



CDBG Advisory Board | City of Racine, Wisconsin

Agenda Briefing Memorandum

AGENDA DATE:

CDBG Advisory Board – April 7, 2025

Common Council – April 14, 2025

PREPARED BY: Brittany Brown, Compliance Specialist

REVIEWED BY: Veronica Seymour, Housing Manager

SUBJECT: Communication sponsored by Mayor Mason recommending Habitat for Humanity be certified as the New Construction CHDO for the City of Racine

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:

Habitat for Humanity's mission is to build homes, communities, and hope. Through volunteer labor, professional skills, and donations, Habitat for Humanity has been working for 40 years in the City of Racine to provide decent, safe, and affordable housing to families in need. Through the efforts of volunteers, skilled professionals, and generous donations, the organization has successfully built and rehabilitated a significant number of homes, improving the lives of countless individuals and their families. As a non-profit, Habitat for Humanity has consistently shown strong fiscal responsibility, transparency, and the ability to effectively manage housing development projects.

Specific Benefits of CHDO Designation:

- **Access to Federal Funding:** CHDO status will enable Habitat for Humanity to secure critical resources, such as the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), to support the development of affordable housing units.
- **Expanded Capacity:** With access to additional funding and resources, Habitat for Humanity can scale its efforts to serve a larger number of low-income families.
- **Increased Collaboration:** CHDO designation will further strengthen Habitat for Humanity's ability to collaborate with governmental and private entities, ensuring a more effective approach to addressing the affordable housing crisis.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

There are sufficient HOME Funds to facilitate Habitat for Humanity as the New Construction CHDO for the City of Racine.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommend that the CDBG Advisory Board approve Habitat for Humanity as a CHDO for the 2025-2026 funding cycle.