



Housing Assistance Council

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www.ruralhome.org

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RE: Housing Assistance Council's Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program (SHOP) FY 2013 Application

Dear Potential SHOP Applicant:

The Housing Assistance Council (HAC) is pleased to release the application package for its FY 2013 Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program funding round. Local nonprofits engaged in self-help homeownership housing may use SHOP funds for eligible activities (land acquisition and infrastructure improvements) in which participating low-income families contribute sweat equity and volunteer labor is donated to help towards the construction and/or rehabilitation of the SHOP unit.

HAC intends to submit its funding proposal to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development by the April 24, 2013 application deadline; however, the available amount of SHOP funds is subject to enactment of the final HUD appropriations bill for FY2013. It is unknown how much funding, if HAC is awarded, will be available to each successful SHOP applicant.

New and returning applicants to HAC's SHOP program should carefully read the Program Description and Application Instructions, Application Forms Package, and Reference Materials in their entirety prior to completion and submission of an application. There are several notable changes and/or updates. The application package is available on HAC's website at www.ruralhome.org/shop13.

Do not hesitate to contact the HAC national office staff if you have questions about the SHOP program, your application, or the review process. All applications are due in HAC's national office by no later than **4:00 p.m. Eastern time on Tuesday, April 2, 2013**. We expect to announce funding decisions sometime by October 2013 assuming HAC is successful in its application to HUD for FY 2013 SHOP funding.

The SHOP program partnership among HUD, HAC, intermediary technical assistance providers, local self-help housing organizations, and low-income families has catalyzed self-help homeownership opportunities in low-income communities across the country. Thank you for the opportunity to assist your organization and its constituents in this endeavor.

Sincerely,


Moises Loza
Executive Director

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