

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
<i>Myers</i>	<i>6-11-08</i>

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY		ACTION REQUESTED	
1. LOG NUMBER	000652	I <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____	
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR	<i>cc: Ms. Forkner, Wells</i>	Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____	
	<i>N/R per Myers on 8/5/08</i>	I <input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____	
		I <input type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action	

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			



U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Columbia Field Office
Strom Thurmond Federal Building
1835 Assembly Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201-2480
www.hud.gov

June 10, 2008

RECEIVED

JUN 11 2008

Ms. Emma Forkner
Director

SC Department of Health & Human Services
1801 Main Street, P. O. Box 8206
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-8206

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Ms. Forkner:

The purpose of this letter is to request your assistance, once again, in reviewing supportive services plans from applications for funding under the Section 811 Program of Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities. This program was authorized by the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 and provides funding in the form of capital advances to nonprofit organizations (Sponsors) to construct, rehabilitate or acquire (with or without rehabilitation) housing for persons with disabilities. The capital advance does not have to be repaid as long as the housing remains available for very low-income persons with disabilities for at least 40 years. Project rental assistance funds are also provided to cover the HUD-approved operating costs of the housing with the exception of the cost of any necessary supportive services for the residents. Residents are required to pay no more than 30 percent of their adjusted incomes for rent.

On May 12, 2008, HUD published in the Federal Register a Notice of Funding Availability for the Section 811 Program as part of a Super Notice of Funding Availability (SuperNOFA) for HUD's Discretionary Programs. You may download a copy from www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/fundsavail.cfm. The application deadline date is July 16, 2008. Nationwide, HUD has \$99.3 million in capital advance funds available which will facilitate the development of approximately 828 housing units for persons with disabilities.

The supportive services plan and the Sponsor's description of its experience in providing housing or related services to the intended population are key parts of a Section 811 application. HUD recognizes that housing without necessary supportive services may not be sufficient to enable many persons with disabilities to live independently in the community. Since HUD cannot pay for supportive services, it will not select an applicant for a Section 811 capital advance unless the provision of supportive services described in the supportive services plan is well designed to serve the needs of the proposed residents and there is evidence that any necessary supportive services will be provided on a consistent, long-term basis to ensure the continued viability of the housing project. It should be noted, however, that accepting the supportive services that are offered in conjunction with the housing cannot be a condition of occupancy.

We again are requesting your assistance in reviewing the supportive services plans from Sponsors proposing to serve persons with Developmental Disabilities because of your agency's knowledge and expertise in the provision of supportive services to this population. In order to be approved for funding, Sponsors are required by law to have a certification from the "appropriate State or local agency" indicating that the provision of the services identified in the supportive services plan is well designed to meet the special needs of the proposed residents. Enclosed is a copy of the Certification for Provision of Supportive Services, HUD form 92043, which is an evaluation, designed to assist the reviewer.

Please note that, in addition to the statutory requirement for a determination as to whether or not the provision of services is well designed, we have included space for the reviewer to indicate whether the proposed project is consistent/inconsistent with State or local plans and policies addressing the housing needs of people with disabilities. For example, if the proposed project will be a group home for four adults with developmental disabilities but the State will only provide supportive services funding for three persons in a group home, the reviewer would check the "Inconsistent" box. This additional indication will help assure us that Sponsors who are receiving funding or referrals through a particular agency, or their projects will be licensed by that agency, are proposing projects that are sanctioned by that agency. There is also space for the reviewer to indicate whether or not the necessary supportive services will be provided on a consistent, long-term basis as well as whether the provision of supportive services will enhance the independent living success and promote the dignity of those who will access the proposed project.

HUD will not review the supportive services plan of Sponsor's applications and, consequently, there will be no points assigned to the plan. Instead, the supportive services plan and the Certification are threshold requirements which means that if the application does not include them and, after being notified by the HUD Office, the Sponsor does not provide the missing information within 14 days, the application is rejected. Furthermore, if the agency completing the Certification indicates any of the following, the application will be rejected:

- 1) the provision of supportive services is **not** well designed to serve the individual needs of persons with disabilities the housing is expected to serve;
- 2) the provision of supportive services will **not** enhance the independent living success or promote the dignity of those who will access the proposed project;
- 3) the necessary supportive services will **not** be provided on a consistent, long-term basis; or
- 4) the proposed housing is **inconsistent** with State or local plans and policies addressing the housing needs of people with disabilities; (if the agency will be a major funding or referral source for or license the proposed project).

Unless we are informed otherwise, we assume that your agency is the appropriate agency to review the supportive services plans of applications from Sponsors proposing to develop housing for persons with Developmental Disabilities and to complete the Certification and we will be informing applicants interested in submitting a Section 811 application for persons with Developmental Disabilities that they are to send one copy of their application including the supportive services plan to your agency for review and completion of the Supportive Services Certification.

We are having an orientation workshop for prospective Sponsors on **June 18, 2008, Strom Thurmond Federal Building, Room 1422, 1835 Assembly Street, Columbia, South Carolina** and would like you or your representative to attend in order to receive more detailed information on the Section 811 Program and to be available to help answer any questions on the provision of supportive services to persons with Developmental Disabilities. If you or a representative will be attending, please call **Cloretta Middleton at (803) 253-3245** to confirm.

If your agency is not the appropriate agency for Sponsors proposing to serve persons with Developmental Disabilities to send a copy of their applications for review, please direct us to the appropriate agency as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important effort. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Glenda L. Fesperman
Supervisory Project Manager
Columbia Multifamily Program Center

Enclosures

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