



GREATER NEW ORLEANS HOUSING ALLIANCE

Alembic Community Development
Alliance for Affordable Energy
A Shared Initiative, Inc.
Associated Neighborhood Development
Broadmoor Improvement Association
Capital One
Center for Planning Excellence
Committee for a Better New Orleans
Crescent Care
Crescent City Community Land Trust
The Data Center
Enterprise Community Partners
Finance Authority of New Orleans
First NBC Bank
Foundation for Louisiana
GCR Inc.
Global Green USA
Greater New Orleans Foundation
Green Coast Enterprises
Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center
Greater New Orleans, Inc.
Gulf Coast Housing Partnership
Harmony Neighborhood Development
Healthy Start New Orleans
Housing Authority of New Orleans
Iberia Bank
Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative
Jerusalem Economic Development Corp.
JPMorgan Chase Bank
LA Association of Affordable Housing Providers
Louisiana Appleseed
Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations
Louisiana Homebuyer Education Collaborative
Louisiana Housing Alliance
Louisiana Housing Corporation
Lowermine.org
Lower 9th Ward Homeownership Association
Lower 9th Ward NENA
Make It Right
Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of
America
Neighborhood Development Foundation
Neighborhood Housing Services
NEWCITY
New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity
New Orleans Redevelopment Authority
NO/AIDS Task Force
Northshore Housing Initiative
Office of Housing Policy & Community
Development
Operation Comeback
Perez, APC
Pontchartrain Park CDC
Practitioners Leveraging Assets for Community
Engagement
Preservation Resource Center
Project Home Again
Project Homecoming
Providence Community Housing
Puentes New Orleans
Rebuilding Together New Orleans
Redmellon
Renaissance Neighborhood Development Corp.
Renaissance Property Group
Service Providers and Professionals Association
Southern United Neighborhoods
St. Bernard Project
Tulane/Canal Neighborhood Development Corp.
UNITY of Greater New Orleans
Urban Focus
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development
Volunteers of America
Wells Fargo
Whitney Bank
Whodata.org

22 February 2016

The Honorable David Vitter

U.S. Senate

Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Vitter,

As the Board Chair of the Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance, a nonprofit, community-based developer organization that serves your district, I am writing to request your support to preserve and fully fund the HUD Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing (Section 4) program. **Specifically, I ask you to submit an Appropriations Request in support of fully funding Section 4 at no less than \$35 million in the FY 2017 THUD Appropriations bill.**

Section 4 strengthens rural, suburban, and urban communities across the nation by providing critical support to local nonprofit organizations that develop affordable housing, finance small businesses, revitalize commercial corridors, and help address local healthcare, childcare, education, and safety needs. Through grants, loans, training, and guidance, Section 4 provides local organizations with the staffing, program development, and financial resources to maximize the impact of the services they provide and ensure the long-term sustainability of their investments.

Section 4 is the only federal program that is exclusively focused on increasing the effectiveness of these organizations.

Since 2010, Section 4 has benefited communities in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. This investment has created and preserved more than 37,000 affordable homes and attracted over \$5.7 billion in total development costs for low-income neighborhoods and communities across the country, leveraging more than \$20 for every \$1 of Section 4. Section 4 helps create jobs, support small businesses, and develop millions of square feet of commercial, retail and community facility space. It also supports vital programs, such as financial counseling, job training, and crime reduction in order to improve the physical and economic conditions in thousands of neighborhoods.

Section 4 is a critical tool for helping local organizations better serve families in your district.

Thank you for your support. Please feel free to contact me at amorris@gnoha.org if you have any questions or would like more information.

Sincerely,

Andreanecia M. Morris

Chair, Board of Governors



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About Section 4:

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Section 4 Programmatic Request:

- **Type of Request:** Programmatic
- **Subcommittee:** Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD)
- **Department:** Housing and Urban Development
- **Account:** Community Development Fund (CDF)
- **Title:** Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program
- **Program:** Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing program authorized under section 4(a) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 9816)
- **Request:** \$35 million
- **Summary of Request:** \$35 million of the CDF request should be used to provide funding for the Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing program authorized under section 4(a) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 9816 note). Section 4 is a competitive grant program among the eligible intermediaries to develop the capacity and ability of community development corporations and community housing development organizations at the local level. This allows these organizations to undertake community development and affordable housing projects and programs for low-income families. Funds will require a 3-to-1 match from private sources.

Section 4 Funding History



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- **FY15 Enacted Level:** \$35 million
- **FY16 Enacted Level:** \$35 million
- **FY17 President’s Budget:** \$0
- **FY17 Requested Amount:** \$35 million
- **Difference between FY17 Requested Amount and FY16:** \$0

Section 4 Bill Language Request:

- Of the total amount, the Committee recommends \$35,000,000 for the Section 4 Capacity Building program, of which at least \$5,000,000 is for rural capacity building activities.

Section 4 Report Language Request:

- Additionally, \$35 million in Section 4 Capacity Building funds are set-aside within this account for activities described under section 4(a) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 9816 note). Section 4 funds are awarded competitively to a limited number of nonprofits, which use the funds to develop the capacity of community development corporations (CDCs) and community housing development organizations (CHDOs). The CDCs and CHDOs then undertake community development and affordable housing activities. Section 4 funds must be matched by recipients with at least three times the grant amount in private funding.