

Florida Supportive Housing Coalition

P.O. Box 11242 • Tallahassee, Florida 32302 • www.fshc.org

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Kyra Lynch

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Mark Engelhardt

Michael Blessing Phillip McCormick July 9, 2019

Bill Aldinger

Assistant Policy Director & Supportive Housing Coordinator Florida Housing Finance Corporation

227 North Bronough Street, Suite 5000

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Dear Mr. Aldinger:

I am writing on behalf of the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition board and its members. We wish to thank you and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation for the development and planned implementation of the Standards and Processes that Lower Barriers to Rental Housing Entry (Standards) for the next RFA cycle.

The requirements overall will promote transparency and establish clear criteria regarding the processes for affordable housing development. More importantly, however, they will have a tremendous impact for persons with special needs and those experiencing homelessness and on limited incomes.

Although all the standards are important, Florida Supportive Housing Coalition is most pleased to see requirements that decreases costs such as the limit to application fees and deposit fees, and especially the decrease of the eligibility income requirement of not more than 2 times the monthly rent. Clarification on developments adhering to HUD's criminal history guidelines, credit history guidelines, and evictions also will play a big role in helping persons with special needs or experiencing homelessness acquire affordable housing.

Thank you also for including members of Florida Supportive Housing Coalition in assisting in the development of the standards, the attention given to standards that will help Florida's most housing needy and vulnerable individuals and families, and getting developers and board support. It is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Koch

Executive Director, MSW, MED

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Florida Supportive Housing Coalition