



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Chairman*  
Sandy Incorvia

*First Vice Chairman*  
Loretta Ross

*Second Vice Chairman*  
Sally Poynter

*Immediate Past President*  
Rutland Bussey

*Directors*  
Brenda Battaglia  
Virginia Battaglia  
Major Sharon Carron

Leonard Coley  
Hal Gregory  
Jack Hebert  
Martin T. Lott  
Paul Misiewicz  
Robert Pitts  
Joseph L. Smith  
Shanetta Wright-Minter

**PRESIDENT/CEO**  
Gary MacMath

**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**  
Miriam Nordlinger



Boley Centers, Inc.  
is accredited  
by CARF.



October 7, 2013

Nancy Muller  
Florida Housing Finance Corporation  
227 N. Bronough Street, Suite 5000  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

RE: Permanent Supportive Housing for Homeless Persons and Families:

Dear Ms. Muller,

Boley Centers is very pleased and excited to see Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) provide financing for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness. We have reviewed the most recent draft of the Request for Applications (RFA) and offer these additional comments.

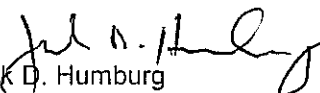
Using Articles of Incorporation as evidence of an agency's primary mission is not an effective measure of an agency's commitment to the population. Boley Centers and Pinellas Affordable Living, Inc. (PAL, Boley Centers' CHDO), are the combined largest providers of permanent housing for homeless households in Pinellas County – however our Articles of Incorporation do not specifically use the term "homeless". Of PAL, Inc.'s 72 units, 59 units are specifically set aside for homeless households. Boley Centers provides two Safe Havens for chronically homeless individuals (45 beds) and 111 units of permanent housing for homeless households. However, our articles of incorporation have never been changed to reflect this. Our mission since 1970 has been to serve and house people who have mental illnesses. Nationally and locally, over 36% of the homeless population suffers from mental illness.

I would like to encourage you to reconsider how an applicant shows their on-going commitment to serving the homeless population. The approval of the local Continuum of Care Lead Agency as documented through the verification form should be sufficient to achieve this standard. We encourage you to require participation in the local HMIS system as a part of this standard.

The second requirement we ask you to reconsider is the requirement that 80% of a existing complex be specifically set aside to serve homeless households. We believe a better measure would be that 100% of the units provide supportive housing services, ensuring the project indeed serves at risk households and that services are available for everyone.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments. We look forward to the final RFA and will be preparing our submission in the interim.

Sincerely,

  
Jack D. Humburg  
Director of Housing Development &  
Americans with Disabilities Act Services.

445 31st St. N. St. Petersburg, Florida 33713  
Telephone (727) 821-4819 • Fax (727) 822-6240  
www.boleycenters.org