

Community-Based Planning Guide

A RESOURCE FOR THE DISABILITY COMMUNITY ON

How to Engage in Local Planning to Influence Funding Decisions

Surrounding Affordable, Accessible, Inclusive Housing

This Initiative is Sponsored by United States Department of Health and Human Services,
Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc





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Executive Summary

OVERVIEW

The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC) serves as an advocacy and planning body to influence the direction of programs and policies for individuals with developmental disabilities. The mission of the Council is "to advocate and promote meaningful participation in all aspects of life for Floridians with developmental disabilities". The Council is a nonprofit organization that receives its funding from the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Developmental Disabilities.

The Council supports efforts to help individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities gain access to affordable, accessible, inclusive housing. Securing funding to implement housing initiatives is the key component to achieving this goal, but stakeholders must know how to engage in the planning process that leads to accessing funds.

This Community-Based Planning Guide is part of an ongoing series of publications the Council will be distributing to provide further information on grant programs that impact housing for persons with developmental disabilities, as defined by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act). This guide is intended to provide stakeholders with information on potential housing resources and how to participate in funding decisions through the initial planning process.

This guide is organized into the following sections:

Community-Based Planning

This section provides a discussion on what community-based planning is and why it is important to the disability community. After reading this section stakeholders should be able to clearly understand how community-based planning is connected to local funding decisions, including those surrounding housing funds.

Federal Programs / Planning Processes

This section provides detailed information on the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) four federal programs and HUD's primary planning processes that impact funding decisions for these programs including Consolidated Planning and Fair Housing Planning. After reading this section stakeholders should have a clear understanding of how HUD funds can be used to impact the disability community and how funding decisions are determined through the planning process.



The Council supports efforts to help the disability community gain access to affordable, accessible, inclusive housing. Securing funding to implement housing initiatives is the key component to achieving this goal, but stakeholders must know how to engage in the planning process that leads to accessing funds.



This guide is organized into the following sections:

Community-Based Planning

Federal Programs/ Planning Processes

State Programs/ Planning Processes

Community Participation

Case Study

Recommendations

Inventory of Grantee
Contacts

• State Programs / Planning Processes

This section provides detailed information on the State Housing Initiative Partnerships (SHIP) Program funded through the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) and its primary planning documents including the Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP) and Annual Report. After reading this section stakeholders should have a clear understanding of how SHIP funds can be used for housing efforts that impact the disability community and how funding decisions are determined through the planning process. This section also provides a discussion on the Comprehensive Plan Housing Element as required of all local governments under Florida Statute.

Community Participation

This section provides information on the requirements of state and federal programs to include the community in funding decisions. After reading this section, stakeholders should clearly understand how to impact funding decisions by participating in the planning process. From this section, stakeholders should also understand where in the process it is most important to insert input on the needs of the disability community.

Case Study

This guide includes a case study to provide an example to stakeholders on how engaging in the planning process relevant to housing programs can result in successful outcomes that impact funding decisions.

• Recommendations

The most important segment of the guidebook is the recommendations section. This section provides detailed strategies and discussions on how to be involved in funding decisions through the planning process and provides stakeholders and individuals with the tools necessary to ensure the voice of the disability community is heard.

Inventory of Grantee Contacts

This section provides stakeholders with contact information for the state and federal grant programs.

BACKGROUND

As of 1994, Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act authorized the Secretary of Health and Human Services to waive certain requirements in Medicaid law in order for states to provide home and community-based services (HCBS) to meet the needs of individuals who choose to receive their long-term care services and supports in their home or community, rather than in institutional settings. In 2014, the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) published a final rule making several important changes to the 1915(c) HCBS waiver program. The changes were designed to improve the quality of services for individuals receiving HCBS. Overall, the HCBS waiver must provide ways to ensure people with disabilities are no longer segregated and institutionalized but integrated into the community.

Florida's scarcity of affordable, accessible, inclusive housing opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities significantly impedes adherence to the new HCBS rules. Partnerships between local governments and disability advocates can create an opportunity for change in how local housing funds are distributed and could significantly reduce impediments to housing choice for persons with disabilities.

To help disability advocates create influential relationships with local governments, the Council has developed this Community-Based Planning Guide, in partnership with the Florida Housing Coalition (FHC). Its intent is to examine community-based planning mechanisms that motivate the use of housing funds and recommend strategies for increased participation by the disability community in those processes.

RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY

Programs through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) were identified as key funding sources for Florida local governments to carry out housing initiatives. Programs identified include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME); Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG); Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA); and State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program. A comprehensive review of their community-based planning mandates was conducted and an inventory of existing long-range planning processes that address housing needs, market conditions, and housing strategies was produced. The inventory describes the planning platforms for: HUD Consolidated Planning; Fair Housing Planning, SHIP Planning; and State of Florida Comprehensive Planning.



The HUD definition of special needs includes individuals in the following categories: elderly; frail elderly; persons with severe mental illness: developmentally disabled; physically disabled; persons w/alcohol or other drug addictions; persons with HIV/ AIDS; and victims of domestic violence. When referring to an individual with special needs, the Council uses the definition of developmental disability found in the DD Act.

STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION SUMMARY

Consultation

To gather additional information on local planning policies that engage the intellectual and developmental disabilities community, an online Inclusive Planning Survey was distributed via email to HUD Entitlement and SHIP grantees throughout the State of Florida. The survey was designed to solicit input from grantees administering federal and state housing programs. The survey collected data including:

- Local mechanisms currently in place to engage persons with disabilities in Consolidated Plan / Fair Housing Plan / Local Housing Assistance Plan development process;
- Media outlets utilized to advertise planning mechanisms currently in place;
- Individuals/organizations involved with the intellectual and developmental disabilities community that have the greatest participation in Consolidated Plan / Fair Housing Plan / Local Housing Assistance Plan development process;
- Whether the local government has adopted its own policies requiring inclusion of persons with disabilities in its Consolidated Plan / Fair Housing Plan / Local Housing Assistance Plan development process or other community-based planning processes;
- Whether the local government has implemented policy / criteria prioritizing persons with disabilities when allocating federal or state funds;
- Percentage of the local government's total annual federal and state allocation that is dedicated towards activities serving persons with disabilities;
- Whether housing and community development staff are familiar with local organizations serving persons with disabilities; and
- Whether the local government's designated board or commission serving the needs of persons with disabilities participates in Consolidated Plan / Fair Housing Plan / Local Housing Assistance Plan development process.

Additionally, direct consultation was conducted via phone interviews with a selection of HUD Entitlement and SHIP grantees geographically dispersed throughout the state.

Survey Results

The results of the survey determined that community meetings and public hearings are the two primary methods local governments use to engage the disability community in their planning processes and that meetings and hearings are mainly advertised through the local newspaper. By far, of the organizations/individuals representing the disability community, social service providers have the greatest participation rate in local planning processes.

In addition, most local governments have not adopted their own policy to engage the disability community in its planning processes beyond what state or federal regulation requires. However, the majority of respondents reported that the local government has implemented policy or criteria prioritizing persons with disabilities when allocating state or federal funds.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the research conducted, the following recommendations are offered.

STRATEGY

1. Attend all public hearings scheduled during the planning phase.

Federal and state housing programs including CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, and SHIP require public hearings to solicit public input. Public hearings often provide a setting for advocates and stakeholders to communicate directly with elected officials or local government representatives, so not participating could be a missed opportunity. This venue may allow the disability community to raise awareness regarding the housing and service needs of persons with disabilities.

2. Attend all community meetings scheduled during the planning phase.

Many local governments facilitate community meetings in addition to public hearings to further encourage public input and to satisfy citizen participation and consultation requirements. Community meetings are much less formal and offer the public, advocates, stakeholders, providers, Realtors, lenders, developers and various other parties an open forum to discuss housing needs. Community meetings provide the opportunity for stakeholders to give input and suggestions on activities to be implemented and this venue is where strategic plans start to develop. Community meetings also tend to provide a more thorough explanation of the planning process as most local governments will provide a presentation on available grant funds, eligible activities, and the application process.

Affordable Housing Advisory Council (AHAC) meetings are open to the public and attendance at AHAC meetings can be vital to influencing housing strategies that will be included in the Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP).

3. Participate in online surveys the local government has developed to solicit input on housing needs.

Not all local governments publish online surveys, but if this is a technique implemented during the planning phase, participation is convenient and often confidential and typically yields the best results for soliciting input from advocates and stakeholders. Surveys can be critical in identifying priority needs and determining which to fund.

4. Provide the local government with statistical data related to disability needs during the planning phase.

During the development of strategic plans, the local government will rely on federal, state, and local data resources to determine need and make funding decisions. Compiling accurate data surrounding the intellectual and developmental disabilities community can be challenging. It is critical for the intellectual and developmental disabilities community to provide information to the local government to ensure accurate data is incorporated into planning documents and increase opportunities for priority needs to be addressed. This is an opportunity for advocates and providers to submit summaries of their monthly, quarterly, or annual reports, or additional supplemental information that may justify need. Make sure that an abundance of accurate data is available on organizational websites to ensure easy access for local governments collecting data.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5. Provide written comments on plans when published publically for review.

Federal and state planning processes incorporate opportunities for public comment on draft plans. Strategic plans can be cumbersome so it is not uncommon that the public does not review or comment on strategies presented in the plan. It is important that individuals, advocates, and providers of the disability community familiarize themselves with plans in order to make informed suggestions for additions or corrections to the document. Public comment periods are the prime opportunity for stakeholders to review proposed initiatives, proposed outcomes, and proposed budgets and to provide comments in writing to the local government that must considered prior to finalizing the plan.

6. Monitor program performance.

Performance reports are required for Consolidated Planning and SHIP local government grantees. The CAPER and SHIP Annual Report gives the public, stakeholders, and advocates the opportunity to hold the local government accountable in carrying out its programs. These reports measure performance and evaluate how funds are impacting the community and proposed housing initiatives. These reports also solidify whether or not the local government has achieved proposed accomplishments stated in its strategic plan. Reports may also provide the opportunity for the local government to describe barriers or challenges faced in meeting objectives, helping the public understand the environment in which activities are being carried out and bridge the gap between stakeholder expectations and local government capabilities.

7. Coordinate with local and regional advocacy organizations and service providers.

Policy change is difficult to achieve without agency coordination. It is important for local advocates and service providers working with the disabilities community to work together to ensure that accurate and consistent data is being provided to local governments responsible for community-based planning. Stakeholders should work collectively to create change. When organizations serving similar causes break down silos and come together, advocacy becomes more effective. One idea for better coordination is to convene quarterly meetings of all stakeholders or local workgroups and committees with a representative from each organization. Further, organizations should inquire about coordinating with the local government housing staff to implement quarterly or bi-annual meetings to discuss housing and service needs for persons with disabilities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

8. Participate in local or regional housing forums or summits.

Housing forums are becoming increasingly popular throughout Florida and provide excellent opportunities to learn about local housing needs, housing programs available in the community to address need, housing initiatives currently in place, and proposed housing initiatives for the future. These forums may also provide the opportunity to raise awareness regarding the critical importance of access to affordable, accessible, inclusive housing for the intellectual and developmental disabilities community. Depending on the format for the forum or summit, the local government may reach out to local organizations to participate in a panel or make a presentation at the event. Disability advocates and providers are encouraged to contact the local government to inquire about plans for future housing forums and offer to present if the program design allows.

9. Campaign for a position as a representative on boards or commissions.

Often the best way to create change is to insert a representative directly into the process. For the SHIP program, the AHAC comprises a minimum of 8 but not more than 11 committee members. The committee must include at least one representative from at least six of the eight designated categories, one of the categories being: "A citizen who is actively engaged as an advocate for low-income persons in connection with affordable housing." According to federal regulations, persons with disabilities are considered a limited clientele, low income population. This offers an opportunity for someone in the disabilities community to become a committee member, which places him or her in a position to directly affect decisions.

In addition, many local governments form special councils or boards related to affordable housing, or even special needs populations, creating an opportunity for a member of the disabilities community to be appointed to a position that could directly influence change.

10. Develop a framework for effective engagement with the disability community.

A bold step to influencing decisions surrounding the disabilities community is to have local governments implement community engagement strategies that work best for persons with disabilities. Distributing a guidebook to local governments that provides a framework for effective engagement with the disability community could ultimately result in a more inclusive and successful planning process. As revealed by our Inclusive Planning Survey, local governments tend to implement engagement strategies only as required by regulation. Providing a framework directly to local governments will educate elected officials and department staff that traditional methods of community participation may not work for every population. This framework could raise awareness surrounding the disability community and possibly encourage change in how local governments engage with special needs populations.

DATA RESOURCES USED IN THIS GUIDE

Fair Housing Planning Guide, Volume 1 – HUD developed the Fair Housing Planning Guide upon the request for information on fulfilling the fair housing requirements of the Consolidated Plan and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Regulations. The Guide provides information on how to conduct an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI), undertake activities to correct the identified impediments, and the types of documentary records to be maintained.

Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) Website – FHFC website at www.floridahousing.org.

Florida Statutes Chapter 420 Part VII - State of Florida Statues defining a code of regulations for the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program including definitions, SHIP, local housing distributions, Local Housing Assistance Plans, adoption of affordable housing incentive strategies, and local government housing trust funds.

Previous Research – This study is supported by, and in some cases builds upon, Florida Housing Coalition (FHC) staff experience in conducting significant local research related to Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, Analyses of Impediments, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports, and Local Housing Assistance Plans.

