

**From:** Barney Smith <barney@smithyoungco.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 8, 2021 3:22 PM  
**To:** Jean Salmonsens <Jean.Salmonsens@floridahousing.org>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on RFA 2022-103

Good afternoon.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on RFA 2022-103, Housing Credit & SAIL Financing for Homeless Housing Developments Located in Medium and Large Counties.

Several years ago, while I served on the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) board of directors, FHFC took the opportunity to allocate additional tax credits and SAIL funds into FHFC's then-current RFA for homeless developments. The end result was a third homeless development was approved that year for funding by the board. That was a good decision. That third homeless development opened in 2018 and is known today as the Sulzbacher Village, a national model and a multiple award-winning development located at 5455 Springfield Avenue in Jacksonville. Sulzbacher Village combines affordable housing units and emergency, veterans and medical respite units (accommodating over 310 residents) with a full gamut of wrap-around services (including but not limited to health care, children's programs, an early learning center, job placement and case management).

FHFC recently released its final RFA 2022-103 with specific funding goals for medium and large county applications in the Central Florida and Tampa Bay Regions. I believe that the Central Florida Region should be replaced with the North Florida Region, because of the results from the 2021 Homeless RFA, or the North Florida Region should be added as an additional Funding Goal for the 2022 RFA. In the 2021 Homeless RFA, FHFC funded two applications - - one in Miami-Dade County (South Region) and one in Brevard County (Central Region). North Florida was not funded. While I understand that FHFC rotates funding goal regions each year based on the previous year's goals, I believe it is both appropriate and fair to either (a) replace the Central Florida Region with the North Florida Region as a Funding Goal in the 2022 Homeless RFA, or (b) add the North Florida Region as an additional Funding Goal in the 2022 Homeless RFA.

I appreciate your consideration of the above and would be happy to discuss this in further detail with FHFC at any time.

Thank you very much.

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