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Florida Supportive Housing Coalition Newsletter

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Partner Agencies



Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association



States Increasingly Using Tax Credits, Other Tools to Preserve Affordable Housing

According to a working paper released this week by the National Housing Trust (NHT), nearly all states emphasize preservation in the allocation of federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs) and most set aside a portion of their private activity bonds to preserve their affordable housing stock. Supported by the creation of other state-level financial and regulatory tools, this emphasis on preservation led to a tripling of successfully preserved units between 2000 and 2006, from 20,000 to 63,000 annually. These efforts have played a role in preserving roughly 215,000 affordable units over the last four years.

NHT's survey of state housing finance agencies (HFAs) found that 47 states prioritize preservation when allocating federal tax credits, and roughly half set aside a portion of these credits to be used exclusively for preservation-related activities. States and localities also continue to create housing trust funds as a means of financing preservation and rehabilitation. NHT's report also documents state incentives for "green" rehabilitation and the preservation of affordable housing in rural areas.

The working paper and associated charts include state-level information on the criteria used to allocate federal and state tax credits, tax-exempt bonds and other state and local resources to preserve affordable housing. These documents can be found here: www.nhtinc.org/pub_pol_state_local.asp.

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Florida Supportive Housing Summit

You are Invited to join Florida Supportive Housing Coalition during their 2007 Strategic Planning Summit. The purpose of this summit is to discuss a strategy for increased production of supportive housing throughout the state, seek input from all stakeholders and present an opportunity to network with others concerned about linking services with affordable housing.

Invitees include state entities, FLSHC coalition members and partner, and other stakeholders. The Summit will be held July 31st in Tallahassee at the Parks Plaza Hotel.

Details of the Summit Agenda and hotel information is on the attached flyer.

For more information contact LaVonia Sampson at 850 878-7403 or admin@flshc.net

Local Legislative News

Removing the Cap on the Sadowski Housing Trust Fund (HB 367)

Florida lawmakers refused to remove the cap on the Sadowski Trust Fund. The House did workshop a bill to remove the cap in its Policy and Budget Council; however that is where it ended. The Senate did not address the cap in any committee. (*No bill heard in committees*). The Legislature did appropriate \$391,400,000 of the Sadowski fund towards Housing initiatives some of the money appropriated was from last year's unappropriated dollars.

Funding/Policies for the development of extremely-low income households

HB 1375, this session's 'comprehensive' affordable housing bill included \$15 million for extremely low income housing development. This is a 50 percent decrease from the current funding set a-side.

Independent Living Transition Services – SB 2114 - Passed

Includes provision that assistance to youth formerly in foster care receive temporary assistance to prevent homelessness be provided expeditiously

Affordable Housing – HB 1375 - Passed

Includes provision allowing FHFC to provide a partial loan forgiveness for units developed for extremely low elderly by nonprofit organizations where the affordability of the units lasts for at least 15 years.

Overall the bill contains provisions and such to encourage builders and developers to build affordable housing for (mostly) low and moderate income households.

REMINDER...2007 Homebuyers EXPO!

June is National Homeownership Month, and as part of celebrating homeownership, Florida Housing Finance Corporation will host a number of events in Orlando, including the 2007 Home Buyer Expo. The expo will be held on Saturday, June 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Orange County Convention Center, Hall D2, West Building and includes hundreds of exhibits and booths showcasing resources available to secure affordable housing. There will be a booth at the registration counter for persons needing special assistance such as accessing the exhibit space or an interpreter for persons that are hearing impaired.

Highlights of the expo include free credit reports and credit counseling, workshops and seminars on securing financing, understanding the loan closing process and determining how much you can afford. This is a great opportunity for the general public to find out about local, state and federal affordable housing programs. Registration is free for consumers, and parking is free if you pre-register online.

The following is a link to the Expo's Website for additional information: <http://www.floridahousing.org/Expo/Home.htm>.

For more information contact Bill Aldinger at 850-488-4197.



Scholarships Available for FLSHC/FCH 2007 Conference

By offering scholarships, the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition and the Florida Coalition for the Homeless are striving to be able to make the conference available to those interested in attending that may not otherwise be able to do so.

Up to 50 scholarship are being provided by the Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Homelessness. These scholarships will cover the recipients registration and 2 nights of hotel accommodations..

To be awarded a scholarship, the applicant must be:

- Homeless
- Formerly Homeless
- A Homeless Advocate
- A Service Provider

To apply for the scholarship, visit <http://www.flshc.net/events.htm> and click, Register Online. Once you arrive on this page, fill out the form and indicate that you would like to receive a scholarship.