State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program Procedures Manual – The 2015 SHIP procedures manual for administering funds includes fifteen sections of guidance on: program staff; affordable housing catalyst program; Local Housing Assistance Plans; program administration; annual reports; allocation of funds; compliance and monitoring; income/rent/purchase limits; disaster recovery; complaints and inquiries; FAQ's; acronyms; and general information.

- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development** HUD Exchange The HUD Exchange website at https://www.hudexchange.info/provides resources and assistance to support HUD's community partners.
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Website The HUD home website at https://www.hud.gov/.
- **24 CFR Part 91** Code of Federal Regulations governing HUD's Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report.
- **24 CFR Part 91.105** Code of Federal Regulations governing HUD's Citizen Participation Plan requirements, which sets forth its policies and procedures for citizen participation in Consolidated Planning and Fair Housing Planning.
- 24 CFR Part 92 Code of Federal Regulations governing the HOME Investment Partnership Program administered by HUD.
- 24 CFR Part 570 Code of Federal Regulations governing the Community Development Block Grant Program administered by HUD.
- **24 CFR Part 574** Code of Federal Regulations governing the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program administered by HUD.
- 24 CFR Part 576 Code of Federal Regulations governing the Emergency Solutions Grant administered by HUD.

DEFINITIONS

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)	The federal Fair Housing Act requires federal agencies and federal grantees, including recipients of HUD Community Planning & Development (CPD) funds, to affirmatively further fair housing. According to HUD's AFFH rule, this means "taking meaningful actions, in addition to combating discrimination, that overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities free from barriers that restrict access to opportunity based on protected characteristics."
Affordable Housing	Generally speaking, housing is considered affordable if it costs no more than 30% of a household's gross income. Costs such as utilities, mortgage insurance, and homeowners or condominium association fees are included when determining if housing costs are affordable. The term "affordable housing" is also commonly used to refer to housing that receives public subsidy to reduce the cost for low- and moderate-income households, whether the housing itself is publicly or privately owned.
Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI)	A document that analyzes impediments to fair housing choice in a community and proposes goals to address these impediments, in accordance with input from community residents and stakeholders. Recipients of HUD Community Planning & Development (CPD) funds have been required to prepare Als since the 1990s.
Continuum of Care	Is a Program through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness.
Extremely Low- Income (ELI)	In this report and in most housing programs, an extremely low-income household is one whose income is at or below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI) for households of the same size.
Fair Housing Act	The federal Fair Housing Act prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, or disability ("protected classes"). The Fair Housing Act prohibits activities such as refusing to rent or sell housing on the basis of a protected class, as well as steering renters and homebuyers to certain neighborhoods or offering them higher prices or less favorable terms than other clients.
Home and Community- Based Services	The term "home and community-based services" refers to assistance with daily activities that generally helps older adults and people with disabilities to remain in their homes.

DEFINITIONS

Inclusive Housing	For the purpose of this report, Inclusive Housing means supporting the housing choice of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities as valued citizens in their communities and ensuring people with disabilities are no longer segregated and institutionalized but integrated into the community.
Limited English Proficiency (LEP)	A person's ability to speak English, as reported to the U.S. Census Bureau, is less than "very well."
Low- and Moderate- Income (LMI)	In the context of Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data, LMI refers to a mortgage applicant whose household income is <50% of Area Median Income (AMI) (low-income) or between 50% and <80% AMI (moderate-income). Note that the definitions of "low- and moderate-income" for LMI mortgage applicants are different from the definitions used in other contexts in this report.
Low-Income (LI)	In this report and in most federal and Florida housing programs, a low-income household is one whose income is at or below 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) for households of the same size.
Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)	A Core-Based Statistical Area (CBSA) associated with at least one urbanized area that has a population of at least 50,000. The Metropolitan Statistical Area comprises the central county or counties containing the core, plus adjacent outlying counties having a high degree of social and economic integration with the central county or counties as measured through commuting.
Moderate- Income	In this report and in most Florida housing programs, a low-income household is one whose income is greater than 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) but no higher than 120% AMI for households of the same size.
Participating Jurisdiction	The term given to any State or local government that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has designated to administer a HOME Program.
Special Needs	For the purpose of this document "special needs", "special needs population", or "persons with special needs" is defined utilizing the HUD definition which includes individuals in the following categories: elderly; frailelderly; persons with severe mental illness; developmentally disabled; physically disabled; persons w/alcohol or other drug addictions; persons with HIV/AIDS; and victims of domestic violence.
Very Low- Income (VLI)	In this report and in most federal and Florida housing programs, a very low-income household is one whose income is at or below 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI) for households of the same size.

ACRONYMS

AFFH	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing
AHAC	Affordable Housing Advisory Committee
Al	Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice
AMI	Area Median Income
CAPER	Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report
CDBG	Community Development Block Grant
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CHDO	Community Housing Development Organization
CMS	Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services
СоС	Continuum of Care
СРР	Citizen Participation Plan
DCF	Department of Children and Families
ELI	Extremely Low-Income
ESG	Emergency Solutions Grant
FDDC	Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
FHA	Fair Housing Act
FHC	Florida Housing Coalition
FHFC	Florida Housing Finance Corporation

FHP	Fair Housing Planning
HCBS	Home and Community-Based Services
HCD	Housing and Community Development Act
HEARTH	Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act
HMIS	Homeless Management and Information System
HOME	HOME Investment Partnerships Program
HOPWA	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
IDA	Individual Development Account
IDIS	Integrated Disbursement and Information System
LEP	Limited English Proficiency
LHAP	Local Housing Assistance Plan
LI	Low-Income
LMI	Low- and Moderate-Income
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
РНА	Public Housing Authority
SHIP	State Housing Initiatives Partnership
VLI	Very Low-Income



Community-Based Planning

Community-based planning is the primary method for prioritizing and allocating housing funds at the local level and is important for influencing how federal and state housing dollars are spent. The goal of community-based planning is to be inclusive and support fair housing.

How Does Public Participation Influence Planning Efforts?

Local governments often rely on research and analysis from federal and state resources to provide a basis for determining community need. However, residents living and working in the community can often provide a more accurate picture of the community's social and economic environment and offer critical information that can supplement analytical data. Each community-based planning process typically incorporates engagement opportunities for the public. Though research and data analysis form the framework for identifying priority needs, public input is highly considered and can ultimately influence final funding decisions.

Why is the Planning Process Important to the Disability Community?

Community-based planning provides an opportunity for disability stakeholders to actively participate in local efforts to increase affordable, accessible, inclusive housing. Through the planning process, persons close to the cause can raise awareness, have their voices heard, inquire about current local spending, and provide suggestions for future projects that may result in disability needs being met. Engaging to the fullest extent could increase housing opportunities for those who have disabilities and help overcome barriers to complying with the HCBS waiver rule.

How Does the Planning Process Influence Funds and Determine Beneficiaries?

Community-based planning is directly related to the allocation of federal and state housing funds. Funding and beneficiary decisions are based upon research and analyses, needs assessments, market analyses, and public participation elements of the planning process. Information gathered through these mechanisms allows the local government to select high priority needs for which funds will be dedicated. Ultimately, the selection of projects determines who will the beneficiaries will be. Federal and state regulations also influence how programmatic funds can be spent and set rules governing who the funding must benefit (e.g., low-income persons, special needs populations, elderly, youth).

How Does Planning Correspond with the HCBS Rule?

The amended Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) rule is designed to improve the quality of services for individuals receiving HCBS waivers. The HCBS waiver must provide ways to ensure people with disabilities are no longer segregated and institutionalized but integrated into the community. This means that the setting:

- Is integrated in, and supports full access to, the greater community;
- Is selected by the individual from among setting options;
- Ensures individual rights of privacy, dignity and respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint;
- Optimizes autonomy and independence in making life choices; and
- Facilitates choice regarding services and who provides them.

Lack of access to affordable housing is a major barrier to individuals with disabilities integrating into the community and fostering independence. Further, housing options that meet the HCBS criteria are severely limited. This is where community-based planning plays a vital role. Housing initiatives result from planning efforts; this may mean development of rental housing or the provision of rental assistance, reducing barriers, supporting housing choice for persons with disabilities, and ultimately assisting with compliance with the HCBS rule.

Planning Efforts Can Influence:



Rental Assistance

Provision of Services



Community-based planning is the primary method for prioritizing and allocating housing funds at the local level and is important for influencing how federal and state housing dollars are spent. The goal of community-based planning is to be inclusive and support fair housing.



Federal Programs / Planning Processes

Although federal initiatives that have an influence on housing and community development exist, those programs are not widely understood and are often complicated to navigate. This summary provides stakeholders the tools, detailed information, and specific points of entry into federal housing and community development programs and their related planning processes. In order to explore these platforms, we must first recognize the programs that trigger planning requirements. A brief description of these programs is provided below.

PROGRAMS

There are four major federal programs that directly impact housing funds. These grant programs are administered through HUD and include: Community Development Block Grant Program; HOME Investment Partnerships Program; Emergency Solutions Grant Program; and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

Governed by the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Act of 1974, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is a federal program administered through HUD that provides funding for community revitalization efforts. The CDBG program is intended to be a flexible source of funds to address a wide range of community needs. Overarching goals of the CDBG program are meant to ensure the provision of decent affordable housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunity. Additionally, activities carried out under CDBG must meet one of the existing national objectives, which are: 1) benefit low-income and moderate-income persons; 2) prevent or eliminate slums and blight; and 3) address community development needs considered urgent. Not less than 70 percent of CDBG funds must be used for activities that benefit low-income and moderate-income persons.

Eligible grantees include cities of Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs); other metropolitan cities with populations of at least 50,000; and qualified urban counties with populations of at least 200,000. The State of Florida, Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), is also an eligible grantee and administers the program for smaller rural communities that do not meet eligibility qualifications to directly receive funding from HUD.

Eligible activities related to housing initiatives include housing rehabilitation and homeownership assistance. Rehabilitation activities include energy efficiency improvements, accessibility modifications, and demolition and reconstruction of a home on the same property. Home purchase assistance programs are limited to low-income and moderate-income homebuyers in most cases, and may include assistance with down payments and closing costs, principal write-downs, interest rate subsidies, loan guarantees, and subsidies for homebuyers' Individual Development Accounts (IDAs). CDBG funds may also be provided to affordable housing developers to subsidize the cost of property acquisition and rehabilitation for sale to eligible families. New construction of housing is allowed only in limited circumstances.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

The HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), also administered through HUD, is the largest federal block grant dedicated to exclusively creating or preserving affordable housing for low-income households. Grantees often use HOME funds in partnership with local nonprofits to fund a wider range of housing activities. Activities funded must assist low-income and/or very low-income households.

HOME funds are provided directly to local government Participating Jurisdictions (P|s) on a formula basis, and P|s award the funds to developers, homeowners, homebuyers, and renters according to a locally determined process. The State of Florida also receives a HOME allocation, and awards funds to local governments, housing developers, nonprofits, and Public Housing Authorities through competitive solicitations. Fifteen percent of HOME funds awarded to State governments and local Pls are reserved for projects by Community Housing Development Corporations (CH-DOs). CHDOs are community-based nonprofit housing providers that meet certain HUD criteria for geographic and programmatic focus and board structure.

In support of housing initiatives, HOME funds can be used for property acquisition, new construction, and rehabilitation of housing to be owner-occupied. Funds may be provided to housing developers to subsidize construction or acquisition/rehabilitation, allowing the homes to be sold at a lower price. Rehabilitation assistance can also be provided directly to eligible homeowners. HOME may also be used to provide down payment and closing cost assistance to homebuyers, as well as gap financing to reduce monthly mortgage payments. Assistance is provided in the form of grants, low-interest loans, deferred-payment loans, loan guarantees, and interest buydowns.



There are four major federal programs that directly impact housing funds. These grant programs are administered through HUD and include: Community **Development Block Grant Program**; **HOME Investment** Partnerships Program; **Emergency Solutions Grant Program**; and Housing **Opportunities for** Persons with AIDS.

EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAM

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program, administered by HUD, is a federal grant resource intended to support activities serving persons experiencing homelessness or those at risk of homelessness. The objectives of the ESG program are: 1) engage homeless individuals and families living on the street; 2) improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families; 3) help operate shelters; 4) provide essential services to shelters; 5) rapidly rehouse homeless individuals and families; and 6) prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless.

Eligible grantees generally consist of metropolitan cities, urban counties, and territories that may subgrant ESG funds to private nonprofit organizations. The State of Florida, Department of Children and Families (DCF), is also an eligible grantee and subgrants its ESG funds to local homeless Continuums of Care. All ESG grantees must consult with the Continuum of Care operating within the jurisdiction in determining how to allocate ESG funds.

Funds can be used to provide a range of housing supports and services under five program components including: Street Outreach; Emergency Shelter; Rapid Re-Housing; Homelessness Prevention; and Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) management. In relation to housing specifically, ESG can assist with rent assistance and permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities.

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program is administered through HUD and serves the housing and supportive service needs of low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. Grant funds are allocated to local communities, states, and nonprofit organizations to carry out projects specifically dedicated to low-income persons who are medically diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and their families.

