PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR EXCEPTION TO SECTION VII(A) 1 (CONFLICTS OF INTEREST) OF THE HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND RAPID REHOUSING PROGRAM (HPRP)

Date of Publication:

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, AGENCIES AND GROUPS:

Alameda County Housing and Community Development Department, on behalf of all recipients of HPRP funding in Alameda County, is requesting an exception to Section VII(A) 1 (Conflicts of Interest) of the HPRP Notice for the purpose of allowing eligible clients and/or tenants of several agencies listed below, who are Alameda County HPRP sub-grantees, to receive HPRP assistance.

Abode Services and its subsidiary, Allied Housing Berkeley Food and Housing Project Building Futures for Women and Children East Oakland Community Project First Place for Youth City of Oakland

These agencies own, co-own or lease multiple affordable housing facilities and/or scattered site apartment units targeted to formerly homeless extremely low-income households. Alameda County clients/tenants remain vulnerable to returning to homelessness especially during the current economic downturn unless we can utilize every available housing resource in the County.

Alameda County has experienced a huge demand for HPRP type services since the inception of the program from their existing homeless and at risk clients/tenants. Failure to grant this exception could cause significant missed opportunity and hardship to HPRP eligible households in Alameda living in a sub-grantee's housing unit and who need homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services to sustain their housing.

In order to ensure that these agencies, as Alameda County HPRP sub-grantees, avoid unfair influence in favoring their clients/tenants over other eligible clients, the agencies listed above commit to abide by the following mitigating procedures:

- 1. To the extent possible, HPRP program placements of existing HPRP sub-grantee clients/tenants will be conducted by "non-interested" sub-grantees through the PHP referral, assessment and placement process.
- 2. Because of the significant role Abode Services, as an "interested" sub-grantee, plays in HPRP implementation, it may not always be possible to remove Abode Services from the referral, assessment and placement of these clients/tenants. In this case, acceptance of an Abode Services' client/tenant into the HPRP program would be reviewed and approved in writing by a representative of the government jurisdiction from which the client/tenant comes from.

All interested agencies, groups and persons wishing to comment on this request are invited to submit written comment for consideration by the County of Alameda to the address noted below. Such written comments should be received on or before September 12, 2010. This Notice will also be available on the Alameda County Housing and Community Development website at http://www.acgov.org/cda/hcd/. All such comments received will be considered and incorporated into the request submitted to HUD. If this exception is granted by HUD, HUD has indicated that it would apply the exception to any identified sub-grantee(s) participating in the HPRP programs of other jurisdictions within the County.

Written comments may be submitted to the Alameda County Housing and Community Development Department, 224 W. Winton Avenue, Room 108, Hayward, CA 94544. Emailed comments may be sent to riley.wilkerson@acgov.org. Fore more information, please call Riley Wilkerson at 510-670-9797.