Department of Community Development and Miami Beach CDC Launch HASC Miami Program for Persons With AIDS

The City of Miami Department of Community Development and the Miami Beach Community Development Corporation have launched the Housing Assistance Service Center (HASC Miami) program, a housing information, referral and advocacy program for persons living with AIDS throughout the Greater Miami area.

“Since the beginning of this year, it has been our commitment to provide this much needed resource to the over 20,000 people in our community living with HIV or AIDS,” said Barbara Gomez-Rodriguez, Director of the City of Miami Department of Community Development.

This new program, funded by the City of Miami Department of Community Development and implemented by the Miami Beach CDC, is the result of a housing needs assessment study by the City of Miami and the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership. This study identified a lack of resources to assist persons living with AIDS in locating information regarding housing issues and decent, affordable housing.

The HASC Miami program will provide information to persons living with AIDS regarding available affordable rental units identified by the program’s Housing Specialists, landlord/tenant advocacy services, and referrals to Miami Beach CDC’s HUD Housing Counseling Program.

The Housing Center will be supported by a newly developed website, www.hascmiami.org, a virtual one-stop housing center for persons living with AIDS, Ryan White care providers, and others serving households living with AIDS. The website will provide a wealth of housing information, and a password protected area where care providers and persons with AIDS can search a listing of decent and affordable housing located in Miami-Dade County. In addition, Ryan White and HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS) funded agencies will be able to promote their various programs through the website.

For more information, please visit www.hascmiami.org, or contact Vivian Garcia of HASC Miami at 305-538-0090.

From Left to Right: Seated; Alicia Apfel, President of Appletree Perspectives; Olga Sanchez, Dept. of Community Development, Barbara Gomez-Rodriguez, Director Community Development; and Maria Johnson, Asst. Director Community Developments Standing: Liza Walton, PIO Community Development; Roberto Datorre; President of Miami Beach CDC, at the HASC MIAMI KICKOFF.
Department of Community Development Opens Section 8 Waiting list

In December of this past year, the City of Miami Department of Community Development accepted applications from very low-income individuals and families for participation in its Project Based Section 8 Housing Assistance Program. The response was astounding! Over 15,000 applications were received, demonstrating the enormous need for affordable housing in the City of Miami.

The Project Based Section 8 Housing Assistance Program provides rental assistance to very low income (50% of the median household income) individuals and families of less than five people looking to occupy efficiencies, one-bedroom, or two-bedroom housing units that are operated under the City of Miami Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation contracts in the Little Havana Area.

The application period is now closed. Applicants will be notified once their number is called and there is availability in one of the program buildings.

For more information regarding the Section 8 program, please contact the City of Miami Department of Community Development at 305-416-1927.

Community Development Seeks Contractors for Single Family Rehabilitation Program

The Department of Community Development is seeking qualified, licensed and insured general contractors that specialize in electrical, plumbing and roofing work to perform home improvements for homeowners participating in Single Family Rehabilitation Program.

The City of Miami Single Family Rehabilitation Program provides qualified homeowners within the city limits loans of up to $30,000 in financial assistance to complete roofing, plumbing and electrical improvements on their residences.

Contractors interested in participating in the Single Family Rehabilitation program must complete and submit an application to the Department of Community Development. In addition, contractors must fulfill the following requirements: Be an active general contractor specializing in electrical, plumbing and roofing work, and be licensed in the State of Florida and/or Miami-Dade County, have a minimum of three (3) years experience in the rehabilitation or construction related disciplines associated with single family residential homes, provide proof of current occupational license, commercial general liability, and workers compensation insurance coverage, and provide a corporate resolution authorizing named individuals to execute contracts and other required documents.

Selected contractors will be expected to perform quality construction work and complete each rehabilitation project within ninety (90) days of the final agreement between the City and the homeowner. All contractors must comply with all local building codes, United States Department of Housing and Urban Development requirements and all other applicable laws and requirements. In addition, the general contractor must provide a one (1) year warranty for all work performed.

Application packages are available at the City of Miami Department of Community Development central office, located at 444 SW 2nd Avenue, 2nd Floor; and the City of Miami Housing Division office, located at 1313 NW 36th Street, 2nd Floor. Applications can also be downloaded from the City of Miami Community Development website at http://www.ci.miami.fl.us/communitydevelopment/.
Would you like to become a HOMEOWNER?