HOPWA provides funding through a formula program as well as a competitive program that funds different types of projects. The annual HOPWA appropriation is divided between the two programs – 90 percent for formula program grants and 10 percent for competitive program grants. Formula grant eligible grantees include metropolitan statistical areas with more than 500,000 people and at least 2,000 HIV/AIDS cases, and states with more than 2,000 HIV/AIDS cases outside of eligible metropolitan statistical areas. Competitive program eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, local governments, and states.

In support of housing initiatives to ensure stability HOPWA funds can be used for acquisition; housing rehabilitation; new construction of housing units; costs for facility operations; rental assistance; and short-term payments to prevent homelessness.



Community
Development
Block Grant

Provides funding for community revitalization efforts.



Home Investments Partnership Program

Provides funding for creating or preserving affordable housing for low-income households



Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Supports activities serving persons experiencing homelessness or those at risk of homelessness.



Opportunities for Persons with AIDS

Serves the housing and supportive service needs of low-income persons living with HIV/ AIDS and their families

CONSOLIDATED PLANNING

To remain in compliance with federal regulations and continue to receive funding through the four federal programs described above, grantees must justify need and measure performance through a comprehensive planning process known as "Consolidated Planning". Not to be confused with the Consolidated Plan, "Consolidated Planning" is the term used when referring to planning documents required to be completed by HUD grantees. The umbrella of "Consolidated Planning" encompasses the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report.

Designated as the federal agency overseeing grant programs, HUD is responsible for the distribution of funds to grantees and monitoring for compliance with federal regulations surrounding Consolidated Planning. In cases of non-compliance, HUD has the authority to suspend or delay funding allocations until findings have been addressed. HUD headquarters is in Washington D.C. but there are two field offices in Florida, in Jacksonville and Miami. Grantees are assigned a HUD representative responsible for providing guidance and technical assistance.

CONSOLIDATED PLAN

A requirement of recipients receiving funds through HUD programs is the submittal of a Consolidated Plan. The purpose of the Consolidated Plan is to identify and assess local housing and community development needs and to develop viable strategies for addressing those needs. The Consolidated Plan directs how federal funds under the CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA programs will be allocated towards eligible activities.

The Consolidated Plan is directly connected to other HUD housing and community development plans including the Annual Action Plan, CAPER, Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, and the Public Housing Authority (PHA) Plan. Each plan is influenced by the Consolidated Plan in some capacity and each is required to be consistent with the overarching Consolidated Plan. In addition, consultation is required with various housing organizations including the local homeless Continuum of Care (CoC), which is required to submit a Continuum of Care Plan to HUD.

CONSOLIDATED PLAN: Key Components

Needs Assessment

The Needs Assessment provides a clear picture of a jurisdiction's needs related to affordable housing, special needs housing, community development, and homelessness. It examines the entire housing continuum including public housing, housing for persons experiencing homelessness, and housing for special needs populations, including persons with disabilities. The Needs Assessment consid-



The Consolidated Plan directs how federal funds under the CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA programs will be allocated towards eligible activities.

ers income level, tenure (i.e., ownership versus rental), household type, cost burden (i.e., the percentage of household income spent for housing costs), housing problems, and substandard housing conditions. This component also identifies if there is a disproportionate housing need for different racial/ethnic groups or income levels. In addition to a review of housing needs, the Needs Assessment also considers the jurisdiction's priority non-housing community development needs, including the need for public facilities, public improvements, and public services.

Market Analysis

The Market Analysis evaluates overall demand for various types and sizes of housing and provides information on the capacity of residential land to inform the municipality's planning processes, such as district planning or other affordable housing issues. The Market Analysis examines the environment in which a community will administer grant programs over the course of the Consolidated Plan. This component assesses the supply, demand, condition, and cost of housing; housing stock available for persons with disabilities or special needs; condition and needs of public and assisted housing; inventory of facilities, housing, and services for persons experiencing homelessness; barriers to affordable housing; and characteristics of the local economy.

Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan conveys the jurisdiction's vision for its housing and community development programs. Public input, the Needs Assessment, and the Market Analysis provide the basis for the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan identifies the priority needs of the jurisdiction and strategies for serving those needs. The Strategic Plan primarily details: how funds will be allocated geographically; the priority needs to be addressed; how the local market has influenced funding decisions; resources expected to be available; the organizations that will carry out activities; objectives the grantee intends to initiate; proposed beneficiaries; and measurable outcomes.

First-Year Annual Action Plan

The Action Plan summarizes the activities and programs the jurisdiction will carry out during the initial year of the Consolidated Plan period to address the priority needs and goals identified by the Strategic Plan. The First-Year Action Plan is included in the development of the Consolidated Plan; subsequent Annual Action Plans are developed as stand-alone documents. Elements of the Action Plan are further defined below.

CONSOLIDATED PLAN	
Who Must Submit	 Local governments and states receiving federal funds through HUD programs, including CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA.
Guidance / Regulations	Code of Federal Regulations: 24 CFR Part 91.
Resources Controlled	 HUD federal funds influencing housing and community development initiatives.
Submission Requirements	 Every 3-5 years (depending on grantee's choice approved by HUD). 45 days prior to the start of the grantee's program year.

ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

The Annual Action Plan, required of HUD grantees, summarizes actions, activities, and specific resources that will be implemented or utilized during a oneyear period under the CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA programs. The Action Plan serves as an annual application for funding following the submittal of the Consolidated Plan. The purpose of the Action Plan is to identify how the grantee will continue to carry out programs to support housing and community development priority needs identified in the Strategic Plan. The Action Plan directs how federal funds under the CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA programs will be allocated towards eligible activities on a one-year basis.

ANNUAL ACTION PLAN: Key Components Expected Resources

The Expected Resources element provides the opportunity for the grantee to illustrate what federal and non-federal resources are available to carry out activities during the program year. Local, state, and federal funds should be identified including CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, CoC, SHIP, housing trust funds, and general funds or capital improvement funds.

Annual Goals and Objectives

This element summarizes the specific goals the grantee intends to initiate and/ or complete within the term of the program year. Each goal must use one or more of the HUD established outcomes to describe in quantitative terms what the grantee hopes to achieve. Goals and objectives identified are meant to be explicit about what the grantee intends to do with funds in the context of Strategic Plan priority needs being addressed, geographic area to be served, funding amount, and proposed outcomes.

Projects

This element details each project to be carried out during the program year. The projects list allows HUD to determine if a project is eligible under HUD regulations and verifies funds are being used towards eligible activities. The grantee must use one or more of the HUD established outcomes to describe planned accomplishments and beneficiaries, as well as indicate a target date project completion.

Geographic Distribution

When determining priority needs in the Consolidated Plan, specific geographical locations may have been identified as being areas of great need. Where target areas were identified, the Action Plan must describe the geographic areas in which it will direct assistance during the ensuing program year and provide rationale for its priorities in allocating investment geographically.



The Action Plan serves as an annual application for funding following the submittal of the Consolidated Plan.

Affordable Housing

The Action Plan must specify goals for the number of homeless, non-homeless, and special needs households to be provided affordable housing within the program year through its planned activities. The plan must also indicate the number of affordable housing units that will be provided by program type, including rental assistance, construction of new units, rehabilitation of existing units, or acquisition of existing units.

Public Housing

This element identifies the manner in which the grantee will address the needs of public housing during the program year. If the public housing agency is designated as "troubled" by HUD or otherwise is performing poorly, the jurisdiction must describe the manner in which it will provide financial or other assistance to improve the operations of the public housing agency to remove such a designation.

Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities

The Action Plan is required to describe the grantee's one-year goals and specify the activities it will undertake to serve the housing and supportive service needs of the homeless and non-homeless special needs populations who require supportive housing.

Barriers to Affordable Housing

This element provides the grantee an opportunity to describe planned actions to remove or reduce the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing, such as land use controls, tax policies, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment.

Other Actions

The Other Actions element of the Action Plan allows the grantees to identify strategies to address additional items during the program year, such as lead-based paint hazards, reducing the number of families in poverty, improving the institutional structure for service delivery, and enhancing coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

ANNUAL ACTION PLAN	
Who Must Submit	 Local governments and states receiving federal funds through HUD programs including CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA.
Guidance / Regulations	Code of Federal Regulations: 24 CFR Part 91.
Resources Controlled	 HUD federal funds influencing housing and community development initiatives.
Submission Requirements	Annually45 days prior to the start of the grantee's program year.

CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT

The Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is required by HUD grantees to measure program performance. The CAPER must include a description of the resources made available, the investment of available resources, the geographic distribution and location of investments, the families and persons assisted (including the racial and ethnic distribution of persons assisted), actions taken to affirmatively further fair housing, and other actions included in the Strategic Plan and the Action Plan. The CAPER is a means of demonstrating compliance with federal regulations and reflects progress in meeting the goals and objectives stated in the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan.

CAPER: Key Components Goals and Outcomes

This element summarizes the jurisdiction's performance in meeting its housing and community development goals identified in the Action Plan. This section of the plan also allows the grantee to state major initiatives accomplished during the program year, resources expended on implementing those initiatives, and the specific Consolidated Plan strategic objective addressed through initiatives.

Racial and Ethnic Composition

The grantee is responsible for tracking demographics for program activities, where applicable, and this component provides information on families assisted through HUD's federal grant programs during the year and the racial and ethnic status of families assisted.

Resources and Investments

Proposed resources are identified in the Consolidated Plan and Action Plan, and in this element the grantee ensures consistency and reports on actual local, state, and federal funds that were available during the program year to carry out objectives of the Strategic Plan. This component clarifies funding sources utilized; total amount of funds expected to be available versus the total amount of funds actually available; the total amount of funds expended during the reporting period; and the geographic distribution and location of expenditures.

Affordable Housing

The Consolidated Plan identifies affordable housing needs, while the Strategic Plan and Action Plan provides proposed solutions for addressing those needs. The Affordable Housing element evaluates the grantee's progress in meeting affordable housing needs, including the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income renter and owner households assisted during the reporting period, as well as the number of households assisted meeting HUD's Section 215 definition of affordable housing for rental and homeownership.



Grantees report on accomplishments and progress toward Consolidated Plan goals in the **Consolidated Annual** Performance and **Evaluation Report** (CAPER).

Homeless and Special Needs

To assess consistency with homelessness strategies identified in the Strategic Plan, this element identifies actions taken to address the needs of persons experiencing homelessness, as well as the special needs of persons that are not homeless but require supportive housing, including persons with HIV/AIDS and their families. The grantee is provided the opportunity here to summarize actions taken during the program year to develop and implement a strategy related to homelessness, i.e. actions taken to prevent homelessness, to address the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless individuals and families (including significant subpopulations such as those living on the streets), and to help homeless persons make the transition to permanent housing.

Public Housing

The Public Housing element reports actions taken to address the needs of public housing as identified in the Action Plan; actions taken to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership; and actions taken to provide assistance to troubled PHAs.

Other Actions

This component allows grantees to describe additional actions taken during the program year to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs; foster and maintain affordable housing; eliminate barriers to affordable housing; overcome gaps in institutional structures and enhance coordination; improve public housing and resident initiatives; evaluate and reduce lead based paint hazards; ensure compliance with program and comprehensive planning requirements; and reduce the number of persons living below the poverty level.

Monitoring

Grantees are responsible for monitoring any sub-recipients of their HUD programs. The monitoring element provides information on the grantee's monitoring procedures including: desk monitoring; on-site visits; and technical assistance. The monitoring section also reports on compliance with citizen participation requirements by providing a description of the efforts to provide citizens with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on performance reports.

CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT	
Who Must Submit	 Local governments and states receiving federal funds through HUD programs including CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA.
Guidance / Regulations	Code of Federal Regulations: 24 CFR Part 91.
Resources Controlled	 Measures the impact of HUD federal funds on housing and community development initiatives.
Submission Requirements	Annually90 days after the close of the grantee's program year.

DIAGRAM 1

Consolidated Planning Process





To Affirmatively
Further Fair Housing
(AFFH) mean taking
meaningful actions, in
addition to combating
discrimination, that
overcome patterns
of segregation and
foster inclusive
communities free from
barriers that restrict
access to opportunity
based on protected
characteristics

FAIR HOUSING PLANNING

The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings, and in other housing-related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status (including children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18), and disability.

HUD is committed to eliminating racial and ethnic segregation, illegal physical and other barriers to persons with disabilities, and other discriminatory practices in housing. The fundamental goal of HUD's fair housing policy is to make housing choice a reality through Fair Housing Planning (FHP). Grantees receiving funds through HUD's formula grant programs must certify to Affirmatively Further Fair Housing (AFFH) when administering CDBG, HOME, ESG, or HOPWA funds. The extent of the AFFH obligation has never been defined statutorily. However, HUD defines it as requiring a grantee to: 1) conduct an analysis to identify impediments to fair housing choice within the jurisdiction; 2) take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through the analysis; and 3) maintain records reflecting the analysis and actions taken in this regard.

ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE

The purpose of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) is for HUD grantees to comply with their obligation to AFFH and to provide a means of assessing potential barriers to housing choice within a jurisdiction. The AI provides grantees the opportunity to identify strategies for addressing fair housing impediments. The AI should establish strong performance goals to measure the success of fair housing planning.

ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS: Key Components Jurisdictional Background

The Jurisdictional Background provides an understanding of the local housing and economic environment in which fair housing strategies will be carried out. To identify barriers to fair housing, certain characteristics must be examined, including demographics, income profile, employment profile, and housing profile.

