format that clarifies complex issues and increases people's understanding and capacity to make good decisions

Program Director

Alison Lindburg, Director of the Eco-Affordable Housing Program, has a BA in Architecture with a focus on sustainable design. Alison is a LEED AP. She has worked with economic development and housing interests in many communities and presented at educational events across the country. Raised in a rural community herself, she is deeply committed to addressing housing challenges and is dedicated to energy-efficient design and the use of responsible building materials.



For more information, please contact Alison Lindburg at 612-333-0430, or alison@dovetailinc.org.

Special Thanks to: Surdna Foundation, Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation, Otto Bremer Foundation, Blandin Foundation, and other program supporters.

DOVETAIL PARTNERS INC.

528 Hennepin Avenue, Suite 202
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612.333.0430
www.dovetailinc.org

DOVETAIL PARTNERS INC.

Uniting Communities To Construct Eco-Affordable Housing



DOVETAIL'S PROGRAM



Constructing even a single home can have a huge impact. Dovetail Partners offers green building assistance for rural communities with housing needs. However, it is not just about the house. Our program aims to stimulate local economic development and provide green building education and training through the process of building homes. The program also creates environmental awareness and facilitates the process of obtaining and constructing eco-affordable housing so that it may be replicated easily in future projects.

Program Requirements

1. A need for newly constructed affordable homes
2. An interest in long-term economic development
3. A base of entrepreneurial enterprises in the region
4. A local committee of decision-makers
5. High community interest and involvement



Dovetail's Eco-Affordable Housing Program

How the Program Works

Dovetail collaborates with communities which have expressed a need for affordable housing and an interest in green building. Dovetail's role in each project varies, depending on community needs and available resources. Possible services that Dovetail may provide include the following:

- Green building education for communities and businesses
- Green building training for contractors
- Fostering of local partnerships
- Project planning and facilitation
- Construction management assistance
- Guidance on green house design
- Identification of local materials and economic development opportunities
- Project marketing and home sale assistance



"It's inspiring to work on projects in rural communities that are dedicated to sustaining the environment and supporting their local businesses."

— Alison Lindburg, program director



Economic Development and Local Services

Some rural areas have housing needs as well as interests in economic development. Dovetail's focus is on the local community and connecting communities and their goods via the construction process. When we build an eco-affordable housing project, local materials and vendors take priority. Not only is this a good choice environmentally, but it also encourages future projects for the area to be done locally as well. This process can help uncover local options and resources that may not have been apparent before.



Affordability and Energy-Efficiency

Contrary to popular belief, green building can be affordable building. By utilizing local resources and efficiently planning the home design, construction costs can be managed. A properly-constructed energy-efficient home can also have significantly lower operating costs. Dovetail helps identify green design ideas and makes cost-effective recommendations. Our goal is for the home to be affordable for someone in the community to purchase, and for the home to remain affordable to operate.

Green Building

Dovetail is dedicated to tracking and understanding all of the trends and proven concepts related to green building, responsible materials, and sustainable design. We are knowledgeable about the leading green building programs and can help address your specific green building goals.

Funding

Dovetail receives program support that allows us to provide technical assistance, outreach and education about eco-affordable housing. Dovetail collaborates with communities to identify additional funding resources, including construction financing or loans.

STEP BY STEP PROCESS

Dovetail's Eco-Affordable Housing Program

1. PROJECT COMMITMENT
2. LOCAL COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT
3. PROJECT GOALS ADOPTION
4. LOCAL RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION
5. SITE SELECTION AND POSSESSION
6. HOUSE DESIGN
7. CONSTRUCTION BID ACQUISITION
8. CONTRACTOR SELECTION
9. PROJECT SCHEDULE AND BUDGET DEVELOPMENT
10. CONSTRUCTION BUDGET CONFIRMATION
11. CONSTRUCTION LOAN ACQUISITION
12. TRAINING AND EDUCATION SCHEDULE DEVELOPMENT
13. HOUSE LISTING
14. MASS MARKETING AND PROMOTION
15. START CONSTRUCTION
16. TRAINING AND EDUCATION
17. END CONSTRUCTION
18. TOURS AND MARKETING
19. HOUSE CLOSING
20. PROJECT REVIEW AND EVALUATION



To find out more visit
our website at:

www.dovetailinc.org

or call us at: 612.333.0430



"It keeps business in the area
and helps create jobs."

— Eric Hovland, Hovland Lumber,
Mora, MN



"This project has been a real
success for Aitkin."

— Aitkin County Commissioner Paul Bailey

"Our monthly heating bills are
now \$25-50 less."

— Patrick Schmalz, homeowner



"We knew we needed housing but
we wanted to bring in experts to
make sure it was energy efficient
and environmentally friendly."

— Sue Granger, Morris, MN



"This house shows how we can
generate jobs while making better
use of our local resources."

— Ross Wagner, Aitkin County
Economic Development

