



PALM BEACH COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

February 25, 2013

Mr. Kevin Tatreau
Florida Housing Finance Corporation
227 North Bronough Street, Suite 5000
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

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FLORIDA HOUSING
FINANCE CORPORATION

Dear Mr. Tatreau:

I am writing this letter to request that Palm Beach County be deemed eligible to apply for funding in the upcoming PHA Revitalization RFP. We applaud the Florida Housing Finance Corporation's (FHFC) efforts to support the development of affordable housing throughout the State of Florida. Over the years FHFC's programs have improved the quality of life for thousands of Florida's residents. We would like this trend to continue in Palm Beach County, without disruption.

In Palm Beach County the need to improve public housing is critical. Recently, the Palm Beach County Housing Authority (the Authority) has agreed to implement housing activities in the cities of Belle Glade and South Bay. These two communities represent a portion of the Authority's asset base that requires immediate rehabilitation and/or redevelopment. While we are a large county, we did not benefit from the 2011 Universal Cycle. Large counties received \$20,611,311 in Preservation Set - Asides for development. Additionally, small and medium size counties benefitted from a Preservation Set- Aside of \$9,827,631.

If FHFC's argument is to limit funding to small and medium size counties, in an effort to bring equity to the process, then Palm Beach County should not be excluded from applying for funding in the RFP process. During the 2011 Universal Cycle, small, medium and large size counties benefitted from \$30,438,942 in Preservation allocations. Palm Beach County received no Preservation funding from the 2011 Universal Cycle.

Perhaps the FHFC could modify its restrictive language by prohibiting the PHA Revitalization funding to large and medium size counties that received funding via the 2011 Universal Cycle.

Looking forward to working with you to find solutions to the housing needs of the most vulnerable Palm Beach County residents.

Sincerely,

Van Johnson, Executive, Director
Palm Beach Housing Authority

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