Evaluation of Jurisdiction's Fair Housing Legal Status

To ensure fair housing efforts are successful and avoid repeat offenses, the current legal status of the jurisdiction must be evaluated. This component identifies any complaints or compliance reviews where the Secretary has issued a charge of, or made a finding of, housing discrimination. This element also identifies any housing discrimination suits filed by the Department of Justice or private plaintiffs.

Identification of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

This element provides the grantee with the opportunity to conduct a comprehensive review of local government public and private sector policies that may impede fair housing choice. Often it is policy reform that is needed to address housing needs, so it is critical to examine policies related to zoning and site selection; PHA tenant selection; Housing Choice Voucher policies; sale of subsidized housing and possible displacement; property tax policies, planning and zoning board policy, building codes; and private lending practices. In addition, this component reviews local fair housing enforcement policies; identifies existing informational programs; and investigates visitability in housing for persons with disabilities.

Assessment of Public and Private Fair Housing Programs in the Jurisdiction

To develop strategies for implementation of new fair housing programs or policies it is essential to recognize current public and private programs and assess them for performance. This component identifies local, state, and federal programs currently assisting the local government in its efforts to AFFH.

Conclusions and Recommendations

A successful Al will provide recommendations to address fair housing barriers. The Conclusions and Recommendations component identifies strategies and measurable goals the local government will implement to mitigate fair housing impediments and continue to AFFH.

ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE	
Who Must Submit	 Local governments and states receiving federal funds through HUD programs including CDBG, HOME, ESG, and HOPWA.
Guidance / Regulations	 Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act). HUD Fair Housing Planning Guide.
Resources Controlled	 Identifies impediments to fair housing choice and provides recommendations for mitigation, which should align with Consolidated Plan funding strategies.
Submission Requirements	 Grantees are encouraged to update the AI every 3-5 years, consistent with the Consolidated Plan. Though not required to be submitted, the HUD Department of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) may request to review the AI.

DIAGRAM 2

Fair Housing Planning Process





State Programs / Planning Processes

The State of Florida has also implemented initiatives intended to support and influence funds for housing efforts. An important program dedicated specifically for the production and preservation of affordable housing through partnerships is the State Housing Initiative Partnerships Program. In addition, although not a housing program, state regulation requires local governments to have a Comprehensive Plan in place to guide future development. One component of the Comprehensive Plan is the Housing Element, intended to ensure that, when planning for future development, there is a consideration for safe, decent, affordable housing. This summary offers stakeholders the tools, detailed information, and specific points of entry into the state housing program and state initiatives and their related planning processes.

PROGRAMS

STATE HOUSING INITIATIVES PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) program, administered through the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC), has the primary objective of encouraging and creating partnerships that will assist in the production and preservation of affordable housing in the state of Florida. Funds must be used to benefit low-income and moderate-income persons. The SHIP program has required set-asides for funding that grantees must follow. A minimum of 65% of grant funds must be expended on eligible homeownership activities, a minimum of 75% is to be expended on eligible construction activities, at least 30% must be reserved for very-low income households, a minimum of 30% must be reserved for low-income households, and a minimum of 20% for households with special needs.



An important program dedicated specifically for the production and preservation of affordable housing through partnerships is the State Housing Initiative Partnerships Program.

SHIP funds are distributed on an entitlement basis to all 67 counties and to 52 CDBG entitlement cities in Florida, with a minimum allocation of \$350,000. In order to participate, local governments must establish a local housing assistance program by ordinance; develop a Local Housing Assistance Plan and housing incentive strategy; amend land development regulations or establish local policies to implement the incentive strategies; form partnerships and combine resources in order to reduce housing costs; and ensure that rent or mortgage payments within the targeted areas do not exceed 30 percent of the area median income limits, unless authorized by the mortgage lender.

In support of housing initiatives, SHIP funding can be used to benefit very low, low, and moderate income families through: emergency housing repairs; new construction of housing units; housing rehabilitation; down payment and closing costs assistance; impact fees; construction and gap financing; mortgage buy-downs; eviction prevention; rental assistance; acquisition of property for affordable housing; matching dollars for federal housing grants and programs; and homeownership counseling.

SHIP PLANNING

LOCAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN

A Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP) is required of all SHIP grantees to be eligible for funding through the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC). The LHAP details a jurisdiction's housing strategies to be implemented in expending SHIP funds. The LHAP is the governing plan to carry out housing activities to meet the intent of the SHIP program of addressing the housing needs of the very low, low and moderate income households; expanding production of and preserving affordable housing; and furthering the housing element of the local government comprehensive plan specific to affordable housing. Local government staff and elected officials seek LHAP input from citizens and from their community partners working to address housing needs.

The LHAP not only includes strategies to address how SHIP funds must be spent, it also contains "incentive strategies" that focus on local government regulations that may increase the availability of affordable residential units. Ideas for incentive strategies are driven by an Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC). Committee members represent stakeholder groups in the community and volunteer their time to provide incentive strategy recommendations.

LHAP: Key Components

Program Details

This component provides standard language from FHFC regarding SHIP program requirements. Here grantees include language setting purposeful terms for the administration of its SHIP program including clarification on: leveraging funds; public input; advertising and outreach; wait-list priorities; discrimination; support services and counseling; purchase price limits; income limits; rent limits; affordability periods; welfare transition program; and monitoring. This section provides grantees the opportunity to revise or add additional terms regarding program administration, within FHFC requirements.

Housing Strategies

This component is essentially the grantee's strategic plan for how SHIP funds will be spent to provide housing assistance. This element of the LHAP identifies the particular strategies the grantee will use to carry out to further affordable housing efforts. Each strategy, in turn, includes a summary of the assistance; the income categories to be served; the maximum award; loan terms; recipient selection criteria; and sponsor/developer criteria.

Incentive Strategies

The final part of the LHAP identifies incentive strategies adopted to use local government regulations to support the creation and preservation of affordable housing.

LOCAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE PLAN	
Who Must Submit	 Local governments receiving state funds through the SHIP program.
Guidance / Regulations	 Florida Statutes, Chapter 420 Part VII (ss. 420.907-420.9089). SHIP Local Housing Assistance Plan Procedures Manual
Resources Controlled	 FHFC state funds influencing housing partnerships and initiatives. Plan funding strategies.
Submission Requirements	By May 2 nd Once Every 3 Years



In support of housing initiatives, SHIP funding can be used to benefit very low, low, and moderate income families through: emergency housing repairs; new construction of housing units; housing rehabilitation; down payment and closing costs assistance; impact fees; construction and gap financing; mortgage buy-downs; eviction prevention; rental assistance; acquisition of property for affordable housing; matching dollars for federal housing grants and programs; and homeownership counseling.



The Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) administers the SHIP Program.

SHIP ANNUAL REPORT

Each jurisdiction participating in the SHIP Program must submit an annual report of its local affordable housing program expenditures, leveraging, and recipient demographics. The Annual Report allows FHFC to monitor the activities of local governments and determine compliance with program requirements. The Annual Report accounts for affordable housing accomplishments through SHIP during the jurisdiction's program year. The Report also certifies that the local housing incentive strategies have been implemented or are in the process of being implemented pursuant to the adopted schedule for implementation.

SHIP ANNUAL REPORT: Key Components

Distribution Summary

The distribution summary provides details related to the distribution of SHIP funds; a breakdown of homeownership and rental strategies; other uses of funds including administrative, homeownership counseling, and program income if applicable; and a "balance sheet" of program revenues.

Compliance with SHIP Requirements

This section summarizes compliance with the statutory set-aside requirements to expend at least 65% of funds on homeownership, 75% of funds on new construction or rehabilitation, 30% of funds on very low income households and another 30% on very low or low income households. The report also includes data about leveraging of funds and a breakdown by loans, deferred payment loans or grants.

Demographics

This component provides demographic information for activities carried out including the number of households assisted, units produced, ages, family size, race, special needs, and special target areas. Data reported includes average cost of producing units under each local housing assistance strategy; and the average area purchase price of single-family units and the amount of rent charged for a rental unit based on unit size.

Status of Incentive Strategies

The status of incentive strategies section includes information on incentive strategies, support services, homeownership default/foreclosure, expended funds, administration expenses, sub-recipients, program income, recaptured funds, and rental developments. This component is meant to detail the status of implementation of each local housing incentive strategy or, if applicable, the local housing incentive plan as set forth in the local government's adopted schedule for implementation.

Special Needs Breakdown

This element allows the grantee to report on expended and encumbered funds targeted towards special needs populations, including persons with disabilities.

SHIP ANNUAL REPORT	
Who Must Submit	Local governments receiving state funds through the SHIP program.
Guidance / Regulations	 Florida Statutes, Chapter 420 Part VII (ss. 420.907-420.9089). SHIP Local Housing Assistance Plan Procedures Manual.
Resources Controlled	 Measures the impact of FHFC state SHIP funds in carrying out housing incentives in support of affordable housing initiatives.
Submission Requirements	Annually by September 15 th

DIAGRAM 3

SHIP Planning Process



COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

Local governments are required by State law to have a Comprehensive Plan in place, with the purpose of providing the principles, guidelines, standards, and strategies for organized and balanced future economic, social, physical, environmental, and fiscal development of the community. The plan is not intended to require implementation of, but to simply identify and propose, programs, activities, and land development regulations that will impact community growth. The Comprehensive Plan contains goals, objectives, and policies that describe how the local government's programs, activities, and land development regulations will be initiated, modified, or continued.

HOUSING ELEMENT

By State statute Comprehensive Plans are required to have a Housing Element. The Housing Element sets forth the guiding principles, standards, and strategies to be followed in providing safe, decent, and affordable housing in the jurisdiction. The Housing Element influences the creation and preservation of affordable housing and identifies strategies that will impact the availability of affordable housing for 5-10 years.

HOUSING ELEMENT: Key Components

Housing

In this component local governments are required to provide information related to the following topics.

- The provision of housing for all current and anticipated future residents of the jurisdiction;
- The elimination of substandard dwelling conditions;
- The structural and aesthetic improvement of existing housing;
- The provision of adequate sites for future housing, including affordable workforce, housing for low-income, very low-income, and moderate-income families, mobile homes, and group home facilities and foster care facilities, with supporting infrastructure and public facilities;
- Provision for relocation housing and identification of historically significant and other housing for purposes of conservation, rehabilitation, or replacement;
- The formulation of housing implementation programs; and
- The creation or preservation of affordable housing to minimize the need for additional local services and avoid the concentration of affordable housing units only in specific areas of the jurisdiction.

Data Analysis

The plan must provide specified data and explanation, including the following.

- The number and distribution of dwelling units by type, tenure, age, rent, value, monthly cost of owner-occupied units, and rent or cost to income ratio, and the number of dwelling units that are substandard; and
- The methodology used to estimate the condition of housing, a projection of the anticipated number of households by size, income range, and age of residents derived from the population projections, and the minimum housing need of the current and anticipated future residents of the jurisdiction.

Principles, Guidelines, Standards, and Strategies

The plan must identify strategies for the creation and preservation of affordable housing for all current and anticipated future residents of the jurisdiction, elimination of substandard housing conditions, adequate sites, and distribution of housing for a range of incomes and types, including mobile and manufactured homes. The element must also provide for specific programs and actions to partner with private and nonprofit sectors to address housing needs in the jurisdiction; streamline the permitting process, and minimize costs and delays for affordable housing; establish standards to address the quality of housing; stabilization of neighborhoods; and identification and improvement of historically significant housing.

Coordination

State and federal housing plans prepared on behalf of the local government must be consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the Housing Element. Local governments are encouraged to use job training, job creation, and economic solutions to address a portion of their affordable housing concerns.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN HOL	JSING ELEMENT
Who Must Submit	Florida local governments.
Guidance / Regulations	• Florida Statutes 163.3177 (f).
Resources Controlled	• In developing local government general fund or capital improvement budgets, projects and initiatives must be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
Submission Requirements	 Must include at least two planning periods, one covering at least the first 5-year period occurring after the plan's adoption and one covering at least a 10-year period.

DIAGRAM 4

Comprehensive Planning Process





Community Participation

Community participation is an opportunity for people to get involved in decisions that affect them. Intentionally involving residents, advocates, and stakeholders in local government decisions creates an environment of shared responsibility when implementing programs and projects. Recognized as a vital component, community participation is at the core of successful planning efforts. Requirements differ for state and federal housing and community development planning, but each requires some level of community participation. Participation in the community engagement phase of the planning process is the ideal opportunity to raise awareness around a cause and provides an opportunity for individuals, advocates, and stakeholders to demonstrate need.



Recognized as a vital component, community participation is at the core of successful planning efforts.

CONSOLIDATED PLANNING / FAIR HOUSING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Citizen Participation Plan

State and local government HUD grantees are required to develop and implement a Citizen Participation Plan (CPP). The CPP sets forth the grantee's policies and procedures for citizen participation for Consolidated and Fair Housing Planning. The CPP facilitates citizen participation throughout the development of, and amendment of, the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, Analysis of Impediments, and CAPER. Developed in accordance with federal regulations, the CPP is the overarching plan providing the framework for a successful community engagement process. The CPP should consist of the following broad elements:

- Description of the public participation process, including public hearings and public comment periods;
- Ensured opportunities for involvement of affected persons and other concerned citizens in the planning process;
- Transparency of the planning process and freedom of access to the draft Plan;
- Instructions to guide the public's submission of comments and the standards for the grantee's response; and
- Procedures for continuity of participation throughout all stages of the Plan's development.

