**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY OVERVIEW**

**STATE HOUSING TRUST FUND COMMISSION FOR THE HOMELESS**

**Stable Housing Accountability Program**

The State of Georgia through the State Housing Trust Fund Commission for the Homeless releases this public Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for funding available statewide for qualified sponsors to operate a stable housing accountability program meeting the conditions outlined in Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 8-3-301, § 8-3-310, and § 8-3-311.  Stable housing accountability program funds will be awarded on a competitive basis to qualified sponsors that demonstrate an ability to provide voluntary, immediate, and stable housing to program participants.  The purpose of this NOFA Overview is to outline the criteria for awarding the funding and identify the eligible services that must be provided by any qualified sponsor seeking funding for a qualified stable housing accountability program.

A copy of the Stable Housing Accountability NOFA, the application package, and other related materials will be available on the Department of Community Affairs’ website at the link listed below:

<https://dca.georgia.gov/affordable-housing/homelessness-assistance/state-housing-accountability-program>

1. **FUNDS AVAILABLE:**

Approximately $850,000 is available for this funding opportunity. The minimum funding awarded will be $25,000 and the maximum will be $850,000.00.  The number of awards will be determined based upon the quality and quantity of applications received and scores received per the rating criteria outlined in the application.

1. **GRANT FUNDING LIMITATIONS:**

This funding opportunity is subject to annual state funding availability. The Commission reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the applications submitted in response to this NOFA.

1. **MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT:**

Applicants are expected to leverage their own or other available money or in-kind services for the benefit of the proposed stable housing accountability program. The level of availability to provide match funding will factor into an application’s overall competitiveness.

1. **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/QUALIFIED SPONSORS**

Non-profit and for-profit organizations and local government entities who are sponsoring residential housing projects or stable housing accountability programs as defined in Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 8-3-310 (5).

1. **MINIMUM THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY FOR FUNDING**

There are several minimum threshold requirements that must be met by an eligible applicant before for an application can be reviewed and scored. Each applicant must:

* Be a registered business entity with the Georgia Secretary of State in active compliance
* Have an active Employer Identification Number (EIN) with the Internal Revenue Service
* Be in active compliance with all tax obligations with the Georgia Department of Revenue and the Internal Revenue Service
* Not be listed on the Georgia Debarment List
* Meet the minimum standards for stable housing accountability programs as outlined in O.C.G.A. § 8-3-311 (d) (2024).

1. **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION AS A STABLE HOUSING ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM**

The below requirements are required to be certified as a stable housing accountability program for purposes of this funding opportunity:

* Proof of clean and livable residential facilities for program participants
* Ability to provide voluntary, immediate, and stable housing to program participants
* Limit the length of total residence for any person to 18 months or whenever the tenant who was the qualifying resident is able to obtain or is offered affordable housing, whichever is earlier
* Ability to require qualifying participants:
  + To show proof of U.S. citizenship and execute an affidavit verifying continuous residency in this state for the previous 12 months
  + To participate in free and relevant job training and educational opportunities until such resident obtains stable employment
  + To engage in an active search and apply for stable employment
  + To obtain stable employment and to maintain such employment status as long as stable employment is available to them
  + To participate in counseling, mental health care, and substance abuse treatment programs, as necessary
  + To submit to regular drug and alcohol testing
  + To abstain from criminal activity
  + For those qualifying residents who have minor children, ensure that the minor children receive adequate nutrition, health care, and education
  + To submit to regular review of compliance with applicable terms and conditions of the stable housing accountability program
* Agree to require residents to be removed from the program if they fail to meet specified accountability measures, including sustaining an honest, good-faith effort to achieve or maintain sobriety from drugs and alcohol
* Agree to submit to compliance requirements of the State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless Commission as outlined in O.C.G.A. § 8-3-311
* Provide an application that demonstrates how the funds will be used for activities that will result in a stable housing accountability program and the applicant’s ability to offer supportive services and housing for qualifying residents as outlined in outlined in Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 8-3-311.

1. **ELIGIBLE SERVICES:**

SHAP funds may be used for the following services:

* **Case Management and Ongoing Assistance to Obtain Affordable Housing**
  + Costs associated with the assessing housing and support service needs and the coordinating and monitoring of the delivery of individualized services to meet the needs of program participants
* **Voluntary, Immediate and Stable Housing**
  + **Emergency Shelter** 
    - Cost of providing essential services to homeless families and individuals in emergency shelters, and operating emergency shelters
  + **Shelter/Residential Operations** 
    - Costs of maintenance, rent, security, fuel, equipment, insurance, utilities, food, furnishings, and supplies necessary for the operation of a shelter or residential facility

* **Transportation**
  + Transportation costs of a participant’s travel to and from medical care, employment, childcare or other eligible essential services facilities via public transportation or based upon documented mileage (not to exceed the U.S. government rate per mile) if the participant is transported in a vehicle owned or leased by the Applicant
* **Nutrition**
  + Food costs for program participants under the age of 18 experiencing food insecurity not to exceed $200 per month per child in the household

* **Childcare**
  + Childcare costs for participants under the age of 18, including providing meals and snacks, not to exceed $200 per week. The childcare center must be licensed through the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning for its cost to be eligible
* **Mental Health Services**
  + Costs for direct outpatient treatment by licensed professionals of mental health conditions including crisis interventions, individual, family, or group therapy sessions and the prescription of medications
* **Substance Abuse Treatment Services**
  + Costs for outpatient services designed to prevent, reduce, eliminate, or deter relapse of substance abuse or addictive behaviors provided by licensed or certified professionals including client intake assessments, group and individual counseling and drug testing

1. **APPLICATION PROCEDURES:**
2. All applicants are required to complete and submit a Stable Housing Accountability Program (SHAP) application through eCivis.
3. Each application will be reviewed for completeness and to confirm eligibility.
4. Applications will be vetted and competitively scored.
5. Recommended applications will be considered, and a final determination will be made for all application awards

1. **APPLICATION DEADLINES AND AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

* SHAP applications must be submitted online. The SHAP application can be found at (insert website)/ (email address)
* Successful applicants will receive written notice of award, including all necessary documentation, to include but not limited to, award documents, requirements, timelines, agreement and other details.
* **Submission Deadlines are as follows:**

SHAP Application is due by **11:59:59pm on Monday, November 25, 2024.**

1. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The State Housing Trust Fund Commission for the Homeless is the administrator of the Stable Housing Accountability Program. This program is subject to funding availability, and the Commission reserves the right to amend the program criteria at any time. Use of funds is subject to all applicable state laws and regulations, as well as to the policies and procedures of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs and the State Housing Trust Fund Commission for the Homeless.

**For additional information, please contact Ashlei Seals, Office Director, Office of the State Housing Trust Fund Commission for the Homeless at shap@dca.ga.gov.**