

Public Notice

Polk County Housing and Neighborhood Development Office (HND) Announces the Availability of State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Funds

Polk County Housing and Neighborhood Development Office announces the availability of SHIP funds for state fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023. Polk County expects to receive approximately \$5,868,404 in State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program funds for Fiscal Year 2022-2025 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025) to expand the availability of safe and affordable housing. Applications will be accepted July 1, 2022, and end June 30, 2025, or until funds have been expended. Polk County's SHIP Strategies assist very low-, low- and moderate-income clients.

SHIP funds may be used to provide assistance under the following Homeowner and Rental strategies:

1. Purchase Assistance/Home Buyer Education - Down payment and closing cost assistance to eligible homebuyers.
2. Demolition/Reconstruction - Home replacement assistance for clients whose homes have become uninhabitable.
3. Owner Occupied Rehabilitation - Assistance to eligible homeowners with renovations to preserve and maintain their home and/or assist physically disabled households with modifications to remove barriers.
4. Rental Development - Loans to eligible sponsors for the acquisition, rehabilitation or new construction of affordable rental housing units for income-eligible households.
5. New Construction and Redevelopment-Homeownership - Loans to eligible sponsors for the acquisition, demolition, site improvement, rehabilitation or new construction of affordable homeownership housing for income-eligible homebuyers.
6. Foreclosure Prevention – To assist families and individuals experiencing difficulties in making their mortgage payments.
7. Rapid Rehousing Assistance and homeless Prevention – Rental - Assist households that are in need of assistance for security and utility deposits.
8. Disaster Assistance – Assist households following a disaster as declared by the President of the United States or Governor of the State of Florida.

SHIP STRATEGIES	Estimated Number of Projects to be completed	Total SHIP Dollars
Purchase Assistance/Home Buyer Education	88	\$1,700,000
Demolition/Reconstruction	7	\$970,000
Owner Occupied Rehab (OOR)	32	\$476,564
Rental Development	23	\$1,800,000
New Construction and Redevelopment - Homeownership	2	\$350,000
Rapid Rehousing Assistance and Homeless Prevention Rental	0	0
Disaster Assistance	0	0
Foreclosure Prevention	0	0
Total SHIP Funds and Projects	152	\$5,296,564

Polk County will use at least 20% of the allocation of SHIP funds for special needs households through approved strategies, prioritizing funding for persons with developmental disabilities as defined in s.393.063(9), Florida Statutes, with an emphasis on home modifications. Polk County HND will utilize up to 10% of these funds for program administration. **Funds may not be used to repair, rehabilitate, or purchase mobile homes.** For information about the funding listed above contact the Polk County Housing Office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The County will accept applications during this advertised "Application Period" which will be 30 days. Applications will be placed in order of receipt and separated based on strategy applied for. When funds are available for a particular strategy, the applicants from the waiting list will be contacted to complete/update the application for SHIP assistance. Applicants will be placed in the queue for assistance once they have provided all required documentation and been deemed SHIP eligible.

For limited English proficiency - Para información en español, puede comunicarse con Lillian Nolin al (863) 534-5240.

This information is available in the ADA accessibility format that incorporates the needs of persons with disabilities in accessing the information provided. The link to this information on the HND website is <https://www.polk-county.net/housing-and-neighborhood-development>.

The local contact person for the Polk County SHIP Program is:

Cedric Cox, Housing Administrative Supervisor

Polk County Housing & Neighborhood Development Office

1290 Golfview Avenue, Suite 167

Bartow, FL 33830

E-mail: HNDRequests@polk-county.net

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FAIR HOUSING / EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



Run 1X in the front section of The Ledger, Sunday, June 5, 2022, send affidavit of publication to Nancy Hurley, Housing Compliance Manager, 1290 Golfview Ave., Suite 67, Bartow, Florida 33831.