CPP regulations require grantees to actively encourage widespread citizen participation, with a special emphasis on efforts to encourage participation from the following populations:

- Low-income and moderate-income persons;
- Residents of slums, blighted areas and predominately low-income and moderate-income areas;
- Non-English speaking persons;
- Persons with disabilities; and
- Public housing residents and other low-income residents of targeted revitalization areas.

Public Hearings/Meetings

At least two public hearings/meetings are required each year to obtain residents' views and to respond to proposals and questions. The purpose of the public hearings/meetings is to:

- Receive comments from citizens, public agencies, community members and other interested parties;
- Respond to proposals and comments at all stages of the submittal process;
- Identify housing and community development needs;
- Review the proposed use of funds;
- Review program amendments; and
- Review program performance.

Public hearings/meetings are to be conducted at a minimum of two different stages of the program year. At least one of these hearings/meetings is to be held before the proposed plan is published for comment.

Adequate advance notice of public hearings/meetings must be given to citizens, with sufficient information published about the subject of the hearing/meeting to permit informed comment. All hearings/meetings must be held at times and locations convenient to potential and actual beneficiaries. In addition, public hearings/meetings must accommodate the needs of non-English speaking residents and persons with disabilities.

Consultation

In addition to citizen participation requirements, grantees must consult with public and private agencies that provide assisted housing, health services, and fair housing services for children, veterans, youth, elderly, persons with disabilities, and persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. State grantees must consult with agencies that provide assisted housing, health services, social and fair housing, and those that serve the chronically homeless, and address lead-based paint hazards and consult with local governments in non-entitlement areas of the state. When preparing the homeless strategy, both state and local grantees must consult with the Continuum of Care (CoC) and other agencies that provide homeless assistance and homelessness prevention services. For local government grantees consultation should also include adjacent local governments, with regard to non-housing community development needs; agencies with metropolitan-wide planning responsibilities; and the local public housing authority, with regard to public housing needs.

Public Comment

Citizens must be provided with a reasonable opportunity to comment on Citizen Participation, Consolidated, and Fair Housing Plans and the grantee must make these plans public. Citizens who wish to comment or object to any phase of plan development or approval, or who want to provide input regarding housing and community development needs, will typically submit comments or objections in person, by telephone, or in writing. Plans must be made available in a format accessible to persons with disabilities, upon request.



	Citizen Participation Plan (CPP)
Description	The CPP sets forth the grantee's policies and procedures for citizen participation throughout the Consolidated Planning process. The CPP must facilitate citizen participation throughout the Consolidated Plan's initial development, amendment process, and annual performance report. CPP regulations require grantees to actively encourage widespread citizen participation.
Public Hearings / Community Meetings	At least two public hearings per year to obtain residents' views and to respond to proposals and questions, to be conducted at a minimum of two different stages of the program year. At least one of these hearings is held before the proposed Consolidated Plan is published for comment.
Published Notice of Plan Availability for Review/ Comment	Minimum of one notice of plan availability for public review and comment, including a summary of the plan and locations and hours of availability; published in a newspaper of general circulation and any smaller publications serving programeligible populations.
Public Comment Period	30-Days

	Consolidated Plan
Description	Once every 3-5 years, HUD grantees must develop a Consolidated Plan that identifies goals and strategies for providing affordable and decent housing, a safe and suitable living environment, and adequate economic opportunities for program-eligible populations. The Consolidated Plan includes the Year 1 Annual Action Plan.
Public Hearings / Community Meetings	At least two public hearings per year to obtain residents' views and to respond to proposals and questions, to be conducted at a minimum of two different stages of the program year. At least one of these hearings is held before the proposed Consolidated Plan is published for comment.
Published Notice of Plan Availability for Review/ Comment	Minimum of one notice of plan availability for public review and comment, including a summary of the plan and locations and hours of availability; published in a newspaper of general circulation and any smaller publications serving programeligible populations.
Public Comment Period	30-Days

	Annual Action Plan
Description	Each program year, HUD grantees must develop an Annual Action Plan that identifies sources of funding and projects to be completed during the program year to implement the Consolidated Plan. The Year 1 Annual Action Plan is included in the Consolidated Plan process. The remaining Year 2 through Year 5 Annual Action Plans are developed subsequently.
Public Hearings / Community Meetings	At least two public hearings per year to obtain residents' views and to respond to proposals and questions, to be conducted at a minimum of two different stages of the program year. At least one of these hearings is held before the proposed Action Plan is published for comment.
Published Notice of Plan Availability for Review/ Comment	Minimum of one notice of plan availability for public review and comment, including a summary of the plan and locations and hours of availability; published in a newspaper of general circulation and any smaller publications serving programeligible populations.
Public Comment Period	30-Days

	Analysis of Impediments (AI)
Description	Once every 3-5 years, consistent with the Consolidated Plan, HUD grantees must develop an Analysis of Impediments to identify fair housing issues in the jurisdiction. The AI must set goals to overcome fair housing issues identified and those goals should inform subsequent housing and community development planning processes.
Public Hearings / Community Meetings	A minimum of one public hearing to be held before the proposed Analysis of Impediments is published for comment.
Published Notice of Plan Availability for Review/ Comment	Minimum of one notice of plan availability for public review and comment, including a summary of the plan and locations and hours of availability; published in a newspaper of general circulation and any smaller publications serving programeligible populations.
Public Comment Period	30-Days

Consolidated	Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)
Description	Each program year, HUD grantees are required to complete a Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) detailing how the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan were implemented. The CAPER includes a description of the resources available and investment of those resources in terms of geographic distribution and populations assisted.
Public Hearings / Community Meetings	At least two public hearings per year to obtain residents' views and to respond to proposals and questions, to be conducted at a minimum of two different stages of the program year. At least one of the hearings held must include a review of program performance.
Published Notice of Plan Availability for Review/ Comment	Minimum of one notice of plan availability for public review and comment; including a summary of the CAPER; locations and hours of availability; published in a newspaper of general circulation and any smaller publications serving programeligible populations.
Public Comment Period	15-Days

Requirements Specific to Persons with Disabilities for Each Plan

The jurisdiction must encourage citizens to participate in the development of the Citizen Participation Plan, Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, Analysis of Impediments, and the performance report. These requirements are designed especially to encourage participation by low-income and moderate-income persons, particularly those persons living in areas designated by the jurisdiction as a revitalization area, in a slum and blighted area, and in areas where CDBG funds are proposed to be used, and by residents of predominantly low-income and moderate-income neighborhoods, as defined by the jurisdiction. A jurisdiction must take appropriate actions to encourage the participation of all its citizens, including minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities.

Public Hearings and Community Meetings must be held in accessible locations and the jurisdiction must make arrangements to accommodate persons with disabilities, upon request.

The jurisdiction must provide citizens with a reasonable opportunity to comment on the Citizen Participation Plan, the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and CAPER and must make each plan public. Plans must be in available in a format accessible to persons with disabilities, upon request.

In addition to citizen participation requirements, the HUD Consolidated Plan regulations identify categories of organizations the grantee must consult with during the Plan's development. Entitlement grantees must consult with public and private agencies that provide assisted housing, health services, and fair housing services for children, veterans, youth, elderly, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, and their families.

SHIP COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC)

The AHAC is responsible for reviewing established policies, procedures, ordinances, land development regulations, and the local government comprehensive plan and making recommendations on initiatives that will encourage affordable housing. SHIP grantee communities must appoint an AHAC with between eight and eleven members. The committee must have a minimum of one member from at least 6 of the categories listed below:

- One citizen who is actively engaged in the residential home building industry in connection with affordable housing;
- One citizen who is actively engaged in the banking or mortgage banking industry in connection with affordable housing;
- One citizen who is a representative of those areas of labor actively engaged in home building in connection with affordable housing;
- One citizen who is actively engaged as an advocate for low-income persons in connection with affordable housing;
- One citizen who is actively engaged as a for-profit provider of affordable housing;
- One citizen who is actively engaged as a not-for-profit provider of affordable housing;
- One citizen who is actively engaged as a real estate professional in connection with affordable housing;
- One citizen who actively serves on the local planning agency;
- One citizen who resides within the jurisdiction of the local governing body making the appointments;
- One citizen who represents employers within the jurisdiction; and/or
- One citizen who represents essential services personnel, as defined in the local housing assistance plan.

Encouraging Partnerships

Grantees participating in the SHIP program are required to encourage the involvement of appropriate public sector and private sector entities as partners in order to combine resources to reduce housing costs for the targeted population. This partnership process should involve: 1) lending institutions; 2) housing builders and developers; 3) nonprofit and other community-based housing and service organizations; 4) providers of professional services relating to affordable housing; 5) advocates for low-income persons, including, but not limited to, people experiencing homelessness, the elderly, and migrant farmworkers; 6) real estate professionals; and 7) other persons or entities who can assist in providing housing or related support services.

Public Hearings/Meetings

The AHAC is required by statute to hold a minimum of one public hearing, at which its housing incentive strategy recommendations and its review of local government implementation of previously recommended strategies will be voted upon. Notice of the time, date, and place of the public hearing of the advisory committee to adopt its evaluation and final local housing incentive strategies recommendations must be published in a newspaper of general paid circulation in the county. The notice must contain a short summary of the evaluation and local housing incentives strategies recommendations to be considered by the advisory committee. The notice must state the public place where a copy of the evaluation and tentative advisory committee recommendations can be obtained by interested persons.

It is suggested as a best practice that the AHAC hold additional public meetings to solicit input and engage the public, prior to the required public hearing. All meetings of the advisory committee are public meetings, and all committee records are public records.

Notice of Funding Availability

To notify the public of available SHIP funds and open the application process, the grantee is required to advertise a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) in a newspaper of general circulation, as well as periodicals serving ethnic and diverse neighborhoods, at least 30 days before the beginning of the application period. If no funding is available due to a waiting list, no notice of funding availability is required.

Public Comment

The Annual Report must be made available by the grantee for public inspection and comment prior to certifying the report and transmitting it to FHFC. The grantee must provide notice of the availability of the proposed report and solicit public comment. The notice must state the public place where a copy of the proposed report can be obtained by interested persons. Members of the public may submit written comments on the report to the grantee and FHFC. The grantee is required to attach a copy of all written comments and its responses to the Annual Report in its submission to FHFC.

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION Public Hearings/Meetings

The local governing body must hold at least two advertised public hearings on the proposed comprehensive plan, plan element, or plan amendment. At the option of the governing body, one of the public hearings may be held by the local planning agency. Both hearings must be held after 5 p.m. on a weekday, and the first must be held approximately seven days after the day that the first advertisement is published. The second hearing must be held approximately two weeks after the first hearing and must be advertised approximately five days prior to the public hearing. The day, time, and place at which the second public hearing will be held must be announced at the first public hearing.

The Comprehensive Planning process is very cumbersome and, though not statutorily required, it is encouraged that local governments hold additional community meetings throughout the process to involve the public and solicit input.

CASE STUDY

For the 2018 program year, the City of Jacksonville/Duval County will receive close to \$14 million in federal and state funding under the CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA and SHIP programs, which triggers Federal citizen participation requirements. Jacksonville/Duval County will solicit public input to determine community need and decide how funding will be allocated for eligible projects and activities. The City follows its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), which details how residents and stakeholders will be included during the development of the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plan, and CAPER.

In addition to complying with federal requirements, the City of Jacksonville holds two public meetings along with 4-6 Citizen Participation Action Council meetings to encourage participation from residents, businesses, neighborhoods organizations, and other interested individuals or groups. The City also posts a survey on its website and encourages the public to respond to assist in identifying and prioritizing the needs of the community.

To further engage residents and stakeholders and ensure participation, the City also facilitates monthly meetings of its 11-member Jacksonville Housing and Community Development Commission (JHCDC). This commission also serves as the City's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) for its SHIP program. The commission extends an invitation to homeless providers to attend meetings on a quarterly basis, which encourages participation by organizations serving **special needs and developmentally disabled** populations.



In order to identify the needs of the special needs population in the community, including individuals with developmental disabilities, the City partners with agencies that advocate for and provide services to physically and mentally disabled persons. Recent public input regarding the needs of persons with developmental disabilities has suggested that rather than just providing accessible housing units, persons with developmental disabilities are in need of housing with permanent supportive services that facilitate independent living and assistance with successful integration into community life (e.g., inclusion in social events and networks). Participants at one of the City's public meetings suggested the creation of housing opportunities such as small apartment complexes where persons with developmental disabilities could live independently (with appropriate supportive services) and experience a sense of community in a setting tailored to their needs.

The community participation process, which has included meetings, public hearings, neighborhood workshops, and health fairs designed to reach grass-roots faith based and community organizations, has led to the inclusion of a goal in the City's Consolidated Plan to increase the supply of affordable, inclusive housing in the City of Jacksonville. This past year, stakeholders expressed the need for more supportive housing and services to increase the likelihood of maintaining mainstream services. As a result of the input received, funding for permanent supportive housing (new or rehabilitated units) was included in the Annual Action Plan and the City published a request for proposals (RFP) for \$1.5 million. The City has also determined priority populations for public services funding and for Program Year 2017, the priority populations were homeless persons and families (35%), low-income persons and families (40%), adults with physical, mental, and behavioral disabilities (20%), and low-income, elderly and homebound (5%).

