She is a certified nurse’s assistant at an assisted-care living facility, in one of Maine’s more affluent communities. She loves her job. She loves the people she helps. But what she could do without is the hour-long commute to and from work each day.

Diversity within Maine’s communities is key to their continued growth and vitality. When a segment of the population is forced to live elsewhere, the community ultimately suffers. Businesses can’t find the employees they need to expand, community-based volunteer services disappear, and the community that was once so desirable isn’t anymore.

In Maine, the ability of your community to provide safe, decent and affordable housing is critical to its success. If you’d like to see your community do more, call the Maine State Housing Authority for more information at 800-452-4668.