



Lehigh County Affordable Housing Trust Fund

Funding for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund is generated through the implementation of Ordinance 1996-120, as authorized pursuant to the Optional County Affordable Housing Funds Act of 1992, Act 137.

Lehigh County, through the Department of Community & Economic Development, grants Affordable Housing Trust Fund dollars to projects that address the housing needs of Lehigh County residents whose income does not exceed 100% of the median income for Lehigh County. Such affordable housing efforts include, but are not limited to:

- Programs that increase homeownership;
- Programs that improve housing conditions and housing stock for homeowners and renters;
- Programs that increase the availability of affordable housing through development and/or preservation;
- Operating support for programs addressing the affordable housing needs of Lehigh County;
- Programs that need matching funds to secure HOME Investment Partnership funding;
- Second soft mortgage programs; and
- Employee assistance housing programs.

At least 20% of the available allocation shall be directed to non-profits to be used for individual homeowner housing projects, including soft second loan programs for individual homeowners.

Although **Lehigh County is not accepting applications at this time**, here is the criteria used to determine the fundability of each project, as well as application guidelines:

The following factors are weighed in each application as they relate to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund goals:

- Number of individuals or groups served;
- Opportunities for long-term housing solutions;
- Proven program management capabilities and past successes;
- Programs for direct assistance versus administrative fees;
- Projects which leverage additional funding;
- Lehigh County geographic distribution capabilities;
- Ability to complete project within a 2-year timeframe from date of application.

An application must be submitted to be considered for funding through the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF). Organizations may submit more than one application. Different projects require separate applications.

Successful applicants will be expected to report on the program's progress and beneficiaries served on an annual basis.

- Additional Information for Construction Projects
 - Pennsylvania Prevailing Wages

- Non-exempt projects with an estimated value of \$25,000 or more shall pay Pennsylvania Prevailing Wages to construction workers. Within the application, acknowledge the applicability of prevailing wages to your project, or provide evidence that the proposed project is exempt from prevailing wages.

Financial Documentation as per Lehigh County Grant Policy

As per Ordinance 2017-131, all organizations requesting grant funding shall provide the following information as part of the request for funding. Documents will be posted on the County's website until the project is completed.

- The current and previous fiscal year's budget, including the actual revenues and expenditures for the previous year.
- Audited financial statements for the two (2) previous fiscal years.
- The positions of all employees, officers and board members who receive \$50,000.00 or more in annual compensation, including bonuses, from the requesting organization.
- The total compensation of the organization's five (5) highest compensated individuals.
- A list of all funding sources and the total amount received from each funding source for the previous year.
- A list of all funding sources for the current year, and a list of all pending applications for funding, including the amount requested.