Housing LOUISIANA

Lake Charles Region Housing Priorities 2018

o **Create designated revenue streams for local and statewide Housing Trust Funds to increase affordable housing production.**

o Streamline first-time homebuyer and financial fitness courses for the community in order to prepare people for better housing opportunities.

o Diversify contractors and housing partners for more affordable opportunities

o Invest in alternative financing sources for equitable development. (Designate funding for Soft Second program, cultivate diverse pool of funders, etc.)

o Combat residential opposition to developing affordable housing in the area (NIMBYism) by creating a language framework around affordable housing that resonates with all residents

o Design and implement inclusionary zoning policy

o Increase permanent and emergency housing opportunities with wraparound services for special needs populations, including at-risk youth, people who are mentally ill, homeless individuals, people who were formerly incarcerated, and victims of domestic violence.

o Implement code enforcement policy that addresses the low-quality housing options available to renters.

o Provide Fair Housing training and implementation of better practices to decrease discrimination based on criminal history or poor credit.

o Establish a centralized system for renter's rights and protections, and landlord enforcement. (Rental registry, absentee landlord policy, online community forum)

o Increase homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income renters. (Section 8 homeownership program, mobile homeownership as affordable option, Soft Second Programs)

o Address the effect of crime on neighborhood stability

HousingLOUISIANA is network of regional housing alliances across the entire state. Our membership hopes you'll support policy and legislation that secures funding for housing for those impacted by disaster, special needs populations and for families and individuals who face housing insecurity. For more information, please visit our website www.puthousingfirst.org.