

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

PINELLAS COUNTY STATE HOUSING INITIATIVES PARTNERSHIP (SHIP) PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025 SHIP FUNDS AND HURRICANE IDALIA DISASTER FUNDING

FY 2024/2025 FUNDING

Pinellas County expects to receive \$3,835,842 in SHIP Program funds for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025) to expand the availability of safe and affordable housing.

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

- Purchase Assistance - Down payment and closing cost assistance to eligible homebuyers.
- Owner Occupied Rehabilitation - Assistance to eligible homeowners with home repairs to alleviate code violations, health hazards and life and safety issues and/or assist physically disabled households with modifications to remove barriers and make housing accessible.
- Acquisition/Demolition/Rehabilitation/New Construction - Loans to eligible sponsors for the acquisition, demolition, site improvement, rehabilitation or new construction of affordable homeownership housing for income-eligible homebuyers.
- Disaster Mitigation - Assistance to eligible homeowners with rehabilitation or reconstruction of their home in the aftermath of a disaster, as declared by Executive Order.
- Rental Housing - Loans to eligible sponsors for the acquisition, rehabilitation or new construction of affordable rental housing units for income-eligible households.
- Rental Assistance - Homelessness prevention assistance to eligible renters to prevent eviction and households from becoming homeless.

Pinellas County accepts housing applications on an ongoing basis. Applications for FY 2024-2025 funded activities will be accepted between September 28, 2024, and June 30, 2027, or until all available funds are spent. Program information, applications, and the County's Local Housing Assistance Plan are available upon request or on the County's website.

For all strategies and other activities, applications will be accepted on a first-qualified, first-served basis. Project proposals will be evaluated based on the following factors: (a) economic feasibility, (b) location, (c) priority of need, and (d) employment of personnel from the Welfare Transition Program. Funding awards are subject to program parameters and funding disbursements by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation. Technical assistance will be provided as needed to guide participants through the application process.

Special priority will be given to persons with special needs. Persons with special needs are defined in Florida State Statute 420.0004(13).

HURRICANE IDALIA DISASTER FUNDING

Pinellas County received a Hurricane Housing Recovery Program (HHRP) allocation of \$1,626,000 from the State of Florida to assist income eligible households directly impacted by Hurricane Idalia. The funds will be made available for relocation and rent payment assistance for a period of up to twelve months for residents of existing housing units that were substantially damaged during hurricane Idalia and are no longer habitable. Applicants will be required to document any assistance received from FEMA and property insurance.

Applications for Hurricane Idalia disaster funds will be accepted **beginning September 12, 2024**. Funds will be made available on a first-qualified, first served basis until funds are expended.

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

Sheri Harris, Housing Development Manager

310 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
E-mail: sharris@pinellas.gov
Phone: (727) 464-8210
Fax: (727) 464-8254
Website: www.pinellas.gov/department/community-development/

ALL SHIP funds will be expended in a manner which will ensure that there will be no discrimination on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, age, sex, marital status, familial status, national origin or handicap.