
2026-2027 9% LIHTC QAP Second Draft Public Comment Submission - The Ohio Olmstead Taskforce Housing Workgroup

From Dee Henry <dee@independencealliance.org>
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To Whom It May Concern:

The Ohio Olmstead Task Force (OOTF) is a statewide grassroots coalition of Ohioans with disabilities of all ages, family members, advocates and organizations advocating for the right to live, work and participate in their communities. Formed in 2002, OOTF supports the Supreme Court decision that held unnecessary institutionalization is discrimination against people with disabilities.

OOTF's mission is to advocate, educate, and support change for all people with disabilities by ensuring their rights to participate in a thriving community life.

The Ohio Olmstead Taskforce (OOTF) Housing Workgroup requests that the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) make updates to requirements for affirmative marketing of dwellings within a federally-assisted or public housing project that is designed and constructed to be accessible to people with disabilities, sometimes known as '504 accessible units'.

Housing providers should have more requirements regarding affirmative marketing of their 504 accessible units. This marketing should be meaningful and in accordance with best practices for reaching people with disabilities. Housing providers should be connected to their regional Center for Independent Living (CIL) and other disability service provider agencies. Housing providers should be mandated to communicate with these provider agencies when a 504 accessible unit becomes available. This will help housing providers to rent their 504 accessible units to tenants with disabilities who need the features offered in these units. Housing providers should be required to provide a report each time they affirmatively market a 504 accessible unit. These reports should document what methods the housing provider used in their marketing.

The OOTF Housing Workgroup also proposes a collaboration between ourselves and OHFA to work together to improve the housing experience for people with disabilities living in these dwellings.

We appreciate your time, consideration, and efforts on this matter.

Sincerely,

Dee Henry, Chair of OOTF Housing Workgroup

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