

The FY2012 State Housing Budget

DHC Strongly Supports the DSHA Request

The Delaware Housing Coalition (DHC) heartily supports the request for funding for the FY12 budget being made by the Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA).

We recognize that DSHA has identified critical needs and is proposing to make inroads against them. All of the other human needs with which the state is faced are better met by a family when under a roof of their own.

So, the DSHA request – which will produce new owner-occupied, rental, voucher, and permanent supportive housing – will allow elders to age in place, children to have homes, families to remain together, the disabled to live in affordable and accessible community settings, and so on.

The proposal for FY2012 will have a significant impact in economic development and in state budget cost avoidance. In hard times, DSHA has found a better way to do business, one that is not only productive, but timely, efficient, creative, and in partnership with community members.

The things which DSHA is helping to happen include

- 1) creating new low-income tax credit rental communities
- 2) revitalizing other rental communities and preserving the precious federal subsidies which make their rents affordable
- 3) funding innovative programs in shared equity homeownership, transitional and supportive housing
- 4) making possible emergency home repairs, which help to fix structural health and safety prob-


lems that threaten low-income homeowners with displacement, loss of equity, and possible homelessness

5) underwriting social investments to manufactured home owners exercising their collective right to purchase their communities from investor-owners

6) and, now, creating a statewide rental assistance program which will enable extremely low-income people to live in community, rather than in institutions, shelters,

or on the street.

So, we completely support the request by DSHA, one that is still modest in comparison to the need and, as our research and that of others' have shown, the very best investment to be made.

Please join DHC in urging the members of the General Assembly to fund the Delaware State Housing Authority at the requested \$11.32 million. 

The FY2012 Budget Request of the Delaware State Housing Authority

#1 ANNUAL HDF BASE AMOUNT

\$4.07 million

...the fundamental building block for a spectrum of affordable housing initiatives/

#2 STATE RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

\$3.0 million

...for the initiation of a statewide rental assistance program, helping to meeting the critical need of extremely low-income Delawareans

#3 SAVING FEDERALLY SUBSIDIZED RENTAL HOUSING

\$4.0 million

...for the purpose of preserving additional at-risk rental housing and retaining for the state the accompanying federal subsidies which make these units affordable to low-income Delawareans

#4 FORECLOSURE PREVENTION

\$250,000

...toward this difficult work which we will have before us for many more years