



Florida Nonprofit Housing Advocates Network

The Florida Housing Coalition launched the Florida Nonprofit Housing Advocates Network at the Coalition's Annual Conference in September. The Board of the Florida Housing Coalition had approved expanding its advocacy beyond support of the Sadowski Trust Funds, to support efforts that specifically and particularly advance the missions of Florida's nonprofit housing providers. Florida Housing Coalition president Jaimie Ross, explained at the initial meeting of the Florida Nonprofit Housing Advocates Network, that this group would be used to inform the Coalition Board of positions the nonprofit membership wants the Florida Housing Coalition to advance. The issues advanced by the Florida Housing Coalition are ultimately decided by the Florida Housing Coalition Board of Directors.



The Florida Housing Coalition Vision (adopted by the Board many years ago) is that "there will be at least one community based organization in every community in Florida." Mission based nonprofits are critical to producing housing for the most vulnerable populations, such as those in need of supportive housing, and for preservation of housing for the disabled and extremely low income populations, such as project-based properties and mobile home parks.

The goals of the Florida Nonprofit Housing Advocates Network are to provide:

- A forum to exchange information on what issues are currently or presently impacting the success of

Florida's nonprofit housing providers (these could be local, state, or federal);

- A forum for the nonprofit members of the Florida Housing Coalition to offer input on legislative, administrative, (state rulemaking) and policy issues that they want the Florida Housing Coalition to advocate; and
- A forum to better coordinate actions in support of appropriations of Sadowski trust fund monies for Florida's housing programs and repeal of the cap on the Sadowski trust funds.

Membership is free. To become a member :

1. You must be a current nonprofit member of the Florida Housing Coalition, and
2. Complete the online membership application at: www.flhousing.org/florida-nonprofit-housing-advocates-network.

The first teleconference of the Florida Nonprofit Housing Advocates Network was held on Thursday, January 13, 2011, by Webinar. Meetings are held by Webinar every other week on Thursday from 2-3 p.m.

If you can't make a meeting, but you have an idea, question, or concern related to the success of Florida's nonprofit housing providers, please email jaimieross@aol.com or call 850/212/0587. **HNN**