



we make
housing affordable

POLK COUNTY HOUSING TRUST FUND

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Community & Media Advisory

Affordable Housing Receives Support from Polk County Supervisors approve renewal of 28E Agreement

(Des Moines, July 13, 2010) Polk County Supervisors voted unanimously to approve the renewal of a 28E agreement that provides grant money to the Polk County Housing Trust Fund. \$1.5 million a year for three years will be provided to PCHTF as the steward of the affordable housing resources for Polk County. This is the same amount as allocated three years ago, which is the last time the 28E agreement was up for renewal.

“Affordable housing is an absolute core necessity to the health and well-being of our citizens and the overall economic vitality our communities, said Tom Hockensmith, Polk County Supervisor Board Chair. “PCHTF has its finger on the pulse of the needs in this area and the best way to leverage each and every dollar for its fullest, most positive impact.”

Established 15 years ago, PCHTF is known as the “go to” organization on affordable housing issues that provides resources for nonprofit partners who serve a common mission. Those agencies include Anawim Housing, Greater Des Moines Habitat for Humanity, Community Housing Initiatives (CHI), Home Opportunities Made Easy Inc. (HOME Inc.), and Hawthorn Hill–The Home Connection. Over 90% of the people helped are employed, but earn less than \$36,600 a year for a family of four; and 56% of those families earn under \$21,500 per year.

“Thankfully our county supervisors, area employers and community leaders recognize affordable housing is one of the most important issues to address with appropriate resources and planning,” said Sheila Lumley, Executive Director/Polk County Housing Trust Fund following the Supervisors’ approval of the 28E agreement. “Its social and economic impact put it at the heart of any and all plans to create stable families, focused employees and successful communities.”

Highlights of cumulative results and current work made possible through PCHTF include:

- Funding over 9,686 affordable housing units since 1995. Those included 1,314 new-construction and 8,372 as rehabilitated single-family homes, duplexes and apartments.
- Funding repair and maintenance of 262 rental and transitional housing units each year.
- Securing additional funding by leveraging \$13 for every \$1 dollar committed. This equates to \$19 million helping secure an additional \$240 million for development and \$6 million for Housing Supportive Services.
- Currently serving 850 families and 1,400 children in Polk County.

To learn more about the Polk County Housing Trust Fund, please visit : www.pchtf.org

To ask questions or request an interview, please contact –
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