



ALCOHOL, DRUG & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
MARYE L. THOMAS, M.D., DIRECTOR

2000 Embarcadero Cove, Suite 400
Oakland, California 94606
(510-) 567-8100 / TTY (510) 533-5018

January 15, 2009

Robert Ratner
Housing Services Director
Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services
(510) 567-8124 or e-mail: rratner@acbhcs.org

To:
Participants in the Mandatory Meeting for the City of Oakland Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) on Wednesday, January 14th

RE: Opportunities for Collaboration on NSP Projects

Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (BHCS) is a department within the Alameda County Health Care Services Agency (HCSA) (www.acbhcs.org). High quality, affordable housing with appropriate supports is critical to the health and well-being of the clients served by our network of providers. Over the past several years, our department has significantly increased the resources available to create more housing opportunities for our clients. Some of these resources could be utilized in partnership with a developer interested in utilizing NSP funds. This memo provides a brief overview of these resources.

Potential NSP partnership resources:

- 1) **Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing Program** – Alameda County, in partnership with the California Department of Mental Health and the California Housing Finance Agency (CalHFA), has established a supportive housing creation fund of over \$14 million to pay for capital, operating, and service costs associated with the development of new supportive housing projects. Detailed information about this program can be found at the following website: http://www.dmh.ca.gov/Prop_63/MHSA/Housing/default.asp. These funds can only be utilized by nonprofit organizations or public entities. This is a loan program with many similarities to other affordable housing development loan programs.
- 2) **Housing subsidies** – BHCS has a network of providers with a combined total of over \$3.5 million to subsidize rents for clients enrolled in their programs. To date, the majority of these funds have been used to subsidize tenant rents in privately-owned units. The housing subsidy funds include federal and state dollars allocated to particular programs. Several of our service providers would be interested in exploring potential partnerships with developers to create more housing opportunities for their clients that utilize their housing subsidy funds in partnership with NSP funds.

For developers interested in exploring potential NSP partnerships with our department, please contact me using the contact information listed at the top of this memo.

