

# Florida Housing Coalition Counselors Caucus

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Judy Ayers Britton – President / Owner

Ayers Britton Consulting LLC

# Florida Housing Counseling Activity

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- **371 Active HUD-Certified Housing Counselors**
- **100 Housing Counseling Agencies**
- **Number of agencies providing services:**
  - **98** - Pre-purchase Counseling
  - **81** - Default Counseling
  - **63** - Rental Counseling
  - **14** - HECM Counseling



# Agency Locator Tool

By Phone

(800) 569-4287

Search Online

Hud.gov/housingcounseling

The screenshot shows the HUD website's 'HOUSING COUNSELING SERVICES' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the HUD logo, 'U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development', and links for 'About Us' and 'What We Do'. A search bar is also present. Below the navigation is a hero image of three people in conversation. A white box with green text reads 'HOUSING COUNSELING SERVICES'. Below this, a paragraph states: 'The nationwide network of HUD participating housing counseling agencies have been helping consumers across America for more than 50 years by providing the answers they need to make informed housing decisions. Use the search below to find a HUD participating housing counseling agency near you.' A 'Related Resources' box provides contact information: 'To get help in another language or seek disaster relief assistance counseling, call HUD at 800-568-4287 or 202-708-1455 (TTY)'. The main search area is titled 'Search by zip code or state to find a HUD participating housing counseling agency near you:'. It includes input fields for 'Zip code', 'Distance' (set to 'All'), 'OR', and 'State' (set to '--None--'). Below this is a dropdown menu for 'Select the type of service you are seeking (optional):' with the text 'Select an Option'. At the bottom, there is a section for 'Use the criteria below to narrow your search results (optional):' with three dropdown menus: 'Agency Name' (set to '--None--'), 'Counseling Method' (set to '--None--'), and 'Preferred Language' (set to 'Select an Option').

# HUD Homeownership Initiative Grant

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- **FY 23 HUD Homeownership Initiative Grant**

- Announced June 17, 2024
- List of [awardees](#)
- Helps to bridge the homeownership gap by increasing homeownership rates among Underserved Communities.
- New grant program
- Utilizes Fixed Amount Award reimbursement method
- Open to Intermediaries, Multi-State Organizations, State Housing Finance Agencies

# Current HUD Topics

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- **Counselor Certification**

- New hudhousingcounselor.com website with two-factor authenticator
- Updated certification exam
- Exam transfer issue corrected – Still working on access to Assessments

- **HECM Counselors**

- Number of HECM counselors reduced significantly across the country
- Looking to increase

# Additional HUD Topics

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- **Disaster Assistance Counseling**
- New direct email [OHCDart@hud.gov](mailto:OHCDart@hud.gov).
- Reimbursement from Comprehensive Housing Counseling Grant acceptable
  - Listed as an activity in HCS
  - All required counseling activities must be provided
- **September 17-19, 2024: HUD's OHC 2024 Community Conference:**
- Free virtual community conference for all of HUD's community partners, HCAs, and their HUD certified housing counselors