



Louisiana Housing Corporation

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 2024

Administrative/Human Resources

- Butler Snow LLP is in receipt of the documents requested to begin developing the disposition plan. I hope to share the recommendations at the June committee meeting when we approve the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year's Budget.

Programs

- HOME-ARP follow-up, the current offering for Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) has been revised to require applicants to submit outreach and selection plans subject to LHC staff approval prior to any award. Commissioners Vidrine and Dwyer requested that close consideration be given to the plan of how individuals in need will be notified and selected to receive vouchers.
- CDBG-DR funded work will transition over to Franklin Associates from Compass Group during the PRIME 3 review/award process. A transition plan and task order has been approved by OCD.
- On May 17, the PRIME 3 initial reviews will be completed and sent to applicants for responses.
- PRIME 2 Supplemental Offering was released with submissions due by May 15, 2024. Many of the awardees are still struggling with funding gaps. The offering will provide funding to projects that are capable of meeting the closing deadline of July 8, 2024.
- LHC staff completed CDBG-DR monitoring in conjunction with OCD. During the exit conference HUD commented on improved performance by LHC. The outcome of the monitoring was a win for LHC. OCD Director Gina Campo has expressed interest in LHC taking lead on all housing related programs, the results of the monitoring supports LHC's ability to be statewide housing leader for administering HUD funds.
- LHC's first Fair Housing Summit was a huge success. The speakers did a great job shining the light on fair housing issues and policy some of which can be well intended but have a disparate impact. Rev Turner of Feliciana discussed issues related to local zoning requirements and the refusal to accept Housing Choice Vouchers. LHC's legal team is reviewing the matter to determine if there is a role for LHC or if the matter should be elevated to the Attorney General's office.
- Disaster Response – LHC along with other agency heads attended GOHSEP's 3-day Statewide Exercise in preparation for hurricane season.
- LHC held a public hearing to obtain comments on the 2024 Weatherization Assistance Program Annual Grant Application on April 29, 2024.
- Home Appliance and Replacement Program (HARP) Program Update, 45 award letters have been sent to elderly households referred by the Council on Aging for new appliances. The applicant's homes have been inspected and they can now order up to \$1,500 in appliances to be delivered and installed in their home.

- Jarvis Lewis has been assigned an additional role of expanding business opportunities. He is taking led on partnering with Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas and Home Bank to receive funding for the remaining Blue Tarp Waitlist applicants (50 homes).

Legislative/Congressional/HUD Updates

- Rep. Bacala has expressed concern over multifamily projects going to Bond Commission for approval. A meeting is being set up with Rep. Bacala ahead of the next Bond Commission meeting with bond counsel and LHC staff to help alleviate his concerns. There has already been initial conversations since the April Bond Commission meeting.
- Continuing to have discussions with Insurance Commissioner Tim Temple and monitoring legislation.
- HUD will hold a June Stakeholder Virtual Listening Session on HUD's PBCA Proposal.
- Leslie Chambers is working with the Governor's Office to facilitate the signing of the 2025 QAP.

Recent Events

- Home on the Bayou Roundtable Discussion, Baton Rouge Association of Real Estate Brokers, April 8th, Baton Rouge
- Conference "Confronting America's Housing Crisis" April 12th, Tulane University
- Baker Tilly DevelUp Conference, April 17-18th, Chicago, IL
- 2024 SEED Conference hosted by Arkansas Development Finance Authority April 21st-24th
- LAAHP 2024 Annual Conference April 24th – 26th, Todd Folse spoke on INSPIRE Housing Standards.
- Housing Opportunities Workshop, St. Mary's Community Action Agency, April 25th, 6:00 – 7:30PM at 1407 Barrow St., Franklin, LA
- Fair Housing Symposium, April 30th, LHC
- Scotlandville Area Foundation Inaugural Missing Middle Housing Summit, May 1st – 2nd

Upcoming Events

- Certified Homeowner Education 2-Day Webinar, May 7th and 9th
- Meeting with USDA-RD Administrator, Joaquin Altoro, May 9th, New Orleans to discuss funding opportunities for the state.
- The Foreclosure Law Talk, May 22th, 12:00-1:00PM, streamed live
- American Bar Association, Forum on Affordable Housing & Community Development Law 2024 Annual Meeting in Washington DC. I will be a panelist speaker on Section 8 and Access to High Opportunity Neighborhoods.