



# **2024 POLICY COMMITTEE**

## **Summary & Strategies Report**

January 25, 2024



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### **Overview**

On January 25, 2024, the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition Policy Committee hosted a facilitated session with Committee members. This session was conducted to develop recommendations for the recently approved Statewide Permanent Supportive Housing Action Plan and to provide advocacy guidance for the Coalition's new Executive Director. This summary report highlights suggested Policy Committee strategies and associated activities as a result of this session.

A full list of session attendees is provided at the end of this report.

### **Advocacy Position for Supportive Housing Development in Florida**

The Florida Supportive Housing Coalition's Policy Committee offers and supports the following supportive housing development proposal for Florida:

- Address the historic under production of supportive housing units estimated at 15,000 (based on need for 12,811 units in 2021 statewide needs assessment and an estimated additional 2,189 units) by doubling supportive housing production every two years until unmet need is addressed
- Develop additional supportive housing units annually commensurate with Florida's population growth
- Preserve existing supportive housing units
- Form a Coordinated State Entity in accordance with state workgroup recommendations
- Create a Supportive Housing Trust Fund, with a dedicated source, to be administered by Coordinated State Entity to align housing, rental assistance, and services resources
- Have Coordinated State Entity to continue to assess supportive housing need, track inventory, and facilitate growth



**NEXT STEPS:**

1. Coalition Executive Director, Policy Committee Chair, and Policy Committee designee(s) meet with Governor’s staff and present proposal
2. Proposal recommendations presented in alignment with the formation of a Coordinated State Entity and the creation of a dedicated Supportive Housing Trust Fund for Florida

**Advocacy Recommendations and Proposed Activities**

The following advocacy recommendations and associated activities were generated by the Policy Committee as a result of their discussion and strategizing:

RECOMMENDATION	ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBILITY	PROGRESS
<p>Meet with Governor’s Office and advocate for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of Statewide Permanent Supportive Housing Action Plan</li> <li>- Lead role in the formation of the Coordinated State Entity for the provision of permanent supportive housing in Florida</li> <li>- Creation of a dedicated Florida Supportive Housing Trust Fund</li> <li>- Supportive housing development plan for Florida</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Schedule meeting with Governor’s Office</li> <li>2. Obtain data to support revenue recommendations for Florida Supportive Housing Trust Fund, possibilities discussed include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Health/managed care plans to do business in Florida</i></li> <li>• <i>Sales tax on cannabis</i></li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>Policy Committee Chair</p> <p>Chuck Melendi</p> <p>Jill Gran-Puckett</p> <p>Melanie Brown-Woofter</p>	



(advocacy position outlined above)			
Re-establish quarterly meetings with the Florida Housing Finance Corporation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Schedule and conduct meeting(s)</li> <li>2. Address concerns               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>number of applications</i></li> <li>• <i>application process</i></li> <li>• <i>selection criteria alignment with best practices</i></li> <li>• <i>scoring</i></li> <li>• <i>nonprofits operating and owning properties</i></li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>Policy Committee and Coalition Designee(s)</p>	
Create legislative briefs that outline supportive housing project development and timeline as well as client case study ( <i>current vs. efficient</i> )	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Obtain process information</li> <li>2. Create visual representations</li> </ol>	<p>Policy Committee</p> <p>(<i>Shannon Nazworth and Sandra Newson</i>)</p> <p>Executive Director</p> <p>Marketing Consultant</p>	
Host a Policy Day in May 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clarify convening objective, agenda, and activities</li> <li>2. Determine important invitees</li> <li>3. Select date and location</li> <li>4. Release invitations and confirm participants</li> </ol>	Policy Committee	

	<p>5. Coordinate logistics</p> <p>6. Facilitate event</p>		
Initiate working relationship with Agency for Health Care Administration	<p>1. Schedule and conduct meeting(s) following legislative session</p> <p>2. Address priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>supportive housing providers able to bill Medicaid</i></li> <li>• <i>targeted case management</i></li> <li>• <i>housing navigation</i></li> <li>• <i>presumptive eligibility</i></li> <li>• <i>implement Medicaid Waiver Supportive Housing pilot statewide</i></li> </ul>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>Policy Committee and Coalition Designee(s)</p>	
Initiate working relationship with Department of Children and Families	<p>1. Schedule and conduct meeting(s)</p> <p>2. Address priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>housing and supportive services for persons with serious mental illness</i></li> <li>• <i>at-risk and child welfare families</i></li> <li>• <i>youth aging out of foster care</i></li> </ul>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p>Policy Committee and Coalition Designee(s)</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>school children initiative</i></li> <li>• <i>Opioid funding for supportive housing</i></li> </ul> <p>3. Align efforts and needs with Florida Association of Managing Entities</p>		
Establish ally relationship with Florida Association of Counties	<p>1. Identify key contact(s)</p> <p>2. Initiate conversation and follow-up meeting as applicable</p> <p>3. Determine and advance common advocacy agenda</p>	Executive Director	
Establish ally relationship with Florida League of Cities	<p>1. Identify key contact(s)</p> <p>2. Initiate conversation and follow-up meeting as applicable</p> <p>3. Determine and advance common advocacy agenda</p>	Executive Director	
Advance Elder Supportive Housing Initiative	<p>1. Engage key Florida aging network entities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Florida Department of Elder Affairs</i></li> <li>• <i>Florida Association of Area Agencies on Aging</i></li> <li>• <i>Florida Council on Aging</i></li> <li>• <i>AARP</i></li> </ul>	<p>Coalition and Policy Committee Designees</p> <p>(<i>Maria Barcus, Sandra Newson, Stephanie Sutton</i>)</p> <p>External Consultant</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Florida Association of Aging Service Providers</i></li> <li>• <i>CCE Coalition</i></li> </ul> <p>2. Secure a sponsor for multi-entity convening on Florida's elder housing crisis and challenges; service-enriched housing models; supportive housing solutions; collective analysis, planning, and development</p> <p>3. Facilitate convening and collective action plan</p>	(Stephen Ferrante)	
Engage in general supportive housing advocacy	<p>1. Address rental subsidies for LINK units (<i>not time limited</i>)</p> <p>2. Address dedicated supportive services funding for providers serving households with rental assistance or housing vouchers and in LINK units (<i>not time limited</i>)</p> <p>3. Affordable housing development to include low-income and supportive housing units</p> <p>4. Workforce housing development to include low-</p>	Policy Committee Members	



	income and supportive housing units		
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## **January 25, 2024 Participating Policy Committee Members**

The following Policy Committee members attended the January 25, 2024 Policy Committee meeting and facilitated session:

Shannon Nazworth, Policy Committee Chair

Maria Barcus

Melanie Brown-Woofter (*remote*)

Gayle Giese

Olga Golik (*remote*)

Jan Gran-Puckett (*remote*)

Janet Hamer

Jack Humburg

James McCabe

Chuck Melendi

Susan Morgan (*remote*)

Sandra Newson

Leeanne Sacino

Stephanie Sutton

This Florida Supportive Housing Coalition Policy Committee session was facilitated by Dr. Stephen Ferrante, Principal Partner, Group Victory, LLC.