

Tom Barrett Mayor

Antonio M. Perez Secretary-Executive Director

Board of Commissioners

April 26, 2016

Bevan K. Baker, FACHE Commissioner of Health City of Milwaukee Health Department 841 North Broadway, 3rd Floor Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Commissioner Baker:

The Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM) supports the City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) in its application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for funding lead abatement and healthy homes in private housing. HACM is currently a partner with MHD on an existing grant for similar work at 50 units. Our understanding is that the application for additional funding is for 60 units to be completed over the course of two years. If this award is made, HACM will extend its current partnership with MHD for the duration of the new award.

HACM staff will receive training and credentials from the National Center for Healthy Housing and will utilize the Healthy Homes Rating System to assure timely inspections, evaluations, and repairs on homes referred to HACM from MHD.

HACM has extensive experience in the management, maintenance, rehabilitation, and construction of affordable housing, including the acquisition and rehabilitation of 13 foreclosed homes as part of the City of Milwaukee's Neighborhood Stabilization Program. HACM is one of the largest landlords, managing more than 5,000 housing units including 1,000 market-rate apartments that do not receive any subsidy, and is an internationally recognized leader in affordable housing. During the past 10 years, HACM has developed over 1,042 tax credit units, including 14 healthy homes. All of this development was completed on time and within budget.

Mr. Warren Jones, HACM's Director of Development, will be responsible for the inspections, evaluations, and oversight of the repairs. Mr. Jones is a registered Professional Engineer and has been a licensed building inspector for 31 years. He has extensive experience in the construction and development industry with an emphasis in

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accessible and sustainable affordable housing. Mr. Jones' staff includes a registered architect and a LEED Accredited Professional.

In addition, HACM has worked with MHD to develop a new initiative for HACM's Section 8 Housing Voucher Program. A lead inspection to assure lead safety will be required for all new clients wishing to enroll in the voucher program if they have small children and will live in pre-1950s properties within MHD's Target Areas designated for this grant. Furthermore, a lead inspection to assure lead safety will also be required for property owners/investors wishing to renew their certification under HACM's voucher program if they own/manage pre-1950s properties with small children within the Target Areas. These cooperative measures between HACM and MHD will address health disparities in childhood lead poisoning and asthma.

We look forward to working with MHD to expand affordable and healthy housing options in our community.

Sincerely,

Antonio M. Pérez

Secretary-Executive Director