# Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits

#### Pete Brown State Historic Preservation Officer



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MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

State Historic Preservation Office

# **Program Basics**

• Fed. Credit = 20% of QREs

- State Credit = 25% of federal credit amount
- Combined credit = 25% of QREs
- Income Producing Buildings
- National Register Listing
- Rehab must be "substantial"
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation



# Qualified Rehab Costs

#### Hard Costs:

- Physical building repairs
- Architecturally compatible modifications
- Work within building footprint

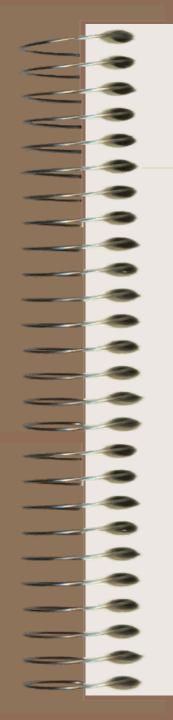
# Qualified Rehab Costs

#### Hard Costs:

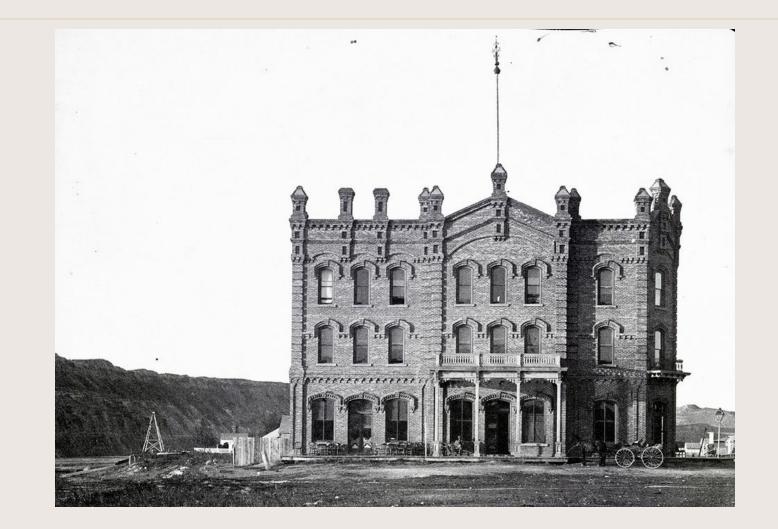
- Physical building repairs
- Architecturally compatible modifications
- Work within building footprint

Soft Costs:

- Planning & management costs
- Construction period interest
- Construction period real estate taxes



## Income Producing



# National Register Listing



• NR nomination identifies historic and architectural attributes that inform project planning & NPS review

## Substantial Rehab Test

- Cost of Building
- + Capital Improvements
- -- Depreciation
- -- Cost of Land

QREs must exceed this amount

(or \$5,000, whichever is greater)



# Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation



Rehabilitation – making historic buildings function to meet modern needs while retaining historic character.



# INVESTING IN MONTANA

#### MONTANA'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT

#### PRESERVE MONTANA

Investing in Montana: Montana's Historic Preservation Tax Credit



May 2024

Investing in historic buildings means investing in the economic growth and stability of cities and small towns across Montana, and the people who live and do business there.



