



Narratives

AHFA Warren Commons

Provide a short project overview of 1,000 characters or less (including spaces).

Warren Commons is a proposed forty-six (46) unit permanent supportive housing community located at 2011 Franklin Avenue in Toledo. It is an excellent PSH site proximate to downtown with convenient access to public transportation, neighborhood amenities, and job opportunities. Warren Commons will offer fully furnished one-bedroom apartments, 24/7 front desk staff and spaces for service provision. The "L" shaped building will be served by an elevator and will be an attractive addition to the streetscape.

TASC of Northwest Ohio, Inc. and Community Housing Network, Inc., will be the general partners of Warren Commons. Community Housing Network, Inc. will serve as developer and National Church Residences will be the property manager responsible for the day to day operations. TASC of Northwest Ohio, Inc. will provide and coordinate both on and offsite supportive services through ongoing grant support and Medicaid billing.

If you have non-HTC square footage, including commercial or market-rate spaces, please provide a short (1,000 character or less) description of the proposed space below.

Briefly describe your proposal and state why you believe it is unique and meritorious. This information may be used for consideration in reviewing proposals for Strategic Initiatives funding. A maximum of 20,000 characters (including spaces) is provided. YOU DO NOT NEED TO USE THE ENTIRE SPACE PROVIDED. Please use spelling and grammar checking tools and/or copy and paste your text from a word processing document.

Warren Commons is a 46-unit permanent supportive housing development that will serve chronically homeless men and women who may have a history of substance abuse, mental health disabilities, and/or criminal justice involvement. Warren Commons will be owned by Community Housing Network, Inc. and TASC of Northwest Ohio, Inc. (TASC), a nonprofit organization that has provided comprehensive supportive services to justice-involved individuals since 1992.

As an experienced service provider, TASC is acutely aware of the limited opportunities and critical need for permanent supportive housing among individuals with current or prior involvement in the criminal justice system. For many of TASC's clients, securing stable, affordable housing can prove to be one of the greatest obstacles when re-entering society. Tasked with finding employment that covers market rate rents and a landlord willing to overlook a criminal past, it is unsurprising that many re-entrants end up homeless.

Warren Commons will provide relief to this underserved population by providing fully furnished one-bedroom, one-bath units that have been designed to feel like a home. Rents for all units will be subsidized through a Project Based Voucher contract with the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority and supportive services will be available both onsite and offsite through TASC. Supportive services will include but are not limited to mental health services, substance abuse treatment, life skills training, and free transportation.

The need for this development in both Toledo and Lucas County cannot be understated. In the past five years, Lucas county has not received a single award of tax credits for PSH projects. This is in stark contrast to counties with homeless populations of a similar size, including Montgomery County and Summit County. Since 2015, four PSH projects have been awarded tax credits in Montgomery county and two PSH projects have been awarded tax credits in Summit County.

TASC of Northwest Ohio, Inc. and Community Housing Network, Inc. are dedicated to bringing PSH units to the greater Toledo community. Four members of the TASC development team completed the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) Training Institute in 2017 and CHN has participated in multiple CSH Institutes as both participants and presenters. Jointly, we are eager to implement best practices of the PSH field in Toledo.