As a result of the input received, funding for permanent supportive housing (new or rehabilitated units) was included in the Annual Action Plan and the City published a request for proposals (RFP) for \$1.5 million. The City has also determined priority populations for public services funding and for Program Year 2017, the priority populations were homeless persons and families (35%), low-income persons and families (40%), adults with physical, mental, and behavioral disabilities (20%), and low-income, elderly and homebound (5%).

Recommendations

It is important to know how you can be heard. Below are ways to get involved in the funding process.

STRATEGY

1. Attend all public hearings scheduled during the planning phase.

Federal and state housing programs including CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, and SHIP require public hearings to solicit public input. Public hearings often provide a setting for advocates and stakeholders to communicate directly with elected officials or local government representatives, so not participating could be a missed opportunity. This venue may allow the disability community to raise awareness regarding the housing and service needs of persons with disabilities.

2. Attend all community meetings scheduled during the planning phase.

Many local governments facilitate community meetings in addition to public hearings to further encourage public input and to satisfy citizen participation and consultation requirements. Community meetings are much less formal and offer the public, advocates, stakeholders, providers, Realtors, lenders, developers and various other parties an open forum to discuss housing needs. Community meetings provide the opportunity for stakeholders to give input and suggestions on activities to be implemented and this venue is where strategic plans start to develop. Community meetings also tend to provide a more thorough explanation of the planning process as most local governments will provide a presentation on available grant funds, eligible activities, and the application process.

Affordable Housing Advisory Council (AHAC) meetings are open to the public and attendance at AHAC meetings can be vital to influencing housing strategies that will be included in the Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP).

3. Participate in online surveys the local government has developed to solicit input on housing needs.

Not all local governments publish online surveys, but if this is a technique implemented during the planning phase, participation is convenient and often confidential and typically yields the best results for soliciting input from advocates and stakeholders. Surveys can be critical in identifying priority needs and determining which to fund.

4. Provide the local government with statistical data related to disability needs during the planning phase.

During the development of strategic plans, the local government will rely on federal, state, and local data resources to determine need and make funding decisions. Compiling accurate data surrounding the intellectual and developmental disabilities community can be challenging. It is critical for the intellectual and developmental disabilities community to provide information to the local government to ensure accurate data is incorporated into planning documents and increase opportunities for priority needs to be addressed. This is an opportunity for advocates and providers to submit summaries of their monthly, quarterly, or annual reports, or additional supplemental information that may justify need. Make sure that an abundance of accurate data is available on organizational websites to ensure easy access for local governments collecting data.

Recommendations

5. Provide written comments on plans when published publically for review.

Federal and state planning processes incorporate opportunities for public comment on draft plans. Strategic plans can be cumbersome so it is not uncommon that the public does not review or comment on strategies presented in the plan. It is important that individuals, advocates, and providers of the disability community familiarize themselves with plans in order to make informed suggestions for additions or corrections to the document. Public comment periods are the prime opportunity for stakeholders to review proposed initiatives, proposed outcomes, and proposed budgets and to provide comments in writing to the local government that must considered prior to finalizing the plan.

6. Monitor program performance.

Performance reports are required for Consolidated Planning and SHIP local government grantees. The CAPER and SHIP Annual Report gives the public, stakeholders, and advocates the opportunity to hold the local government accountable in carrying out its programs. These reports measure performance and evaluate how funds are impacting the community and proposed housing initiatives. These reports also solidify whether or not the local government has achieved proposed accomplishments stated in its strategic plan. Reports may also provide the opportunity for the local government to describe barriers or challenges faced in meeting objectives, helping the public understand the environment in which activities are being carried out and bridge the gap between stakeholder expectations and local government capabilities.

7. Coordinate with local and regional advocacy organizations and service providers.

Policy change is difficult to achieve without agency coordination. It is important for local advocates and service providers working with the disabilities community to work together to ensure that accurate and consistent data is being provided to local governments responsible for community-based planning. Stakeholders should work collectively to create change. When organizations serving similar causes break down silos and come together, advocacy becomes more effective. One idea for better coordination is to convene quarterly meetings of all stakeholders or local workgroups and committees with a representative from each organization. Further, organizations should inquire about coordinating with the local government housing staff to implement quarterly or bi-annual meetings to discuss housing and service needs for persons with disabilities.

Recommendations

8. Participate in local or regional housing forums or summits.

Housing forums are becoming increasingly popular throughout Florida and provide excellent opportunities to learn about local housing needs, housing programs available in the community to address need, housing initiatives currently in place, and proposed housing initiatives for the future. These forums may also provide the opportunity to raise awareness regarding the critical importance of access to affordable, accessible, inclusive housing for the intellectual and developmental disabilities community. Depending on the format for the forum or summit, the local government may reach out to local organizations to participate in a panel or make a presentation at the event. Disability advocates and providers are encouraged to contact the local government to inquire about plans for future housing forums and offer to present if the program design allows.

9. Campaign for a position as a representative on boards or commissions.

Often the best way to create change is to insert a representative directly into the process. For the SHIP program, the AHAC comprises a minimum of 8 but not more than 11 committee members. The committee must include at least one representative from at least six of the eight designated categories, one of the categories being: "A citizen who is actively engaged as an advocate for low-income persons in connection with affordable housing." According to federal regulations, persons with disabilities are considered a limited clientele, low income population. This offers an opportunity for someone in the disabilities community to become a committee member, which places him or her in a position to directly affect decisions.

In addition, many local governments form special councils or boards related to affordable housing, or even special needs populations, creating an opportunity for a member of the disabilities community to be appointed to a position that could directly influence change.

10. Develop a framework for effective engagement with the disability community.

A bold step to influencing decisions surrounding the disabilities community is to have local governments implement community engagement strategies that work best for persons with disabilities. Distributing a guidebook to local governments that provides a framework for effective engagement with the disability community could ultimately result in a more inclusive and successful planning process. As revealed by our Inclusive Planning Survey, local governments tend to implement engagement strategies only as required by regulation. Providing a framework directly to local governments will educate elected officials and department staff that traditional methods of community participation may not work for every population. This framework could raise awareness surrounding the disability community and possibly encourage change in how local governments engage with special needs populations.

Grantee	Program	Contact	Title	Phone	Email
Boca Raton, FL	CDBG	Teresa Mcclurg	Community Improvement Administrator	561-393-7758	tmcclurg@ci.boca-raton.fl.us
Boynton Beach, FL	CDBG	Lori Laverriere	City Manager	561-742-6010	laverrierel@bbfl.us
Bradenton, FL	CDBG	Vicki White	Housing and Community Development Manager	941-932-9493	cdbg@cityofbradenton.com
Brevard County, FL	CDBG	Michael Mcdonald	Supervisor	321-633-2007	michael.mcdonald@brevardfl.gov
Broward County, FL	CDBG	Yvette Lopez	Manager	954-357-4930	ylopez@broward.org
Cape Coral, FL	CDBG	Amy Yearsley	Housing Coordinator	239-573-3182	ayearsle@capecoral.net
Clearwater, FL	CDBG	Chuck Lane	Assistant Director	727-562-4023	charles.lane@myclearwater.com
Cocoa, FL	CDBG	Nancy Dresser	Deputy Community Services Director	321-433-8511	ndresser@cocoafl.org
Coconut Creek, FL	CDBG	Daniel Nelson	Housing And Grants Specialist	954-956-1470	dnelson@coconutcreek.net
Collier County, FL	CDBG	Kimberley Grant	Director	239-252-6287	kimberleygrant@colliergov.net
Coral Springs, FL	CDBG	James Hickey	Assistant Director	954-344-1114	jhickey@coralsprings.org
Davie, FL	CDBG	Glenda Bonaventura	Operations & Management Professional	954-797-1196	glenda_bonaventura@davie-fl.gov
Daytona Beach, FL	CDBG	Emory Counts	Economic/Community Development Director	386-671-8245	countse@codb.us
Deerfield Beach, FL	CDBG	Vickki Placide-Pickard	Director	954-571-2675	vplacide-pickard@deerfield-beach. com
Delray Beach, Fl	CDBG	Michael Coleman	Director	561-243-7203	cidirector@mydelraybeach.com
Deltona, Fl	CDBG	Ron Paradise	Assistant Director	386-878-8600	rparadise@deltonafl.gov
Escambia County, FL	CDBG	Meredith Reeves	Division Manager	850-595-0022	mareeves@myescambia.com
Florida, State of	CDBG	Roger Doherty	Planning Manager	850-717-8417	roger.doherty@deo.myflorida.com
Fort Lauderdale, FL	CDBG	Rachel Williams	Acting HOPWA and CDBG Administrator	954-828-5391	rwilliams@fortlauderdale.gov
Fort Myers, FL	CDBG	Sharon Rozier	Housing and Real Estate Manager	239-321-7972	srozier@cityftmyers.com
Fort Pierce, FL	CDBG	Libby Woodruff	Manager	772-467-3169	ewoodruff@city-ftpierce.com
Fort Walton Beach, FL	CDBG	Crista Shepheard	Planner I	850-833-9598	cshepheard@fwb.org

