

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZEN SERVICES
BUREAU OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
STAFF TIME WITH BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

February 13, 2014

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose:

Consideration of the Streamlined Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2014 for the Carroll County Bureau of Housing to be displayed for public comment for a 45- day period based on Federal Regulation 24 CFR 903. This Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) required report is an annual update of the goals and 5 year plan submitted in 2010. Following the 45- day public comment period, we are requesting a public hearing to consider and approve the Streamlined Annual Plan for FY 2014 for submission to HUD.

Background:

The Board of County Commissioners has acted as the Bureau of Housing and Community Developments (Public Housing Authority or PHA) "Resident Advisory Board" throughout the existence of the County's Section 8 housing assistance program. For that reason the Commissioners, or their designees, have signed documentation required by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for various authorization pertaining to the program. The document under consideration is the streamlined version of the Annual Plan for our Housing Authority. Carroll County Bureau of Housing is in the fifth year of its 5 year plan (2010 – 2014).

Please note that the Annual Plan is a template issued by HUD and when reading this document there are portions that apply only to those PHA's that are Project-based or public housing. There are no Project-Based or Public Housing in our service area. The Carroll County program provides 100 Non-Elderly Disabled Vouchers, 25 Family Unification Vouchers and 524 Tenant Based Rental Assistance Vouchers for 649 total Housing Assistance Vouchers.

The FY 14 Annual Plan lists one change to allow 2 of the regular tenant based rental vouchers to have a specialized preference as a pilot program. The two vouchers will be designated for homeless families that meet the requirements established and verified by Human Services Programs. These families must be homeless, verify residency with having a Carroll County address at least 6 months prior to entering a shelter, meet all other section 8 housing program criteria, currently reside in a shelter, and receive written approval from the shelter provider (Human Services Programs). As mentioned, this is a pilot program, and after one year will be evaluated and determined if will be continued, enhanced or discontinued.

There are no County funds utilized for the Section 8 Housing Assistance Program and there are no stipulations in the plan or funding streams that require the County to be liable.

The following are the noted goals from the 5 year plan:

- Will seek Non-Elderly and Disabled Vouchers when available from HUD (obtained 10/1/10)
- Will increase participation in the Family Self Sufficiency Program (specific goal oriented program with a 5 year plan to achieve financial independence) and encourage homeownership
- Will continue to seek alternative funding for housing assistance for qualified individuals and families
- Will remain compliant with Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA) regulations as related to the Housing Program. (Protection of housing assistance for the abused woman of a household)

Action Requested by the Board:

Approval to display the Streamlined Annual plan for 45 days for public review and comment and announce a Public Hearing on April 3, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. to consider approval to submit the FY 14 annual plan to HUD.

Motion Made: _____

Motion Seconded: _____

Approved: _____

Disapproved: _____

Date of Action: _____