

From: Doug Mayer [<mailto:Doug.Mayer@gdi2100.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 02, 2013 12:10 PM
To: Ken Reecy
Cc: Bill Aldinger; Nancy Muller
Subject: Comments on Large Developmentally Disabled RFA

Ken -

We greatly appreciate the opportunity to offer the following comments regarding the Large Developmentally Disabled RFA. Over the last several weeks we have met with three different organizations that have a long history of serving persons with developmental disabilities in the greater Miami area: Goodwill Industries of South Florida, Easter Seals of South Florida and Spinal Cord Living Assistance Development, Inc. Their comments were that a single project that is required to have 80% of the units only available to persons with developmental disabilities is too restrictive. Further, they pointed out that wounded war veterans, adults with spinal cord injuries and others with disabilities would **not** be eligible under the strict State of Florida's Developmentally Disabled definition. The suggestion is to reduce the mandate from 80% to 50% plus one (so that a simple majority of units are restricted to persons with developmental disabilities) and that 30% of the units can serve other persons with other types of disabilities using a broader definition of disability. As someone with experience in developing homeless housing using FHFC's tax credit program - that program has had great success with a requirement that at least 50% of the units serve the homeless. We believe that a similar requirement for supportive housing for Developmentally Disabled would be advised for it encourages a more diverse resident population rather than a more institutional setting.

Finally, the due date of the developmental disabled and homeless RFA's are only four days before the 2nd Large County RFA is due - we respectfully request that the due date for these two applications be moved so that there is at least two weeks separating them. We suggest either the Large County RFA be due on November 19th or that the Developmentally Disability and Homeless RFA's be moved to November 19th.

Thank you! - Doug

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