

**PINELLAS COUNTY CONSORTIUM
NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY
CONSOLIDATED SUBMISSION FOR 2024-2025
FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

January 10, 2024

Pinellas County is accepting applications for FY 2024-2025 housing and community development projects. Project funding assistance is available through federal, state and local grant programs as outlined below.

Estimated FY 2024-2025 available federal funds are:

\$ 2,505,188	Community Development Block Grant Entitlement and Program Income
\$ 2,233,919	HOME Investment Partnerships Program Entitlement and Program Income
\$ 214,487	Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Confirmation of 2024 federal grant funding levels has not yet been received. Funding levels identified above are subject to change.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG): The Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, provides Federal Community Development Block Grant funds for projects that promote the development of viable, urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate-income (LMI).

The County anticipates having approximately \$1,800,000 in CDBG funding available for new project proposals for the following types of eligible activities which fall within the priority needs identified in the County's Consolidated Plan: (1) affordable housing development and preservation (2) public facility improvement projects (including acquisition and construction/rehabilitation) which serve low- to moderate-income areas and citizens or special needs populations, including the homeless within the County's jurisdiction; (3) public infrastructure projects in targeted areas and special districts; and (4) service and operation activities which serve low- to moderate-income areas and citizens or special needs populations, including the homeless.

Pinellas County encourages innovative and sustainable design to include photovoltaic energy systems (solar), energy and water efficient and environmentally sustainable features that incorporate green building standards.

HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME): Title II of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended, provides HOME funds for affordable housing activities including building, buying, and/or rehabilitating affordable housing for rent or homeownership.

Pinellas County is in a consortium with the City of Largo and anticipates having approximately \$2,000,000 available for affordable housing activities. The City of Largo receives a portion of the HOME funds as part of the Consortium and allocates funds to housing activities.

Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG): The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act), amending the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, provides ESG funds for addressing the needs of homeless people in emergency or transitional shelters to assisting people to quickly regain stability in permanent housing after experiencing a housing crisis and/or homelessness.

The County anticipates having approximately \$195,000 in ESG funds available for new project proposals for the following types of eligible activities: (1) homelessness prevention/rapid rehousing; (2) shelter operations (3) street outreach; and (4) shelter renovations. The ESG emergency shelter component funding is intended to help improve the number and quality of emergency shelter for homeless individuals and families and to help operate the shelters.

Application Information: Applications will be available beginning at **7:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2024.**

Applications will be accepted through the County's online application. The link to the online application portal is available on the County's website at <https://pinellas.gov/pinellas-county-housing-development-funding/>.

Application Due Date: 5:00 p.m., Friday, February 16, 2024

Applications must be submitted through the online application portal and in "*Application Submitted*" status, **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 16, 2024.**

Selection of activities is based on a competitive process according to, but not limited to, the following criteria: activities must be consistent with the County's Five-Year Consolidated Plan priorities and have approval of the local jurisdiction in which the activity is located; conceptual soundness of the project; financial feasibility of the project; applicant's demonstrated ability to implement and administer the project; applicant's ability to meet and maintain compliance with applicable federal, state, and/or local regulations; community development value (cost versus community impact); demonstrable positive impact on the community made apparent through accountable performance metrics; engagement of residents or businesses meeting Section 3 requirements.

Additional Federal, State and Local Funding: Pinellas County also anticipates receiving approximately \$225,000 in program income through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024.

In addition to Federal housing funds, State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP) and local Housing Trust Fund (HTF) funds will be available for affordable housing programs. Pinellas County anticipates having approximately \$7,290,106 in SHIP funding available from projected State allocation and program income. The County anticipates receiving approximately \$250,000 in program income from local HTF funds.

Affordable Housing Programs and Activities: Pinellas County funds housing programs on an ongoing basis using available CDBG, HOME, NSP, SHIP and HTF funding. These programs include housing development, down payment assistance, owner-occupied housing rehabilitation, and housing services such as homebuyer training, and foreclosure prevention counseling.

Applications for affordable housing development activities may be submitted at any time during the year. Housing Development activities include the preservation and/or production of affordable rental housing developments, mixed income rental developments and housing development for homebuyers.

Information about the County's housing and community development programs is available at: <https://pinellas.gov/builders-and-developers/>.

Jurisdiction: CDBG funds must be used to benefit residents located in the Urban County (all unincorporated areas and all incorporated areas except St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo, Pinellas Park, Belleair Shore and Redington Beach). HOME funds must be used to benefit residents of the Pinellas County Consortium (Urban County and the City of Largo). ESG funds must benefit the homeless or those at risk of homelessness located

outside the city limits of St. Petersburg. SHIP and local HTF funds must be used to benefit residents in the County (all unincorporated and all incorporated areas).