226 227 227 227 228 330 330 330 331 331 332 331 332 331 332 331 331 332 331 331	Grantee	Program	Contact	Title	Phone	Email
ILDBG Annette Ouintana Director 305-883-8040 I.gh County, FL CDBG Eric Johnson Interim Department Director 813-612-5397 I.gh County, FL CDBG Evelin Simpson Accounting Manager 305-224-4547 I.e Duval CDBG Evelin Simpson Accounting Manager 305-224-4547 I.e Duval CDBG Satu Oksanen Accounting Manager 561-741-2524 I.e CDBG Satu Oksanen Accounting Manager 561-741-2524 I.e CDBG Annie Gibson Housing and Community Development 407-518-2156 I.e CDBG Annie Gibson Housing Manager 727-586-7489 I.e CDBG Matthew Anderson Housing Manager 727-586-7489 I.e CDBG Iameka Dorsett NBE Manager 727-586-7489 I.e CDBG Iameka Dorsett Project Manager 727-586-7489 I.e CDBG Iameka Dorsett Project Manager 728-533-732 I.e CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Community Development 326-67-345-734 Bech CDBG Iamina Escobar	Gainesville, FL	CDBG	F. Vian Cockerham Guinyard	HCD Supervisor - Block Grant	352-334-5026	cockerhamfv@cityofgainesville.org
Golf FL CDBG Eric Johnson Interim Department Director 813-612-5397 d, FL CDBG Clayton Milan Community Development 95-4921-3271 dd, FL CDBG Evelin Simpson Accounting Manager 305-224-4547 LeDuval CDBG Satu Oksanen Amanager of Community Development 407-518-254 e, FL CDBG Satu Oksanen Amanager of Community Development 407-518-254 nty, FL CDBG Brenda Likely Housing and Community Development 407-518-2156 nty, FL CDBG Annie Gibson Housing Programs Supervisor 863-834-3362 r, FL CDBG Matthew Anderson Housing Programs Supervisor 727-586-748 r, FL CDBG Inline Boudreaux Program Manager 954-714-3125 ry, FL CDBG Inline Boudreaux Community Development 941-748-4501 re, FL CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 954-935-533-1 re, FL CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Community Development 941-748-4501	Hialeah, FL	CDBG	Annette Quintana	Director	305-883-8040	aquintana@hialeahfl.gov
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Le-Duval CDBG Satu Oksanen Manager of Community Development Development 561-741-2524 e, FL CDBG Satu Oksanen Manager of Community Development 561-741-2524 e, FL CDBG Brenda Likely Housing and Community Development 407-518-2156 rhy, FL CDBG Annie Gibson Housing Anager 352-742-6578 rh, FL CDBG Matthew Anderson Housing Manager 372-748-6778 rh, FL CDBG Immeka Dorsett NDBE Manager 372-742-6578 rh, FL CDBG Julie Boudreaux Program Manager 372-748-730 county, FL CDBG Julie Boudreaux Community Development 341-748-750 rl CDBG Ilimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 375-674-5734 se, FL CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Community Development 376-672-8041 rdens, FL CDBG Ilatiana Escobar Community Development 376-672-8041 rdens, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 385-402-3251 rd	Homestead, FL	CDBG	Evelin Simpson	Accounting Manager	305-224-4547	esimpson@cityofhomestead.com
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e, FL CDBG Nancy Jewell Community Development Coordinator 407-518-2156 nty, FL CDBG Brenda Likely Housing and Community 352-742-6578 FL CDBG Annie Gibson Housing Programs Supervisor 863-834-3362 FL CDBG Matthew Anderson Housing Manager 727-586-7489 Y, FL CDBG Iameka Dorsett NDE Manager 727-586-7489 Y, FL CDBG Julie Boudreaux Program Manager 239-533-7930 County, FL CDBG William O'Shea Project Manager 339-533-7930 Lin, FL CDBG Cheryl Martin Director 352-671-8778 Bach, FL CDBG Cheryl Martin CDBG Coordinator 352-671-8734 Bach, FL CDBG Laurin Yoder COmmunity Development 305-673-7360 Idens, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Community Development 305-673-7360 Idens, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Community Development 305-673-7360 Idens, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe	Jupiter, FL	CDBG	Satu Oksanen	Manager	561-741-2524	satuo@jupiter.fl.us
rty, FL CDBG Annie Gibson Housing and Community Development Manager 352-742-6578 FL CDBG Annie Gibson Housing Programs Supervisor 863-834-3362 FL CDBG Matthew Anderson Housing Programs Supervisor 727-586-7489 FL CDBG Tameka Dorsett NBE Manager 727-586-7489 ty, FL CDBG Julie Boudreaux Program Manager 239-533-7930 County, FL CDBG William O'Shea Community Development 941-748-4501 FL CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 954-935-5331 Dounty, FL CDBG Cheryl Martin Manager 954-935-5331 ach, FL CDBG Cheryl Martin Community Development 31-674-5734 ach, FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development 305-673-7260 rdens, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 R CDBG Clarence Brown Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 Rmi, FL CDBG	Kissimmee, FL	CDBG	Nancy Jewell	Community Development Coordinator	407-518-2156	njewell@kissimmee.org
FL CDBG Annie Gibson Housing Programs Supervisor 863-834-3362 FL CDBG Matthew Anderson Housing Manager 727-586-7489 FL CDBG Tameka Dorsett NBE Manager 239-53-7930 County, FL CDBG William O'Shea Program Manager 239-533-7930 FL CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 954-935-5331 Sounty, FL CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 321-674-5734 ach, FL CDBG Denise Carter Manager 321-674-5734 ach, FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development 305-673-7260 rdens, FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development 305-673-7260 de County, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 FL CDBG Clarence Brown Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 FL CDBG Marie-Frantz Jean- Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Lake County, FL	CDBG	Brenda Likely	Housing and Community Development Manager	352-742-6578	blikely@lakecountyfl.gov
FL CDBG Matthew Anderson Housing Manager 727-586-7489 FL CDBG Tameka Dorsett NBE Manager 954-714-3125 ty, FL CDBG Julie Boudreaux Program Manager 239-533-7930 County, FL CDBG William O'Shea Community Development 941-748-4501 FL CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 954-935-5331 county, FL CDBG Cheryl Martin Director 352-671-8778 ach, FL CDBG Tatiana Escobar COBBG Coordinator 305-673-7260 rdens, FL CDBG Iaurin Yoder Community Development 305-673-7260 rdens, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 305-622-8041 FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 FL CDBG Clarence Brown Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 Rmi, FL CDBG Marie-Frantz Jean Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Lakeland, FL	CDBG	Annie Gibson	Housing Programs Supervisor	863-834-3362	annie.gibson@lakelandgov.net
CDBG Tameka Dorsett NBE Manager 954-714-3125 CDBG Julie Boudreaux Program Manager 239-533-7930 FL CDBG William O'Shea Community Development 941-748-4501 FL CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 954-935-5331 FL CDBG Denise Carter Manager 352-671-8778 FL CDBG Tatiana Escobar CDBG Coordinator 305-673-7260 FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development 305-673-7260 FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 786-469-2221 Luty, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Clarence Brown Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 CDBG Marie-Frantz Jean- Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Largo, FL	CDBG	Matthew Anderson	Housing Manager	727-586-7489	maanders@largo.com
CDBG Julie Boudreaux Program Manager 239-533-7930 FL CDBG William O'Shea Community Development Project Manager 941-748-4501 *I CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 954-935-5331 *I CDBG Cheryl Martin Director 352-671-8778 **CDBG Denise Carter Manager 321-674-5734 **FL CDBG Tatiana Escobar CDBG Coordinator 305-673-7260 **FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development 305-673-7260 **Inty, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 786-469-2221 **Inty, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 **CDBG CDBG Clarence Brown Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 **CDBG Marie-Frantz Jean- Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Lauderhill, FL	CDBG	Tameka Dorsett	NBE Manager	954-714-3125	tdorsett@lauderhill-fl.gov
FL CDBG William O'Shea Community Development Project Manager 941-748-4501 FL CDBG Elimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 954-935-5331 FL CDBG Cheryl Martin Director 352-671-8778 CDBG Denise Carter Manager 321-674-5734 FL CDBG Tatiana Escobar CDBG Coordinator 305-673-7260 FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development 305-673-7260 Luty, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 786-469-2221 Luty, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Marie-Frantz Jean- Housing Manager 954-602-3265 Pharuns Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Lee County, FL	CDBG	Julie Boudreaux	Program Manager	239-533-7930	jboudreaux@leegov.com
TUBG Elimaris Fernandez Grants Manager 954-935-5331 CDBG Cheryl Martin Director 352-671-8778 CDBG Denise Carter Manager 321-674-5734 FL CDBG Tatiana Escobar CDBG Coordinator 305-673-7260 FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development 305-673-7260 Inty, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 305-416-1984 Inty, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 Marie-Frantz Jean- Housing Manager 954-602-3265 Pharuns Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Manatee County, FL	CDBG	William O'Shea	Community Development Project Manager	941-748-4501	bill.oshea@mymanatee.org
-IL CDBG Cheryl Martin Director 352-671-8778 CDBG Denise Carter Manager 321-674-5734 FL CDBG Tatiana Escobar COBGG Coordinator 305-673-7260 FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development 305-673-7260 Inty, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 305-416-1984 Inty, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Marie-Frantz Jean- Housing Manager 954-602-3265 Pharuns Pharuns Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Margate, FL	CDBG	Elimaris Fernandez	Grants Manager	954-935-5331	efernandez@margatefl.com
CDBG Denise Carter Manager 321-674-5734 CDBG Tatiana Escobar CDBG Coordinator 305-673-7260 FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development Division Director 305-622-8041 Laurin Yoder Assistant Director 305-416-1984 Laurin Yoder Assistant Director 786-469-2221 Laurin Yel CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Debbie Stevens Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 Marie-Frantz Jean-Pharuns Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Marion County, FL	CDBG	Cheryl Martin	Director	352-671-8778	cheryl.martin@marioncountyfl.org
FL CDBG Community Development Division Director 305-673-7260 FL CDBG Laurin Yoder Division Director 305-622-8041 Luty, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 305-416-1984 Luty, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Debbie Stevens Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 CDBG Marie-Frantz Jean-Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Melbourne, FL	CDBG	Denise Carter	Manager	321-674-5734	huid@mlbfl.org
CDBG Laurin Yoder Community Development Division Director 305-622-8041 X, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 305-416-1984 X, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Debbie Stevens Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 Rharie-Frantz Jean-Pharuns Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Miami Beach, FL	CDBG	Tatiana Escobar	CDBG Coordinator	305-673-7260	tatianaescobar@miamibeachfl.gov
unty, FL CDBG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director 305-416-1984 unty, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Debbie Stevens Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 Marie-Frantz Jean-Pharuns Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Miami Gardens, FL	CDBG	Laurin Yoder	Community Development Division Director	305-622-8041	lyoder@miamigardens-fl.gov
unty, FL CDBG Clarence Brown Division Director 786-469-2221 CDBG Debbie Stevens Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 Marie-Frantz Jean-Pharuns Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Miami, FL	CDBG	Roberto Tazoe	Assistant Director	305-416-1984	rtazoe@miamigov.com
CDBG Debbie Stevens Client Services Manager 954-602-3265 Marie-Frantz Jean- Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Miami-Dade County, FL	CDBG	Clarence Brown	Division Director	786-469-2221	cdbrown@miamidade.gov
CDBG Marie-Frantz Jean- Housing Manager 305-895-9824	Miramar, FL	CDBG	Debbie Stevens	Client Services Manager	954-602-3265	destevens@miramarfl.gov
	North Miami, FL	CDBG	Marie-Frantz Jean- Pharuns	Housing Manager	305-895-9824	mjean-pharuns@northmiamifl.gov

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Ocala, FL	CDBG	Laurie Whitaker	Reinvestment Manager	352-629-8261	lwhitaker@ocalafl.org
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Osceola County, FL	CDBG	Diane DeWalt	Community Grants Program Manager	407-742-8465	diane.dewalt@osceola.org
Palm Bay, FL	CDBG	Stuart Buchanan	Director of Growth Management	321-733-3041	stuart.buchanan@pbfl.org
Palm Beach County, FL	CDBG	Carlos Serrano	Strategic Planning and Operations Manager	561-233-3608	cserrano@pbcgov.org
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Palm Coast, FL	CDBG	Jose Papa	Senior Planner	386-986-2469	jpapa@palmcoastgov.com
Panama City, FL	CDBG	Shelia Ware	Assistant Director of Community Development	850-872-7231	sware@pcgov.org
Pasco County, FL	CDBG	Jonathan Bramlett	Director	727-834-3447	jbramlett@pascocountyfl.net
Pembroke Pines, FL	CDBG	Marilyn Callwood	Community and Economic Development Manager	954-431-7866	mcallwood@crafla.org
Pensacola, FL	CDBG	Donna Cash	Housing Operations Manager	850-858-0350	dcash@cityofpensacola.com
Pinellas County, FL	CDBG	Cheryl Reed	Grants Compliance Manager	727-464-8234	creed@pinellascounty.org
Plantation, FL	CDBG	Patrick Haggerty	Community Development Grant Coordinator	954-797-2656	phaggerty@plantation.org
Polk County, FL	CDBG	Greg Alpers	Director	863-534-5240	gregalpers@polk-county.net
Pompano Beach, FL	CDBG	Mark Korman	Program Compliance Manager	954-786-7839	mark.korman@copbfl.com
Port Orange, FL	CDBG	Cindy Rivera	Executive Assistant to the City Manager	386-506-5502	crivera@port-orange.org
Port St. Lucie, FL	CDBG	R. Hamel	Program Manager	772-871-7395	mhamel@cityofpsl.com
Punta Gorda, FL	CDBG	David Hilston	Chief Planner	941-575-3321	dhilston@pgorda.us
Sanford, FL	CDBG	Andrew Thomas	Senior Project Manager	407-688-5132	andrew.thomas@sanfordfl.gov
Sarasota County, FL	CDBG	Don Hadsell	Director	941-951-3640	donald.hadsell@sarasotagov.com
Sarasota, FL	CDBG	Don Hadsell	Director	941-951-3640	donald.hadsell@sarasotagov.com

Grantee	Program	Contact	Title	Phone	Email
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St. Petersburg, FL	CDBG	Lynn Gilbert	Housing Development Coordinator	727-892-5452	lynn.gilbert@stpete.org
Sunrise, FL	CDBG	Shannon Ley	Community Development Director	954-746-3270	communitydevdirector@sunrisefl.gov
Tallahassee, FL	CDBG	Joyce Olaves	Housing and Grants Administrator	850-891-6526	joyce.olaves@talgov.com
Tamarac, FL	CDBG	Coleen Christie	Housing and Neighborhood Programs Manager	954-597-3539	coleen.christie@tamarac.org
Tampa, FL	CDBG	Qiana Daughtry	Community Development Coordinator	813-274-7998	qiana.daughtry@tampagov.net
Titusville, FL	CDBG	Terrie Franklin	Director of Neighborhood Services	321-567-3783	terrie.franklin@titusville.com
Volusia County, FL	CDBG	Corry Brown	CDBG Coordinator	386-736-5955	cabrown@volusia.org
Wellington, FL	CDBG	James Poag	Director of Community Services	561-791-4796	communityservicesdirector@ wellingtonfl.gov
West Palm Beach, FL	CDBG	Jennifer Ferriol	Program Manager	561-822-1276	jferriol@wpb.org
Winter Haven, FL	CDBG	James Benderson	Senior Planner	863-291-5600	jbenderson@mywinterhaven.com

^{*}Please note that grantee contact information is the most recent provided on HUD Exchange and cannot be verified as correct in the case of staff turnover.

Home Grantees

Grantee	Program	Contact	Title	Phone	Email
Brevard County, FL	HOME	Linda Graham	Manager	321-633-2007	linda.graham@brevardfl.gov
Broward County, FL	HOME	Yvette Lopez	Manager	954-357-4930	ylopez@broward.org
Clearwater, FL	HOME	Chuck Lane	Assistant Director	727-562-4023	charles.lane@myclearwater.com
Collier County, FL	HOME	Kimberley Grant	Director	239-252-6287	kimberleygrant@colliergov.net
Daytona Beach, FL	HOME	Emory Counts	Economic/Community Development Director	386-671-8245	countse@codb.us
Escambia County, FL	HOME	Meredith Reeves	Division Manager	850-595-0022	mareeves@myescambia.com
Florida, State of	HOME	Nicole Gibson	Assistant Director Homeownership Programs	850-488-4197	nicole.gibson@floridahousing.org
Fort Lauderdale, FL	HOME	Avis Wilkinson	Administration Assistant II	954-828-4513	awilkinson@fortlauderdale.gov
Gainesville, FL	HOME	Deneace Joshua	Grant Supervisor	352-334-5026	joshuadm@cityofgainesville.org
Hialeah, FL	HOME	Annette Quintana	Director	305-883-8040	aquintana@hialeahfl.gov
Hillsborough County, FL	HOME	Eric Johnson	Interim Department Director	813-612-5397	tamesg@hcflgov.net
Hollywood, FL	HOME	Clayton Milan	Community Development Manager	954-921-3271	cmilan@hollywoodfl.org
Jacksonville-Duval County, FL	HOME	Dayatra Coles	Affordable Housing Administrator	904-255-8216	dcoles@coj.net
Lakeland, FL	HOME	Annie Gibson	Housing Programs Supervisor	863-834-3362	annie.gibson@lakelandgov.net
Lee County, FL	HOME	Deanna Gilkerson	Program Manager	239-533-7930	DGilkerson@leegov.com
Manatee County, FL	HOME	Denise Thomas	Housing & Community Development Coordinator	941-748-4501	denise.thomas@mymanatee.org
Marion County, FL	HOME	Cheryl Martin	Director	352-671-8778	cheryl.martin@marioncountyfl.org
Miami Beach, FL	HOME	Richard Bowman	HOME Coordinator	305-673-7260	richardbowman@miamibeachfl.gov
Miami, FL	HOME	Alfredo Duran	Deputy Director	305-416-1999	aduran@miamigov.com
Miami-Dade County, FL	HOME	Clarence Brown	Division Director	786-469-2221	cdbrown@miamidade.gov
North Miami, FL	HOME	Marie-Frantz Jean- Pharuns	Housing Manager	305-895-9824	mjean-pharuns@northmiamifl.gov

