

NOTICE OF 15-DAY COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC HEARING

HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Draft Allocation Plan

Congress has appropriated \$5 billion in American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to perform four activities primarily benefiting individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations. These activities include: (1) development and support of affordable housing, (2) tenant-based rental assistance (TBRA), (3) provision of supportive services; and (4) acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units.

Seminole County has received \$3,046,438 of HOME-ARP funds. These funds must be used to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability for qualifying populations. Qualifying populations include:

- Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302(a));
- At-risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360(1));
- Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary;
- In other populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12742(a)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability; and
- Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet one of the preceding criteria.

Funds are administered through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME). As a recipient of these federal funds, Seminole County is required to submit an Allocation Plan. The plan provides a Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis of the county's homeless and other vulnerable populations and describes how the county will use HOME-ARP funds to reduce homelessness and provide housing stability to qualifying populations.

Seminole County is seeking public comments on its draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan during a 15-day period beginning March 5, 2023 through March 20, 2023. The plan can be reviewed at www.seminolecountyfl.gov/departments-services/community-services/. Comments can be emailed to ssmithwick@seminolecountyfl.gov, or mailed to Seminole County Community Services, 520 W. Lake Mary Blvd., Suite 100, Sanford, FL 32773, attention Stacey Smithwick, Community Development Division Manager.

The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for approval during the March 14, 2023 Board Meeting. You may attend in person at the Commission Chambers, 1101 E. First St. Sanford. You may also attend virtually at www.seminolecountyfl.gov/departments-services/county-managers-office/sgtv/, or by registering to participate via ZOOM webinar. If you are unable to join virtually, you should call (407) 665-0808 for information on how to participate via telephone.

Individuals with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the Human Resources Department ADA Coordinator 48 hours in advance of the hearing at (407) 665-7940.

FAIR HOUSING/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/DISABILITY ACCESS JURISDICTIONS