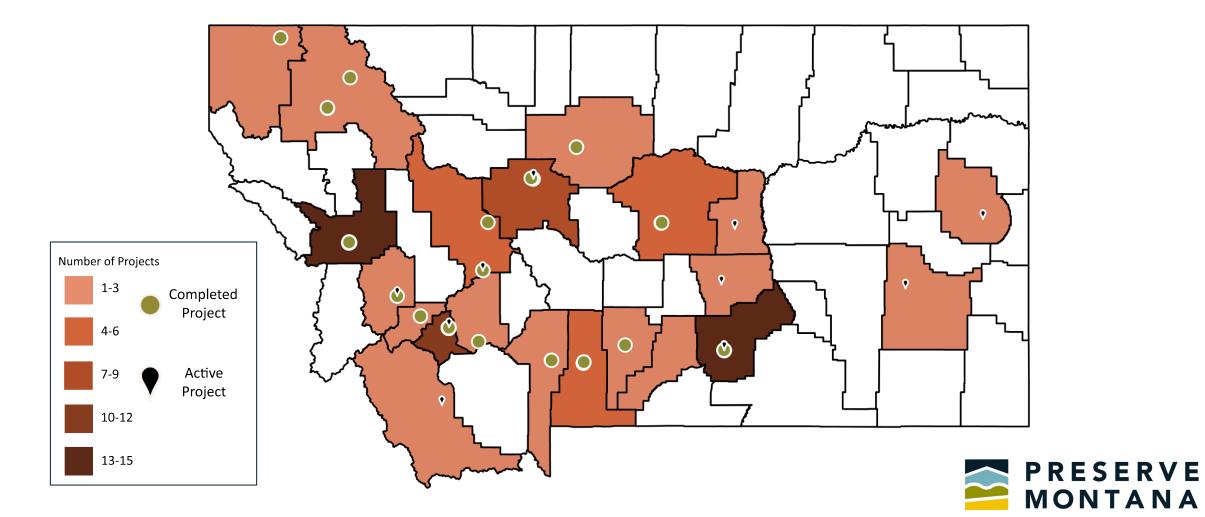


Arvon Block, Great Falls | Before and After Rehabilitation

Since the MHTC was established in 1997, an estimated \$7.2 million in state historic tax credits and \$28.7 million in federal historic tax credits have leveraged \$144 million in private investment for 69 projects in 18 Montana communities.



Location of completed and active historic tax credit projects, 1997-2024



#### **Stakeholder Feedback on Tax Credit Impact**

#### The Montana Historic Tax Credit:

- Makes historic rehabilitation projects financially feasible
- Creates local jobs and increases much-needed housing units
- Brings new life to dilapidated historic buildings that create vibrant, revitalized neighborhoods and downtowns and boost civic morale
- > Invests in and improves upon existing infrastructure
- Retains the unique cultural heritage of Montana's communities



Eureka Community Hall, Eureka | After Rehabilitation



#### **Comparison to Other State Tax Credits**

#### The Montana Historic Tax Credit:

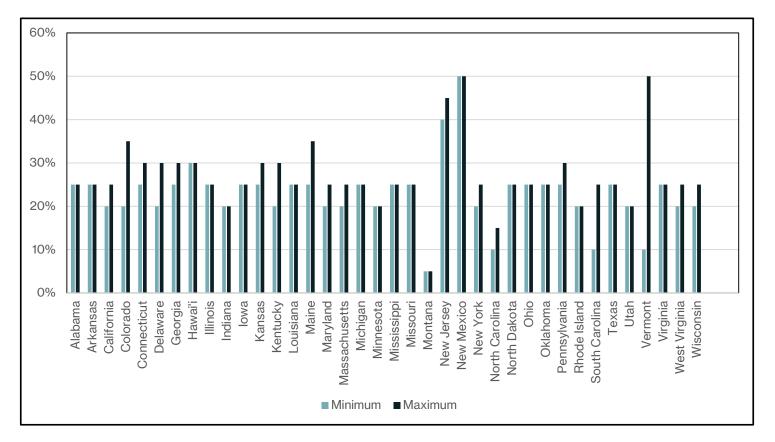
- > 4<sup>th</sup> oldest state historic tax credit program in the country
- Lowest tax credit rate
- No annual or per project cap on the dollar amount of credits
- No transferability
- Projects must be certified for the federal historic tax credit



*Fort Harrison Officer's Quarters, Helena* | *After Rehabilitation* 



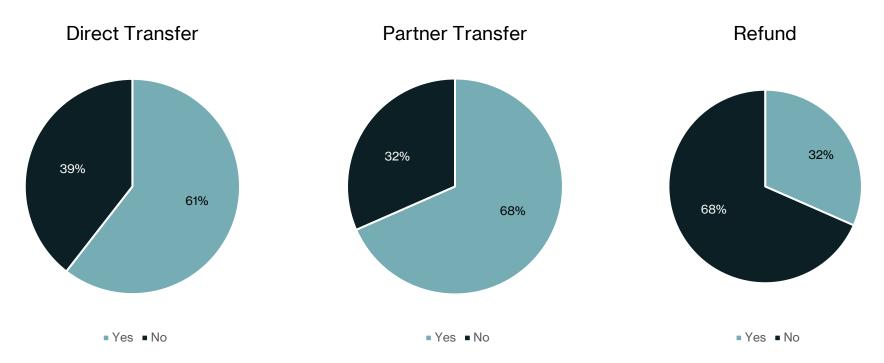
#### **Opportunity One: Increase Credit Percentage**



Comparison of state historic tax credit rates



#### **Opportunity Two: Allow Tax Credit Transferability**



Percentage of states with historic tax credits and tax credit transferability options



