

Alexander County Housing Authority



Director McGough:

Good evening Director, I hope all is well. I wanted to give you an update on our progress here at Alexander County Housing Authority (“ACHA”). During this past week while in training, we have already identified a number of areas where we can save money in order to allocate those funds to other pressing priorities.

Additionally, I have met with community leaders and local agencies in order to better coordinate ACHA’s efforts in moving forward on all issues identified in the VCA. It is my understanding that a lack of straightforward communication and cooperation over the years assisted in ACHA’s current troubled status. So, I have immediately opened all channels of communication with the community.

As you are aware one of the main priorities that the residents have voiced is “feeling safe” or safety related issues. First thing last week upon being hired, I reached out to the Cairo Chief of Police and we have preliminary plans to start reducing crime. There are a number of items he specifically needed from ACHA and I am making sure those are being addressed.

I have also had several discussions with the Mayor of Cairo about a variety of issues. In short, I believe we are on the same page and we are certainly ready to work together.

Although, economic development may be more of a long-term goal I have already discussed, with the Mayor and others, areas where

100 Connell Smith Building
PO box 191
Cairo, IL 62914

Phone 618-734-1910 --- Fax 618-734-0815

work is needed on economic development. There are some great ideas for the entire community being discussed, which if they get some traction will also benefit the ACHA and its residents.

Last, but certainly not least, one of the most immediate priorities/issues to address and determine ACHA's options are with regard to repair, continued maintenance and rebuilding the housing units that are in disrepair. I have made these concerns of the housing conditions a top priority and am anxious to get the specifics discussed with you. The maintenance employees are represented by the Laborers Union and I have started discussions with the employees' representative and made it clear what my priorities are concerning maintenance related issues.

Please know that ACHA will get all issues identified in the VCA into compliance with plans to do so being put in place immediately. You will see some tangible results in the immediate future, while certain issues will be corrected over a longer time period.

Thank you for your attention and anticipated cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact me directly, at (618) 218-1036.

Sincerely,

Jason Ashmore

Executive Director, ACHA

100 Connell Smith Building
PO box 191
Cairo, IL 62914

Phone 618-734-1910 --- Fax 618-734-0815

**100 Connell Smith Building
PO box 191
Cairo, IL 62914**

Phone 618-734-1910 --- Fax 618-734-0815

**100 Connell Smith Building
PO box 191
Cairo, IL 62914**

Phone 618-734-1910 --- Fax 618-734-0815