

Homeless Hotline

 A publication of the Illinois Community Action Association, 3435 Liberty Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62704 - (217) 789-0125 

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IHDA Issues RFP for Rental Housing Support Program

On March 1, The Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) released a request for proposals (RFP) from local administering agencies to help run the nation's largest rental assistance program. Illinois' Rental Housing Support Program will help around 4,000 families during the first year afford their rents starting early 2008.

The Governor signed the Rental Housing Support Program Act in July 2005 to help localities address the need for decent, affordable, and permanent rental housing. Under the program, the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) will award funds to local administering agencies that in turn provide subsidies to landlords. These subsidies will allow extremely low-income households to afford their rents. All households who earn less than 30% of the area median income, or approximately \$22,000 per year for a family of four in Chicago, will qualify and will not have to contribute more than approximately 30% of their income to rent. The local administering agency will pay the remainder of the balance from program funds.

Local housing authorities, municipalities, and non-profit

community groups have until 5 p.m. on November 30, 2007 to apply to become a local administering agency. Administering agencies will help identify property owners in their area to participate in the program, process

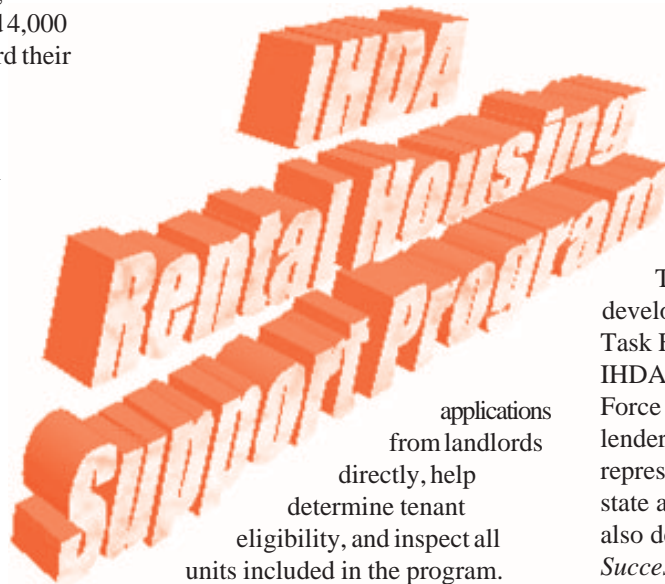
released early next year.

It should be noted that while tenants are the targeted beneficiaries of the program, they cannot apply directly for the subsidies.

Funds for the program come from a \$10 fee collected from real estate document recordings and are expected to generate more than \$25 million dollars in the program's first year of operation to help approximately 4,000 households.

The 2005 Housing Plan was developed by the Governor's Housing Task Force, and organized and lead by IHDA. The 35 members of the Task Force are advocates, developers, lenders, and state agency representatives, including eight Illinois state agency directors. The Task Force also developed "On the Road to Success: Illinois' Comprehensive Housing Plan 2006" and more recently "Affordable Housing Dimensions: Illinois' 2007 Comprehensive Housing Plan" which highlights how the Governor's vision as outlined in the first two Plans, is already reshaping affordable housing in Illinois.

For further information contact RHSP Manager April Lasker at 312-836-5357 or alasker@ihda.org



applications from landlords directly, help determine tenant eligibility, and inspect all units included in the program.

IHDA will conduct a series of trainings across the State for groups interested in applying to become administrative agencies through the RFP process. Training schedules and locations, application forms and program guide are available at www.ihda.org or by calling Program Manager April Lasker at the 312-836-5357 or alasker@ihda.org. A list of selected local administering agencies will be

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