

April 19, 2010

FLORIDA

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Randy Reid Alachua County Manager PO Box 2877 Gainesville, FL 32602

Dear Mr. Reid:

As you are aware, the One Stop Homeless Assistance Center (OSHAC) is a major goal within the GRACE Market Place Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. The City of Gainesville and the Alachua County Board of County Commission have committed to provide technical and financial resources to end homelessness in the City of Gainesville and Alachua County.

I am pleased to announce that on April 1, 2010, the City began a major step in the fulfillment of this goal by releasing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a qualified Design Build Firm to plan, design and construct the OSHAC which will be built on the site located at the 800 Block of NW 53<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. A Pre Bid Proposal Conference was held April 15<sup>th</sup> and proposals are due to the City of Gainesville Purchasing Division by May 6<sup>th</sup>. An evaluation team consisting of City and County representatives and the Office on Homelessness / Alachua County Housing Authority will rank the firms and submit their recommendations of the rankings to the Gainesville City Commission. It is our anticipation that construction could start in August 2010.

With the purchase of the OSHAC site and the Design Build Construction Phase underway, it is now time to turn our attention to the operational phase of the Center. The Office on Homelessness (OOH) will begin shortly to have dialogue with the Grace Market Place Providers to ensure their commitment to the Center for services. In addition, OOH will begin negotiations with the One Stop Providers for the Social Services / Management Services of the Center and the financial resources must be firmed in order to execute an agreement for the operation of the Center. Additional funds will be needed for the residential services; OOH has agreed to work with the City, County and the Homeless Providers in identifying, researching and submitting grant applications for funding of the residential services portion of the Center.

The City of Gainesville is proposing to commit operational funds in the amount of \$154,000 in FY 2010/2011 to provide for the social services and management services component of the center. This commitment will be reaffirmed with the submission of the City Manager's proposed budget to the City Commission in June/July 2010. In the past, communication between the City and County may have been lacking on when funds were actually needed for the OSHAC. Based upon our proposed construction schedule, the operational funds are needed for FY 2010/2011; therefore, I am requesting that Alachua County confirm its financial commitment for the operation of the OSHAC by June 30, 2010. Once the City and County budgets have been approved, OOH will begin negotiations with the OSHAC providers.

As always, Jayne Moraski, CEO of OOH and I are available to answer questions, you may have on the construction and operation of the One Stop Center.

Sincerely,

Assistant City Manager

Cc: Russ Blackburn, City Manager

Jackie Richardson, Housing & Community Development Manager Jayne Moraski, Gainesville/Alachua County Office on Homelessness Gail Monahan, CEO Alachua County/City of Gainesville Housing Authority

John Skelly, Alachua County Poverty Reduction Program Director