"[The MHTC] incentivized building renovations and made the projects feasible financially when otherwise they would not have been." - Ron Yates, Jr., financial expert and historic tax credit consultant



"The Historic Tax Credit provides new life to historic structures, makes our communities better places, brings in revenue, and adds to our identity, and should be encouraged by state and local governments"- Mac Smith, property owner/developer



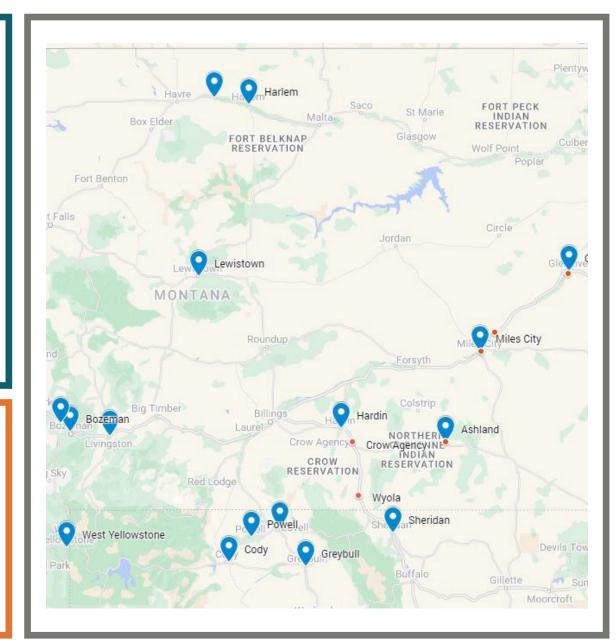
"Historic buildings have a sense of rooting a community, keeping alive the history of our predecessors. Historic reference doesn't stifle advancement, it gives it a base from which to grow. New and flashy just doesn't have the same depth and strength."- Anonymous, property developer and historic tax credit investor





- FQHC
- 24,000 patients
- 450 staff
- \$55 mm budget

Improve the wellbeing of everyone by providing accessible, quality healthcare for the whole community



#### **Crowley Building, Lewistown**

- Historic downtown building
- Create medical, BH, dental, pharmacy
- Housing upper two floors (Homeword)
- Opened doors in 8/22

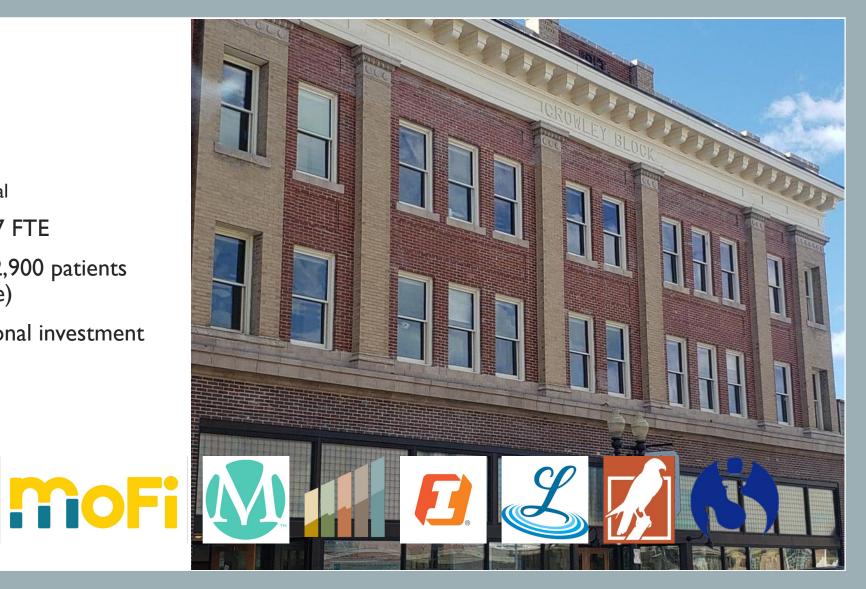


#### \$12.2 mm budget

• MT HTC ~3.5% total

SNOWY MOUNTAIN

- Job creation: 54.7 FTE
- 14,500 visits to 2,900 patients (50% low income)
- Catalyzed additional investment in downtown.



#### Milligan Building, Miles City

- 30,000 SF
- \$18.5 million
- MT HTC ~4%





THANK YOU.

