



## **Alternative Housing Pilot Program**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Q: What is the goal of the AHPP?**

A: The Alternative Housing Pilot Program (AHPP) is a one-time, four-year pilot program to identify and evaluate better ways to house disaster victims. Formerly known as “Katrina Cottages,” the AHPP is a key program in FEMA’s National Disaster Housing Strategy. The AHPP offers quality, affordable housing opportunities in the form of home ownership, rentals and lease-to-own opportunities for eligible households.

**Q: What is the funding source for this program?**

A: FEMA used a \$400 million congressional appropriation to make awards to four states: Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas. Louisiana received \$74.5 million.

**Q: How many units will be available in Louisiana, and where are they located?**

A: There are 280 homes-for-sale and 129 rental units in New Orleans, Lake Charles, Baton Rouge and Westwego. An additional 91 units at Jackson Barracks in New Orleans will be available to Louisiana National Guard families only.

**Q: Who are the administrative partners for this program?**

A: The following agencies procured the sites: in Baton Rouge—Baton Rouge Resource Foundation; in Lake Charles—Habitat for Humanity and Project Build-A-Future; in New Orleans—Gulf Coast Housing Partnership, New Orleans Redevelopment Authority, Providence Community Housing Inc., Housing Authority of New Orleans, Neighborhood Housing Services, Odyssey House Louisiana Inc., and the Preservation Resource Center.

**Q: Who are the service-delivery agencies?**

A: Three agencies will provide case management services: Baton Rouge Resource Foundation, Lake Charles Habitat for Humanity, and HANO.

**Q: What services do the case managers provide?**

A: Services include housing counseling; guidance through the financial process; individual development plans designed to facilitate housing success; and comprehensive referrals and resource support, as needed to achieve sustainability.

**Q: Who is the target population?**

A: More than 45,000 households who received FEMA housing assistance dating back to October 2008 are on the list of potential clients. Of these, the households that currently reside in, or occupied a pre-storm residence in, the three AHPP localities will receive first priority.

**Q: How will the target population be contacted?**

A: On Sept. 28, a letter providing a call center phone number will be sent to the first batch of 4,000 randomly selected households. During their phone call, potential clients will be pre-screened for eligibility. Potentially eligible clients must return a completed application packet with supporting documents.

**Q: Are there financial requirements for the program?**

A: Yes. Households must be able to meet financial obligations for home ownership or rental.

**Q: What are the important deadline dates for the program?**

A: Households will be notified within 30 days of receipt of their completed application as to their acceptance into the program. Once accepted, households must schedule their first case management appointment within 45 days. If three appointments are missed, households will be dropped from the program.

**Q: Who do I contact with concerns or questions about this program?**

A: For more information, please contact Marisa Robertson at [marisa.robertson@la.gov](mailto:marisa.robertson@la.gov), or the AHPP Call Center at (877) 301-1887 (after Sept. 28).