

**Request for Action
By
Board of Commissioners**

Approval of Thresholds Program Awards

Summary of Issues

The State of Rhode Island established the Thresholds Program in 1990 with the goal of increasing the supply of affordable housing for people with serious mental illness and/or developmental disabilities. Since 1994, the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”) has administered the Thresholds Program under agreement with the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (“BHDDH”).

The Thresholds Program provides a source of capital funding to be paired with supportive services that enable consumers with developmental disabilities and/or persistent mental illness to live independently in integrated settings. Thresholds Program use restrictions are binding for 30 years.

The State of Rhode Island’s FY 2023 budget authorized \$100,000 for distribution under the Thresholds Program. BHDDH allocated \$5,000 to other Thresholds expenses; the remaining \$95,000 was transferred to RIHousing for distribution under the Thresholds Program and RIHousing’s administration expenses. In addition, a balance of funds remains from previous funding rounds, bringing the total amount available to \$551,098.22. In response to a Request for Proposals for Thresholds Program funding, RIHousing received two (2) applications seeking a combined total of \$854,723. The Thresholds Program Advisory Committee (the “Committee”) met on January 6, 2023 to review the applications. The Committee recommends that the proposals set forth in Attachment A be awarded Thresholds Program funds. The Committee has determined that the recommended awards totaling \$430,000 will enable the Thresholds Program to meet its goal of supplying housing linked to supportive services from a developmental disability agency, and that the size of the awards are justified and sufficient. The Committee has briefed the Director of BHDDH with respect to these recommendations and has received his formal approval.

With the approval of these proposals, approximately 78% of available Thresholds Program funds will be committed, creating eight (8) new units.

Recommendation

The Committee recommends the attached Resolution authorizing the award of Thresholds Program funds in the amount of \$430,000.

Attachments

- A. Recommendations of the Threshold Program Advisory Committee
- B. Resolution

Attachment A

Recommendations of the Thresholds Program Advisory Committee

Applicant, Project Location	Activity	Thresholds Program Recommendation	Total Development Cost
Community Living of Rhode Island Incorporated 39 Sweet Meadow Drive Cranston, RI 02920	This new project offers four (4) bedrooms located in a shared single-family home and will provide permanent supportive housing for Thresholds Program-eligible tenants.	\$237,000	\$471,062
Community Living of Rhode Island Incorporated 334 Roger Williams Avenue East Providence, RI 02916	This new project consists of four (4) bedrooms within a shared single-family home and will provide permanent supportive housing for Thresholds Program-eligible tenants.	\$193,000	\$383,661
TOTAL		\$430,000	\$854,723

Attachment B

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

WHEREAS, The Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (“BHDDH”) has entered into an agreement with the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation (“RIHousing”) pursuant to which BHDDH has delegated to RIHousing the administration of Thresholds Program funds; and

WHEREAS, RIHousing has solicited applications for FY 2023 Thresholds Program funds pursuant to an open competitive process; and

WHEREAS, The Thresholds Program Advisory Committee (“Advisory Committee”) has reviewed each of the eligible applications submitted in response to the Request for Proposals issued by RIHousing; and

WHEREAS, The Advisory Committee recommends that Thresholds Program funds be committed for the projects listed in Attachment A; and

WHEREAS, The Advisory Committee has briefed the Director of BHDDH with respect to its recommendations and received his approval;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY:

RESOLVED: That RIHousing be, and hereby is, authorized to commit \$430,000 in Thresholds Program funds to the organization and in the amounts set forth in Attachment A; and

RESOLVED: That the Executive Director, the Deputy Director, and the Director of Leased Housing and Rental Services, each acting singly, be, and hereby are, authorized and empowered to take any and all actions necessary or desirable to carry out the foregoing resolutions, including without limitation the authority to execute any and all agreements or documents as he or she may determine are in the best interests of RIHousing and deem necessary to carry out the foregoing resolutions.