

7.

RESOLUTION R-04-79

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE MANATEE
COUNTY EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida has adopted Ordinance #01-69, establishing the Manatee County Unsafe Structures Ordinance for the unincorporated portion of Manatee County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida has adopted Ordinance #04-42, authorizing the expenditure of funds for emergency housing assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners finds that providing Emergency Housing Assistance in circumstances meeting an order to vacate an unsafe structure by the Manatee County Building Official is in the best interest of the health and welfare of the citizens of Manatee County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is desirous of implementing Ordinance #04-42 and providing Emergency Housing Assistance to eligible households who have been ordered to vacate an unsafe structure by the Manatee County Building Official.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida that:

1. The Manatee County Emergency Housing Assistance Program is hereby established for eligible households where no other assistance is available from any known program or source and the County's obligation is limited to funds budgeted appropriated for such use.
2. For County Fiscal Year 2003/04 funds for the Manatee County Emergency Housing Assistance Program for utility and security deposits shall be established by the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners through account #115.9003812(State Housing Initiative Partnership Program), and for monthly rental assistance and moving expenses through account # 0010001900, (Housing General Fund).
3. On the effective date of Ordinance 04-42, Manatee County will provide Emergency Housing Assistance to eligible households who have been directed by the Manatee County Building Official to vacate an unsafe structure.
4. The income of households eligible for assistance must not exceed the maximum allowable income per family size established by the Manatee County Local Housing Assistance Plan, as may be adjusted from time to time.

5. The maximum allowable amount of Emergency Housing Assistance per eligible household shall not exceed \$1,000.00 for one twelve (12) month period for utility/security deposits.
6. The maximum allowable amount of Emergency Rental Assistance and moving expenses per eligible household shall not exceed \$2,400.00 for one twelve (12) month period, for monthly rent subsidies.
7. The allowable rent per unit of Emergency Housing Assistance shall not exceed the maximum allowable rent guidelines as established by the family household size, income and size of unit (1,2, 3 or 4 bedroom unit), as set by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and adopted by the Manatee County Local Housing Assistance Plan.
8. The County share of the monthly rent per eligible household shall not exceed the difference between the current rent paid by the eligible household at the time of the order and the maximum allowable rent guidelines established in item 5., of this Resolution. The total County share of monthly rent assistance per household at no time during one twelve (12) month period shall exceed \$2,400.00 has less such amount as required for moving expenses.
9. Emergency Housing Assistance funds, not to exceed the limits identified in this Resolution, shall be paid to a landlord on behalf of an eligible household for a rental unit. Assistance funds shall be distributed to landlord by Agreement between County and landlord and shall be applied towards deposit or rental assistance for the time during which the rental unit is occupied by an eligible household on the first day of the month and the household has paid their portion of the monthly rent. Unused funds for an eligible household shall be returned to County by landlord, if eligible household ceases to occupy rental unit, during the term of the Agreement. Assistance funds shall not be paid directly to the household.
10. In the event where an order by the Manatee County Building Official to vacate an unsafe structure occurs to an eligible household in a home ownership circumstance, the eligible household shall be directly referred to the State Housing Initiative Partnership (S.H.I.P.) Program to determine qualification for emergency assistance per the Manatee County Local Housing Assistance Plan, and to the extent funds have been budgeted and are available within the Plan.
11. The Manatee County Community Services Department with assistance from the Manatee County Clerk of the Circuit Court shall establish and be responsible for monitoring the amount and type of assistance, the eligibility of the household and rental unit, occupancy of an eligible household, and payment by County to Landlord for the rental unit throughout the time period that an eligible household occupies the rental unit.

Any household that feels they have been wrongfully denied benefits within the program, may appeal to the County Administrator for review of the decision of the households eligibility by the Community Services Department.

12. It shall be the responsibility of the eligible recipient to locate and lease the rental unit. The Manatee County Community Services Department may maintain a list and information about reliable accommodations, and provide the list and information to persons in need of Emergency Housing Assistance.
13. The County shall have the option to enter into Agreements with Non-Profit Agencies for Emergency Housing Assistance placements, in circumstances where the County deems it is in the best interest of the household to do so.
14. The County Administrator, or his designee, in coordination with the Clerk of the Circuit Court is hereby directed to establish Administrative Procedures, appropriate forms and agreements developed or approved by the County Attorney for the implementation of this program.

ADOPTED, with a quorum present and voting this 24th day of February, 2004.

BY AND THROUGH ITS
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

BY: 

Jane von Hahmann
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: R. B. SHORE
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT

BY: 
R.B.