If a scholarship is awarded, a commitment letter will be sent to accept the scholarship by August 31st. If a scholarship is not awarded, you will have the option to pay for the conference or withdraw the registration.

2006-2007 FLSHC SUSTAINING AGENCY MEMBERS

Ability Housing of Northeast Florida, Inc.
Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Boley Centers, Inc.
Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association
Volunteers of America
Camillus House, Inc.
Florida Council for Community Mental Health

***The Florida Supportive Housing Coalition
and the Florida Coalition for the Homeless
present a joint statewide conference:***

Common Vision: Housing Solutions for All

October 25 - 26, 2007
with optional pre-conference Wednesday, October 24

Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront
333 First Street South
St. Petersburg, FL
(727) 894-5000
www.stpetersburg.hilton.com

Who Should Attend the Conference?

- People with special needs & their families
- Service Providers
- Advocates
- Housing Developers
- Local and State Government Officials
- Anyone interested in housing for the homeless or people with disabilities
- Local Homeless Coalitions

CEUs/Contact Hours Available For:

- Addiction Treatment/Prevention Professionals
- Mental Health Counselors
- Marriage and Family Therapists
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers

Registration Fees:

- \$250 - members
- \$350 - renewing member and new membership (includes membership in both organizations for 2008)
- \$400 - non-members
- \$100 - optional pre-conference October 24

Hotel Information:

Hotel Conference Rate: **\$119** single/double

Hotel Cutoff Date: **October 5, 2007**
Mention **Affordable Housing Conference**

Toll-Free Reservations: 800-445-8667

For more information, visit the FLSHC Web site at www.flshc.net



Calendar of Events



JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 Homeowner- ship Loan Program	9
10	11	12 Planning, Financ- ing and Develop- ing Affordable Rental Housing	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Issues and challenges in Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation	28	29	30 Cut Off for Speakers proposal for FLSHC and FCH Joint Conference

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Board meeting Parks Hotel 4pm-8pm	31 Strategic Pan sum- mit Parks Hotel 9am-4pm				

National Legislative Update!

HUD Subcommittee Receives Increased Allocation; Mark Ups Scheduled by NLIHC

HUD Subcommittee Receives Increased Allocation; Mark Ups Scheduled

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) was allocated \$50.7 billion for its FY08 spending, an increase of \$2.8 billion or 6.7% over its FY07 amount. The House Appropriations Committee approved allocations to its 12 subcommittees on June 5. These allocations are known as “302b” allocations, referring to the section of budget law that authorizes them, and marked the next formal step in the appropriations process following the adoption of a joint budget resolution in May (see *Memo*, 5/18).

The next step is for the subcommittee to mark up a THUD bill that divvies up the \$50.7 billion in allocated subcommittee funding among all of the federal programs under its jurisdiction, including funding for all HUD programs. The THUD subcommittee, chaired by Representative John Olver (D-MA), will hold its mark-up for the FY08 spending bill starting at 3 p.m. on June 11.

The full committee, chaired by Representative David Obey (D-WI), is expected to mark-up the THUD bill on June 18. The bill is then slated to be considered on the House floor the week of June 25.

NLIHC is urging the following among other requests:

- Sufficient funding for the housing choice voucher program, including \$15 billion for voucher renewals and provisions to base administrative funding on the number of families each agency serves.
- New funding for at least 100,000 new, incremental vouchers in FY08.
- Adoption of HUD’s proposal to award \$5 million in bonus administrative fees to public housing agencies that consolidate the administration of their voucher programs.
- \$3.5 billion public housing capital funds.
- \$5 billion public housing operating funds.
- \$6.1 billion to \$6.7 billion, depending on latest HUD data available, for the renewal of project-based rental assistance contracts.
- Consideration of appropriations needs in H.R. 1227, the Gulf Coast Hurricane Housing Recovery Act of 2007.

LAST CALL for Speaker Proposals for 2007 Conference

We are still seeking speakers to submit proposals for presentations for the 2007 Joint Supportive Housing and Homeless Conference. We have provided a convenient way to submit proposals online by going to the following link:
<http://www.flshc.net/events.htm>

We are aiming to complete the agenda for the conference and release a brochure by July 2007. In order to assess interest and determine appropriate topics for the conference, we need actual proposals submitted by June 30th. However, if you are interested in getting a spot to speak during this exciting joint event, we encourage you to submit your proposals soon.

If you have any questions contact Lavonia Sampson at 850-878-7403 or email her at admin@flshc.net
