

**Protect Our Community
From Our County's Financially Harmful
Full Code Enforcement Practices
That Shut Down Our Existing Safe Affordable Housing**

**[Amnesty Petition for Unpermitted Buildings in Mendocino
County change.org](#)**

**www.change.org/p/amnesty-petition-for-unpermitted-buildings-in-mendocino-county
go online to read Petition and sign**

– Urgent Community Support Needed –

Major federal budget cuts are still coming to affordable housing, Medicaid, Medicare, student aid, disability benefits and more.

We need to protect existing affordable housing now – and protect our low income elders and others – from the added burden of our County's bankrupting, stressful FULL code compliance practices.

Housing affects ALL our employers and city-county services.

Our hospitals & clinics cannot attract needed care providers: Cost & quality of care suffer. Our health depends on housing.

The big federal cuts will increase these strains on our local economy, our nonprofits, and city-county-state services.

Please sign Petition to Board of Supervisors – to change FULL code compliance policies that cause unnecessary harm to our community.

Collaborative public officials have recommended we gain 1,000 signatures of support, AND present a proposed community designed

**Amnesty Program aligned with State's pro-housing laws that address our key concerns. Please contact
Grassroots Institute Housing Work Group - Collaborative
Community Action Project, Current Coordinator:
geri.morisky@gmail.com**

**Answers to Frequently Asked Questions on Petition to BOS
for A New Community Designed Amnesty Program for Unpermitted Buildings**

"Affordable housing" is no longer possible. Contractors, Habitat for Humanity, HUD, and others – all point to **the current ever rising market driven costs of land, materials and labor, heavy regulatory load, and the costly, time-consuming code compliance permit process – all well-meaning county-state-federal regulations.**

Our community, city and county need to protect our existing affordable housing – even if it is "unpermitted." *Unless a dwelling is a genuine threat to neighbors or the environment, it can become non-priority to the County's code compliance policies.*

A well-designed community driven amnesty program can balance protection of our low income community with basic needed health-safety regulations.

Many low income elders and others in our community have lost needed survival income from a safe affordable rental – AND the low income renter becomes homeless – from the County's current code enforcement practices: "Red tagging" safe, functional living space, or gutting it to a "storage shed" Both now illegal as a living space.

Along with losing our valuable existing affordable housing, is the often severe financial and emotional harm to our elders and other low income families.

The constant stress of fines, penalties, liens, increased tax assessments, the potential loss of homes, possible bankruptcy: No elder or disabled or anyone should face this.

Lacking are compassion policies or financial help for disabled or low income citizens. Even when good citizens have cooperated, spent loaned money to comply, they are still faced with ongoing threats of more fines, penalties, taxes, liens on property.

Most actions were initiated by complaints from the most harmful members of our community -- with drug and alcohol abuse behaviors: Most often against kind elders with no funds to meet FULL costly code compliance.

We were told the County's code enforcement policies cannot budge -- unless the Board of Supervisors gives the Planning-Building Department a different mandate.

We need urgent community support this March-April. Please contact Grassroots Housing Work Group-CCAP current coordinator geri.morisky@gmail.com. Youth leadership and amnesty design is also needed: It's your housing future!