

**Request for Action  
By  
Board of Commissioners**

**Approval of External Charitable Donations and Contributions**

**1. Summary of Action**

This Request for Action is for approval and ratification of external Charitable Donations and Contributions of Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”) pursuant to the Quasi-Public Corporations Accountability and Transparency Act, Chapter 155 of Title 42 of the Rhode Island General Laws (the “Act”).

**2. Discussion**

RIHousing is a public corporation of the State of Rhode Island. In carrying out its statutorily-defined public purposes, RIHousing collaborates with a number of organizations that share and advance its mission. In some instances, RIHousing is asked to financially support programs and activities of organizations engaged in activities that are consistent with and further its public purposes. RIHousing is often invited by its community partners to attend or gain recognition at community events, such as annual meetings or fundraisers, where our organizational presence is necessary or desirable.

At its meeting of December 11, 2014, the Board of Commissioners adopted the Handbook of Policies and Procedures to Ensure Accountability (the “Handbook”) pursuant to the Act. Section C of the Handbook sets forth RIHousing’s policy on charitable and civic donation. This Section provides that, consistent with the Act, all Charitable Donations and Contributions must be approved or ratified by the full Board of Commissioners at an open meeting.

Attachment A sets forth events for which RIHousing has or will make a Charitable Donation or Contribution. This Attachment A identifies the recipient of the expenditure, the amount of the expenditure, the nature of the event, the reason for supporting the event or recipient, each Commissioner or employee who will receive any benefit from the expenditure, and the general ledger account number where the expenditure will be recorded in RIHousing’s accounting system. None of these expenditures require any disclosure under the Rhode Island Code of Ethics.

RIHousing’s support of the work of the organization(s) listed on Attachment A furthers its corporate purposes of encouraging and stimulating the development of housing to alleviate the shortage of safe and sanitary residential housing for low- and moderate-income persons as set forth in R.I.G.L. §42-55-2(a). For example, the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce (“GPCC”) is a business advocacy organization formed to ensure that businesses in the greater Providence area continue to expand and thrive. GPCC collaborates with many of RIHousing partners to foster business opportunities that create jobs, grow investment and improve the economic prosperity of the region. The 2020 Statewide Business After Hours event is an excellent opportunity to support a close partner as well as network with colleagues and stakeholders. The Institute of Real Estate Management (“IREM”) is an international institute united to advance the profession of real estate management. Carol Ventura, Executive Director of RIHousing, has been invited to speak at the Rhode Island Chapter’s March meeting. It is an excellent opportunity for RIHousing to share its

housing perspective with our partners. In addition, it also serves as an opportunity for RIHousing staff to broaden relationships with IREM members, and property and asset managers. Sojourner House is a non-profit organization serving victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Sojourner Hours offers support groups, emergency shelter, transitional housing, sexual health advocacy, emotional support, and referrals to over 50 community partners. Their annual breakfast is a time to recognize the work they do and celebrate and strengthen our partnership, particularly as it relates to our collective work on the rapid rehousing program. The work of these organizations furthers and supports the mission of RIHousing.

### **3. Recommendation**

The attached resolution is recommended for adoption.

### **4. Attachment**

- A. Statement of Charitable Donations and Contributions
- B. Resolution

**Attachment A**

**Statement of Charitable Donations and Contributions**

**[See Attached]**

**Attachment B**

**Resolution of the  
Board of Commissioners of  
Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation**

- Whereas,** the legislative findings set forth in Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation’s (“RIHousing”) enabling act (R.I.G.L. §42-55-2(a)) provide that the serious shortage of safe and sanitary residential housing leads to environmental decline, depreciated value, reduced tax-paying capacity and impaired investment in the communities of the state; and
- Whereas,** RIHousing is authorized by statute to take action to encourage new housing in an orderly and sustained manner and to encourage and stimulate the construction of such housing through public financial support; and
- Whereas,** the organization(s) set forth in Attachment A presented at this meeting have asked RIHousing to provide financial support of their activities as described in Attachment A; and
- Whereas,** the organization(s) set forth in Attachment A plays an important role in supporting community revitalization and the development of affordable homes for low- and moderate-income families and individuals and policies that impact RIHousing’s mission; and
- Whereas,** RIHousing staff has reviewed the request for financial support and determined that it is consistent with RIHousing’s legislative purposes; and
- Whereas,** Attachment A sets forth the information required by the Quasi-Public Corporations Accountability and Transparency Act, Chapter 155 of Title 42 of the Rhode Island General Laws.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY:**

- Resolved,** that the expenditure(s) set forth in Attachment A are consistent with and in furtherance of the mission and policy initiatives of RIHousing.
- Resolved,** the expenditure(s) set forth in Attachment A are hereby approved and ratified.
- Resolved,** that the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director and the Chief Operating Officer, each acting singly, are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions they deem necessary and appropriate to carry out the forgoing resolutions.