

Achieve with us.

July 16, 2015

For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

Mr. Bill Aldinger Florida Housing Finance Corporation 227 North Bronough, Suite 5000 Tallahassee, FL 32301

RE: Workshop Held July 8, 2015

Dear Mr. Aldinger:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the information conveyed during the workshop held on July 8, 2015 regarding the 2015 \$10 million Legislative appropriation for housing needs for persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD). Our comments are as follows:

- 1. The Arc of Florida supports the approach of FHFC to address the needs of individuals by focusing on the development of small homes. The individuals we serve mirrors the population in general in that aging issues will become a critical factor in the upcoming decades. Individuals with I/DD will greatly benefit from having access to smaller homes and will help to support the long-standing mission and policy of persons with I/DD receiving services in non-institutional, home-like and community based settings.
- 2. The Arc of Florida supports the decision to provide an opportunity to respond to two RFA's; the first of \$7 million for new construction to be noticed within the next month and then \$3 million in the Spring of 2016 for new construction and renovations (and that if there are funds remaining from the first RFA of \$7 million, that those funds will be made available during the second RFA).
- 3. We have not received any concerns from our membership regarding the draft RFA; therefore, we support the RFA as written.

As always, we appreciate the opportunity to be a part of the funding and RFA process. This funding is greatly appreciated and is helping to build a strong infrastructure which will provide homes for individuals for I/DD over the upcoming decades.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah J. Linton

Chief Executive Officer