Home Grantees

	Program	Contact	Title	Phone	Email
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Orlando, FL	HOME	David Medley	Program Manager	407-246-2395	david.medley@cityoforlando.net
Osceola County, FL	HOME	Diane DeWalt	Community Grants Program Manager	407-742-8465	diane.dewalt@osceola.org
Palm Beach County, FL	HOME	Carlos Serrano	Strategic planning and Operations Manager	561-233-3608	cserrano@pbcgov.org
Pasco County, FL	HOME	Jonathan Bramlett	Director	727-834-3447	jbramlett@pascocountyfl.net
Pinellas County, FL	HOME	Sheri Harris	Housing Development Manager	727-464-4185	sharris@pinellascounty.org
Polk County, FL	HOME	Greg Alpers	Director	863-534-5240	gregalpers@polk-county.net
Pompano Beach, FL	HOME	Mark Korman	Program Compliance Manager	954-786-7839	mark.korman@copbfl.com
Sarasota, FL	HOME	Don Hadsell	Director	941-951-3640	donald.hadsell@sarasotagov.com
Seminole County, FL	HOME	Diane Durr	HUD Administrator	407-665-2386	ddurr@seminolecountyfl.gov
St. Lucie County, FL	HOME	Diana Wesloski	Housing Manager	772-462-1777	wesloskid@stlucieco.org
St. Petersburg, FL	HOME	Stephanie Lampe	Senior Housing Development Coordinator	727-892-5563	stephanie.lampe@stpete.org
Tallahassee, FL	HOME	Joyce Olaves	Housing and Grants Administrator	850-891-6526	joyce.olaves@talgov.com
Tampa, FL	HOME	Lisa Crenshaw	Community Development Coordinator	813-274-7944	lisa.crenshaw@tampagov.net
Volusia County, FL	HOME	Paula Szabo	Grants Planner	386-736-5955	pszabo@volusia.org
West Palm Beach, FL	HOME	Jennifer Ferriol	Program Manager	561-822-1276	jferriol@wpb.org

*Please note that grantee contact information is the most recent provided on HUD Exchange and cannot be verified as correct in the case of staff turnover.

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County, FL ESG Yvette Lopez Manager 954-357-4930 bounty, FL ESG Kimberley Grant Division Manager 239-25-6287 a County, FL ESG Meredith Reeves Division Manager 850-922-4691 State of ESG Frik Braun Economic and Business 954-828-4548 starcale, FL ESG Annette Ouintana Division Manager 305-883-8040 bugh ESG Annette Ouintana Division Manager 305-883-8040 bugh ESG Eric Johnson Division Manager 305-883-8040 bugh ESG Eric Johnson Program Manager 239-533-7930 rh, FL ESG Deanna Gilkerson Program Manager 239-533-7930 county, FL ESG Bonnie Mitchell Housing Grant Manager 407-246-33-793 county, FL ESG Clarence Brown Division Director 707-246-33-26 county, FL ESG Clarence Brown Program Manager 407-246-33-26 county, FL ESG Carlos Serrano	Grantee	Program	Contact	Title	Phone	Email
vunty, FL ESG Kimberley Grant Director County, FL ESG Meredith Reeves Division Manager Sate of Erik Braun Economic and Business erdale, FL ESG Frik Braun Economic and Business IL ESG Annette Quintana Director Lgh ESG Program Manager Le-Duval ESG Deanna Gilkerson Program Manager Le-Duval ESG Deanna Gilkerson Program Manager County, FL ESG Donnie Mitchell Housing & Community County, FL ESG Donnie Mitchell Housing Grant Manager Accounty, FL ESG Clarence Brown Division Director Accounty, FL ESG Clarence Brown Division Director Accounty, FL ESG Clarence Brown Strategic Planning and Accounty, FL ESG Sonia Carlos Serrano Operations Manager Accounty, FL ESG Jonathan Bramlett Director Accounty, FL ESG Sonia Carlos Car	Broward County, FL	ESG	Yvette Lopez	Manager	954-357-4930	ylopez@broward.org
County, FL ESG Meredith Reeves Division Manager sate of ESG Erik Braun Director erdale, FL ESG Jonathan Brown Economic and Business erdale, FL ESG Annette Quintana Director Lebuval ESG Annette Quintana Director Ie-Duval ESG Dayatra Coles Adfordable Housing Dounty, FL ESG Deanna Gilkerson Program Manager County, FL ESG Donnie Mitchell Housing & Community Dounty, FL ESG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director de County, FL ESG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director de County, FL ESG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director Accounty, FL ESG Carlos Serrano Operations Manager An County, FL ESG Jonathan Bramlett Housing Development Anty, FL ESG Jonathan Bramlett Housing Development Anty, FL ESG Greeg Alpers Director Dounty, FL ESG Greeg Alpers	Collier County, FL	ESG	Kimberley Grant	Director	239-252-6287	kimberleygrant@colliergov.net
rade of ESG Erik Braun Director For Jonathan Brown Brown Director LESG Annette Quintana Director Le-Duval ESG Eric Johnson Director Le-Duval ESG Bayatra Coles Administrator Ly, FL ESG Denise Thomas Development Manager County, FL ESG Donnie Mitchell Housing & Community BEG Donnie Mitchell Housing & Community County, FL ESG Donnie Mitchell Housing Grant Manager LESG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director Manager County, FL ESG Carlos Serrano Division Director County, FL ESG Sonia Carnaval Program Manager County, FL ESG Sonia Carnaval Program Manager County, FL ESG Carlos Serrano Operations Manager Manager Manager Manager Ly, FL ESG Greg Alpers Director Director Manager Manager Don Hadsell Birchell Director Director Manager Don Hadsell Director	Escambia County, FL	ESG	Meredith Reeves	Division Manager	850-595-0022	mareeves@myescambia.com
erdale, FL ESG Jonathan Brown Economic and Business Berdale, FL ESG Annette Quintana Director 1	Florida, State of	ESG	Erik Braun	Director	850-922-4691	erik.braun@myflfamilies.com
LESG Annette Quintana Director Jah ESG Eric Johnson Interim Department Je-Duval ESG Dayatra Coles Affordable Housing Pounty, FL ESG Deanna Gilkerson Program Manager County, FL ESG Donnie Mitchell Housing & Community Dounty, FL ESG Donnie Mitchell Housing Grant Manager de County, FL ESG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director de County, FL ESG Clarence Brown Division Director ounty, FL ESG Sonia Carnaval Program Manager h County, FL ESG Carlos Serrano Operations Manager ounty, FL ESG Jonathan Bramlett Director ounty, FL ESG Sheri Harris Housing Development Manager Manager Manager ty, FL ESG Greg Alpers Director Sounty, FL ESG Sonia Carnaval Program Manager	Fort Lauderdale, FL	ESG	Jonathan Brown	Economic and Business Development Manager	954-828-4548	jonathanbr@fortlauderdale.gov
LighESGEric JohnsonInterim Department DirectorInterimESGDayatra ColesAffordable Housing AdministratorLy, FLESGDeanna GilkersonProgram ManagerCounty, FLESGDenise ThomasDevelopment CoordinatorDunty, FLESGRoberto TazoeAssistant Directorde County, FLESGRoberto TazoeAssistant Directorde County, FLESGClarence BrownDivision Directorcounty, FLESGSonia CarnavalProgram Managerth County, FLESGSonia CarnavalStrategic Planning and Operations Manageranty, FLESGJonathan BramlettDirectorthy, FLESGSheri HarrisManagerthy, FLESGGreg AlpersDirectorCounty, FLESGBon HadsellDirector	Hialeah, FL	ESG	Annette Quintana	Director	305-883-8040	aquintana@hialeahfl.gov
le-DuvalESGDayatra ColesAffordable Housing Administratorby, FLESGDeanna GilkersonProgram ManagerCounty, FLESGDennise ThomasHousing & CommunityCounty, FLESGDonnie MitchellHousing Grant Managerde County, FLESGRoberto TazoeAssistant DirectoreLESGClarence BrownDivision DirectoreLESGClarence BrownProgram ManagereLESGSonia CarnavalProgram ManagereLESGCarlos SerranoOperations Managerounty, FLESGJonathan BramlettDirectorruty, FLESGSheri HarrisManagercounty, FLESGGreg AlpersDirectorcounty, FLESGDon HadsellDirector	Hillsborough County, FL	ESG	Eric Johnson	Interim Department Director	813-612-5397	tamesg@hcflgov.net
by, FLESGDeanna GilkersonProgram ManagerCounty, FLESGDenise ThomasHousing & CommunityDounty, FLESGDonnie MitchellHousing Grant Managerde County, FLESGRoberto TazoeAssistant Directorcounty, FLESGClarence BrownDivision Directorch County, FLESGSonia CarnavalProgram Managerch County, FLESGCarlos SerranoOperations Managerch County, FLESGJonathan BramlettDirectorcounty, FLESGSheri HarrisHousing Developmentcounty, FLESGGreg AlpersDirectorcounty, FLESGDon HadsellDirector	Jacksonville-Duval County, FL	ESG	Dayatra Coles	Affordable Housing Administrator	904-255-8216	dcoles@coj.net
County, FLESGDenise ThomasHousing & Community Development Coordinatorbunty, FLESGDonnie MitchellHousing Grant Managerde County, FLESGRoberto TazoeAssistant Directorde County, FLESGClarence BrownDivision DirectorFLESGSonia CarnavalProgram ManagerAn County, FLESGCarlos SerranoOperations ManagerLuty, FLESGJonathan BramlettDirectorCounty, FLESGSheri HarrisHousing DevelopmentLounty, FLESGGreg AlpersDirectorCounty, FLESGDon HadsellDirector	Lee County, FL	ESG	Deanna Gilkerson	Program Manager	239-533-7930	dgilkerson@leegov.com
bounty, FL ESG Donnie Mitchell Housing Grant Manager de County, ESG Roberto Tazoe Assistant Director de County, FL ESG Mitchell Glasser Manager ESG Sonia Carnaval Program Manager Carlos Serrano Operations Manager Carlos Serrano Operations Manager Director Housing Development Manager Don Hadsell Director	Manatee County, FL	ESG	Denise Thomas	Housing & Community Development Coordinator	941-748-4501	denise.thomas@mymanatee.org
de County, ESG Clarence Brown Division Director ounty, FL ESG Mitchell Glasser Manager FL ESG Sonia Carnaval Program Manager Sh County, FL ESG Carlos Serrano Operations Manager ounty, FL ESG Jonathan Bramlett Director thy, FL ESG Greg Alpers Director Sounty, FL ESG Greg Alpers Director Manager Don Hadsell Director	Marion County, FL	ESG	Donnie Mitchell	Housing Grant Manager	352-671-8774	donnie.mitchell@marioncountyfl. org
ami-Dade County, ESG Clarence Brown Division Director ange County, FL ESG Mitchell Glasser Manager lando, FL ESG Sonia Carnaval Program Manager Im Beach County, FL ESG Carlos Serrano Operations Manager sco County, FL ESG Jonathan Bramlett Director Ik County, FL ESG Greg Alpers Director asota County, FL ESG Greg Alpers Director asota County, FL ESG Don Hadsell Director	Miami, FL	ESG	Roberto Tazoe	Assistant Director	305-416-1984	rtazoe@miamigov.com
FSG Mitchell Glasser Manager ESG Sonia Carnaval Program Manager Strategic Planning and Operations Manager ESG Jonathan Bramlett Director ESG Sheri Harris Manager ESG Greg Alpers Director ESG Greg Alpers Director	Miami-Dade County, FL	ESG	Clarence Brown	Division Director	786-469-2221	cdbrown@miamidade.gov
ESG Sonia Carnaval Program Manager Strategic Planning and Operations Manager ESG Jonathan Bramlett Director Housing Development Manager ESG Greg Alpers Director ESG Don Hadsell Director	Orange County, FL	ESG	Mitchell Glasser	Manager	407-836-5190	mitchell.glasser@ocfl.net
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ESG Sheri Harris Housing Development Manager ESG Greg Alpers Director	Pasco County, FL	ESG	Jonathan Bramlett	Director	727-834-3447	jbramlett@pascocountyfl.net
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^{*}Please note that grantee contact information is the most recent provided on HUD Exchange and cannot be verified as correct in the case of staff

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Jacksonville-Duval County, FL	HOPWA	Dayatra Coles	Affordable Housing Administrator	904-255-8216	dcoles@coj.net
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Miami, FL	HOPWA	Roberto Tazoe	Assistant Director	305-416-1984	rtazoe@miamigov.com
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Sulzbacher Center for the Homeless	HOPWA	Cindy Funkhouser	President and CEO	904-359-0457	cindyfunkhouser@tscjax.org
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*Please note that grantee contact information is the most recent provided on HUD Exchange and cannot be verified as correct in the case of staff

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Grantee	Program	Contact	Title	Phone	Email
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