Caring for our communities, one person at a time. 406.679.3535

david.mark@onechc.org

#### **Borden Hotel Redevelopment**





Before



After



Location: Whitehall, MT Project Cost: \$1.6 million State Historic Tax Credits: \$80,000 Federal Historic Tax Credits: \$320,000 Program: (9) apartments 7,000 SF commercial





5/9/2024

After

#### **Petroleum County Courthouse**





#### Existing



Planned

Location: Winnett, MT Project Cost: \$1.6 million State Historic Tax Credits: \$80,000 Federal Historic Tax Credits: \$320,000 Program: (4) added apartments (6) added offices



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5/9/2024

**Existing Second Floor** 

#### **Central School Lofts**



Existing



Existing

Location: Roundup, MT Project Cost: \$4.7 million State Historic Tax Credits: \$271,000 Federal Historic Tax Credits: \$1.1 million C-PACE: \$1 million Program: (21) apartments (4) commercial offices



5/9/2024

# Interim Revenue Committee



#### **Old Billings Hardware Lofts**







Planned

Location: Billings, MT Project Cost: \$7.9 million State Historic Tax Credits: \$395,000 Federal Historic Tax Credits: \$1.58 million Program: (25) apartments 20,000 SF commercial

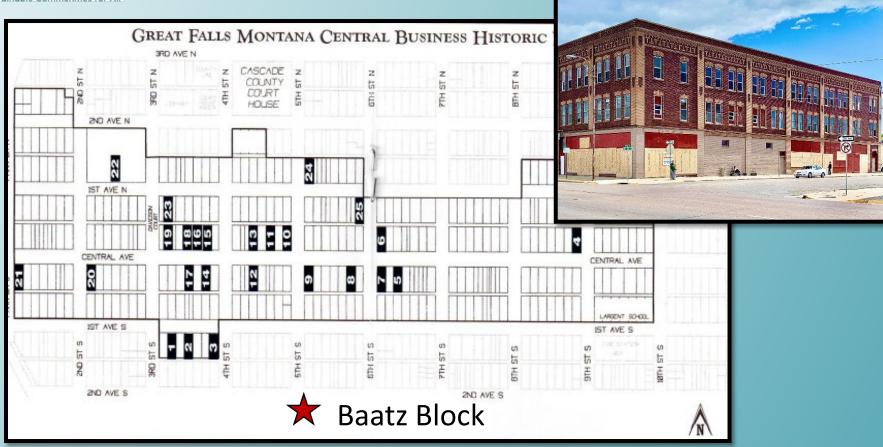


Planned





#### **Baatz Block Building**







#### **Baatz Block Apartments**

- 3 Story History building, built 1913
- Adaptive Re-Use, 25 Permanent Supportive Homes, Main Floor for Supportive Services



**GREAT FALLS** 



#### **Baatz Block Apartments**



## **Baatz Block Resident Services**



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Homeword Sustainable Communities for All









#### **Baatz Block Homes**









#### **Permanent Supportive Housing**

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is a proven solution to homelessness for the most vulnerable chronically homeless people. It pairs housing with case management and supportive services.

#### What Is Permanent Supportive Housing?

 Permanent supportive housing is an intervention that combines affordable housing assistance with voluntary support services to address the needs of chronically homeless people. The services are designed to build independent living and tenancy skills and connect people with community-based health care, treatment and employment services.



National Alliance to End Homelessness



#### Leveraged Funding

#### "Alphabet Soup"

- Federal Historic Tax Credits (FHTC)
- State Historic Tax Credits (SHTC)
- Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)



- Neighborhood Stabilization Program Proceeds (NSP)
- MDOC Housing Trust Funds (HTF), HOME Investment Partnerships Program
- Cascade County ARPA
- City of Great Falls HOME & HOME-ARP Funding
- City of Great Falls Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
- Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program (AHP)
- Montana Healthcare Foundation





#### Montana Investment



\$12,000,000 invested in Montana





# **Bluebunch Flats**

Livingston, MT

#### **37 New Rental Homes**





\$9,000,000 invested in Montana





#### Crowley Flats Lewistown, MT







16 New Rental Homes \$5,000,000 invested in Montana

# Thank You

Pete Brown, Montana State Historic Preservation Office, <u>pebrown@mt.gov</u> Jenny Buddenborg, Preserve Montana, <u>jenny@preservemontana.org</u> Randy Hafer, High Plains Architects, <u>rhafer@highplainsarchitects.com</u> David Mark, One Health, <u>david.mark@onechc.org</u> Heather McMilin, Homeword, <u>heather@homeword.org</u>