Are you tired of paying RENT? You may be eligible to purchase a brand new condominium!

Pueblo del Sol is a new 44-unit condominium featuring two and three bedroom units with beautiful architectural style that is contemporary with a distinctive Latin quality, located just four blocks East of Jackson Memorial Hospital Complex at located at 1644 NW 15th Street Road. This development is set to be completed in approximately one year.

This area is going to develop in the coming years and this is a good opportunity to buy now while prices are still low!

This is an affordable housing apartment complex; therefore, your income must fall within certain ranges in order to qualify.

This is a great opportunity for lower income individuals to purchase a home to build equity and wealth. For example, a family of two whose total annual income is $30,850 would be able to purchase a new two bedroom/two-bath condominium for a total monthly payment of approximately $771 per month. (This total includes principal, interest, taxes, insurance, and condo fee).

Down payment assistance is also available.

If this is not for you, please tell a friend.

Amenities include:
- Central Air-Conditioning
- Ceramic Tile & carpeting
- Washer/Dryer
- Refrigerator/freezer
- Stove/Oven
- Microwave Oven
- Garbage Disposal
- Kitchen Pantry
- Walk-in Closets
- Assigned Parking
- Private Terraces

For more information regarding Pueblo Del Sol please contact Janet Reid, from the Jubilee Community Development Corporation at 305-649-1553, extension 202.
Mayor Manny Diaz and the Department of Community Development Raise Awareness of HIV Epidemic in City of Miami

Mayor Manny Diaz and City of Miami volunteers partnered with local high school students to distribute information about HIV/AIDS and testing locations throughout Coconut Grove, Model City, Little Haiti and Overtown in recognition of National Black HIV Awareness Day, Saturday, February 7, 2004.

The neighborhood outreach teams began canvassing efforts in Coconut Grove, and the event was formally launched with a press conference at the Belafonte Tacolcy Center, in Model City—one of the neighborhoods with the highest incidence of HIV and AIDS in the United States.

In addition, the University Of Miami Department Of Infectious Diseases performed free on-site rapid HIV testing and counseling at the Tacolcy Center.

The incidence of HIV and AIDS in Miami is staggering: The latest Miami-Dade Health Department HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report (August 2003) shows that there are 27,174 cumulative cases of AIDS in Miami-Dade County. The racial and ethnic breakdown captured by the Surveillance Report shows that 51% of the cumulative AIDS cases and 54% of the reported HIV cases are Black or African-American. Geographic distribution of AIDS cases captured by the Miami-Dade Health Department shows the greatest concentration of AIDS cases in the City of Miami and immediate surroundings.

Know the facts about HIV/AIDS:

♦ HIV & AIDS is a Global Emergency claiming over 8,000 lives every day.
♦ In fact five people die from AIDS or AIDS-related complications every minute.
♦ Florida ranks fourth in the Nation in the number of AIDS cases.
♦ Florida ranks second in the Nation in the number of pediatric AIDS cases.
♦ Cumulatively through 2003, 27,540 AIDS cases have been reported in Miami-Dade County.
♦ One of every four AIDS cumulative cases reported in Miami Dade belongs to one of the ZIP codes included in the selected area (*)
♦ Cumulatively, through 2003, 9,694 HIV cases have been reported in Miami-Dade County.
♦ One of every five HIV cumulative cases reported in Miami Dade belongs to one of the ZIP codes included in the selected area (*)
♦ One of every three pediatric AIDS cases and one of every four pediatric HIV cases reported in Miami-Dade County belongs to one of the ZIP codes included in the selected area (*)
♦ It is estimated that 1 in 117 Miami-Dade County residents is living with HIV/AIDS (1 in 212 Hispanics, 1 in 163 Whites and 1 in 46 Blacks).
♦ It is estimated that 1 in 37 resident in the selected area(*) is Living with HIV/AIDS (1 in 91 Hispanics, 1 in 57 Whites and 1 in 24 Blacks).
♦ *Selected area includes the following ZIP codes 33127, 33133, 33136, 33137, 33147, 33150 (Coconut Grove, West Grove, Overtown, Little Haiti, Model City, and Liberty City)

Community Development Conducts Public Hearings for Consolidated Plan

The City of Miami Department of Community Development conducted eight public hearings regarding the 2004-2009 Consolidated Plan from January 12 through February 4, 2004. These public hearings, held in each City of Miami district and several locations throughout Miami-Dade County, were designed to inform the public about the consolidated plan process, identify the needs of residents, and establish priorities for federally funded activities.

