

May 31, 2024

Alessandra Tasca
Deputy Director of Community Programs
Neighborhood Services Department
City of Port St. Lucie
121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd
Port St. Lucie, FL 34984

Dear Ms. Tasca,

Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council (“Council”) appreciates the opportunity to continue our collaboration with the City of Port St. Lucie. The generous allocation of Emergency Rental Assistance (“ERA”) funds over the past three years has enabled the Council to keep hundreds of households in the City of Port St. Lucie and St. Lucie County in stable rental housing.

This will serve as the introduction of the enclosed proposal for a new collaboration utilizing ERA2 funding to “rapidly rehouse” households experiencing homelessness and/or in imminent risk of homelessness.

Below is a summary of the proposed program:

Eligibility (Section 3201 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2)

- One or more individuals within the household has qualified for unemployment benefits or a reduction in income, incurred significant costs, or experienced other financial hardship during or due, directly, or indirectly, to the coronavirus pandemic.
- One or more individuals within the household can demonstrate a risk of homelessness or housing instability.
- The household is a low-income family (as defined in section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 a(b))).
 - o Priority given to households that are very low-income.

Program Guidelines

- Current residents of the City of Port St. Lucie
- Households are Homeless Category 1 or Category 2, with priority given to Category 1
 - o Category 1 – Literally Homeless
 - o Category 2 – Imminent Risk of Homelessness
- Housing Stabilization Case Management to assist household in locating rental property.
- Financial Assistance is provided to assist the household move into a rental property.
 - o Security Deposit
 - o First & Second Month Rents
 - o Utility Security Deposit (if necessary)
- Financial Assistance is paid directly to the property owner (“Landlord”) and utility provider.

- Rental property will be in the city limits of the City of Port St. Lucie
- The property monthly rent cannot exceed “Fair Market Rent” for St. Lucie County as defined by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”)

Projected Outcomes

Based on a contract amount of \$400,000 this Rapid Rehousing Program will be able to serve 40-45 households.

I appreciate the opportunity to Connect – Collaborate – Cultivate with the City of Port St. Lucie to serve your residents.

Sincerely,

Rayme L. Nuckles
Visionary Leader