He is a firefighter in Maine. A genuine hero by most accounts. He loves his job. He loves the city that he protects. But like many other people in Maine, he can’t afford to buy a home in the same town in which he works. That’s a real problem across our state. And it’s getting worse.

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.