The Department of Community Development administers United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (U.S. HUD) funds under grant programs such as Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG), and Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) for the City of Miami. In addition, the Department administers the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program for Miami-Dade County.

As such, U.S. HUD requires entitlement cities, like the City of Miami, that receive funds under its grant programs to prepare a consolidated five year plan, which details proposed activities to maximize the benefits of federal funding. The consolidated plan serves the following functions: A planning document, which builds on a participatory process at the lowest levels; an application for federal funds under HUD's formula grant programs; a strategy to be followed in carrying out HUD programs; and an action plan that provides a basis for assessing performance.

The needs and priorities identified at these public hearings will be incorporated into the 2004-2009 Consolidated Plan which will be completed in August 2004.

Request for Qualifications: HOPWA Housing Specialists for Long Term Rental Assistance Program

The City of Miami is seeking additional qualified agencies to provide housing-related services on behalf of the Long-Term Rental Assistance Program (LTRA) funded under the federal Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program.

The HOPWA LTRA Program provides long-term rental subsidy assistance to low income persons with an AIDS diagnosis. As such, the City of Miami Department of Community Development contracts with local community-based organizations to provide Housing Specialist services to clients of the LTRA Program.

LTRA Housing Specialist support services are related to client eligibility determinations, program enrollment and lease-up, and re-certification. Selected providers are also expected to monitor and ensure clients' housing stability by maintaining regular contact with clients, conducting home visits and housing stability assessments and serving as a liaison between the client's landlord and case manager.

Proposals will be accepted from non profit organizations and governmental housing agencies that meet additional criteria as set forth in the Request for Qualifications. The RFQ may be picked up at: the Department of Community Development central office, located at 444 SW 2nd Ave, 2nd Floor, Miami, FL 33130; and the HOPWA Program office, located at 1313 NW 36th St, 2nd Floor, Miami, FL 33142. Applications may also be downloaded at the City of Miami Community Development website at http://www.ci.miami.fl.us/communitydevelopment/.

For more information, interested parties should contact the City of Miami Department of Community Development at 305-416-1927.
Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the 30th Program Year (October 1, 2004 through the September 30, 2005) Housing Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funding will be available January 26, 2004. The funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to the City of Miami. Approximately $1,200,000 will be available for new construction rental housing projects that will include additional project financing through an application to the Florida Housing Finance Corporation for Housing Credit (Tax Credit) Program. The available amount is subject to approval by the City Commission.

The applications will be available from 8am to 5pm at the City of Miami, Department of Community Development, Second Floor, 444 SW 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida 33130. Or: [www.ci.miami.fl.us/communitydevelopment/rfp.asp](http://www.ci.miami.fl.us/communitydevelopment/rfp.asp). Applications must be submitted by February 26, 2004, noon (12 pm), to the City Clerk, 3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, Florida 33133.

For additional information, please call the Department of Community Development at (305) 416-1927.

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**Funds Available: Home Investments Partnership Program**

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For additional information, please call the Department of Community Development at (305) 416-1927.

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**Are you interested in having information about your particular program highlighted in this newsletter? Please send any information and photos to Liza Gallardo Walton, Public Information Officer and Editor. Email: lwalton@ci.miami.fl.us, Fax: 305-400-5069, Phone: 305-416-2181**

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**About the Department of Community Development**

The Department of Community Development utilizes the grant funds it receives from the federal, state and local government sources to aid in the development of a viable urban community. The thrust of this objective is to provide decent housing, a suitable living environment and the expansion of economic opportunities for the neediest persons in our community. The Department serves as an advocate for disenfranchised and economically disadvantaged residents by carrying out a wide range of community development activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization, economic development, improved community facilities and services, and assisting those least likely to benefit from the economic growth and prosperity projected for the City of Miami. For more information, please visit: [http://www.ci.miami.fl.us/communitydevelopment](http://www.ci.miami.fl.us/communitydevelopment)