

From: administrator@almhhi.org
To: [Zach Summerlin](#)
Cc: [Marisa Button](#)
Subject: HOME - ARP Allocation Plan Public Comments
Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 2:41:30 PM

Hello Mr. Summerlin,

Florida Housing Finance Corporation's encouragement of public comments regarding the HOME-ARP Allocation plan is greatly appreciated and I hope the process will result in maximum impact upon the affordable housing needs in Florida. Abundant Life Ministries-Hope House, Inc., is a non-profit organization in Flagler County that has been aggressively pursuing opportunities to address the lack of permanent supportive housing for youth aging out of foster care, adults with disabling conditions and extremely low-income for three years. Unfortunately, due to the current highly competitive RFA process, the existing barriers have made it extremely difficult to compete. The HOME-ARP funds, if appropriately allocated will create an opportunity for non-profits who are experienced with providing group care and supportive services the opportunity provide a comprehensive system of care with permanent supportive housing.

In addition, the allocation of funding for Nonprofit Capacity Building is an opportunity to address this issue that will result in local non-profits expanding their impact in the communities they are currently serving. In addition, HOME-ARP funds may be utilized to increase funding for Supportive Services; Supportive Services are key to maintain housing stability for youth aging out of foster care, adults with disabling conditions and extremely low-income individuals and families. However, a key factor in securing long-term affordable housing is protecting affordability. Therefore, it is our recommendation to place the following mandates upon all awardees of these funds:

1. Removal of barriers due to criminal history for non-violent offenders.
2. Removal of barrier due to credit score.
3. Requirement to file a restrictive covenant in the Official Records of the County in which the project is developed specifying:
 - a. For a period of 50 years no unit shall be rented except to very low, low, or moderate income persons
 - b. For a period of 50 years, no unit shall be leased above the rent limits established annually by the Florida Housing Corporation
 - c. The restrictive covenant shall run with the land and shall be enforceable the County in which the project is developed, future tenants, and purchasers of the property. No property owner may impose fees and surcharges to circumvent the rent limits established by the Florida Housing Corporation.
4. A maximum of \$7 million per project
5. A special RFA for Permanent Supportive Housing for the targeted populations identified in the Federal program.
6. To expedite the rule and issuance of the RFA as much as possible.

Mr. Summerlin, this is a unique opportunity to develop a plan that will truly make a long-term impact upon the affordable housing crisis in Florida. Again, it is our recommendation to allocate funds to:

1) Permanent Supportive Housing; 2) Supportive Services; 3) Non-Profit Capacity Building; a maximum of \$7 million per project; a special RFA for Permanent Supportive Housing targeting the populations identified within the Federal program; and to expedite the rule and issuance of the RFA as much as possible. Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comments relating to the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan.

Determined In Christ,
Sandra Shank CEO/Founder

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"Strong communities are made up of strong families; strong families are made up of healthy individuals."

"But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God." Acts 20:24

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