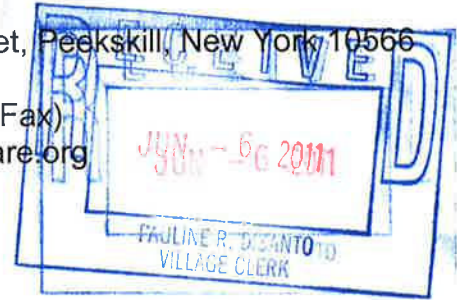




1037 Main Street, Peekskill, New York 10566
914-734-8928
914-734-8535 (Fax)
housing@hrhcare.org



May 31, 2011

The Honorable Leo Wiegman
Village of Croton on Hudson
One Van Wyck Street
Croton on Hudson, NY 10520

Re: Westchester Urban County Consortium CDBG Application for FY 2012-2014

Dear Mayor Wiegman:

This letter is to advise you that The Preservation Company, Inc. is applying for funding from Westchester County's CDBG Program to continue and enhance its Life Skills Training Program for low and moderate income residents throughout the Consortium communities, primarily in the Peekskill area. We will be adding to our basic curriculum a new component focusing on Housing Mobility,

The Preservation Company, a nonprofit housing agency has been providing eviction prevention services to residents of Peekskill and the surrounding consortium communities for over 20 years through its tenant services program. Since 2003, The Company has processed applications for funding of rent arrears and security deposits to agencies throughout Westchester County. Annually, The Company has served an average of over 200 families seeking assistance with rental housing. The Company has also facilitated a Tenant Certification Program for a period of three years and is on the third year of its first 'Life Skills Training' Program. Community support for The Preservation Company to continue its Life Skills Training has been outpouring. With the growing issue of bed-bugs, rodents, and other household pests the increase intake of tenants with housing issues demonstrates the need for the continuation of this program and will not only help solve the immediate issues, but prevents future ones.

We plan to enhance our program with added components to the workshops that will educate both tenants and landlords such as:

- Communication: How to manage anger or frustrating situations; how to communicate one's needs, and how to deal with conflict. Focus will be on landlord/tenant conflicts and tenant/tenant conflicts.
- Steps to maintaining a healthy home: Housing quality standards. How to de-clutter.
 - City building code requirements and violations.
 - Time management.
 - Landlord/tenant relations; reading and understanding a lease.
 - Basics of money management: budgeting, credit cards & credit scores, banking
 - Pest management - recognizing/preventing household bugs.
 - Fire prevention laws and codes, e.g. smoke/carbon monoxide alarms, etc.
 - Fair housing regulations: tenant rights and responsibilities; tenant organizations.

The program will also include a housing mobility training component to help people avail themselves of the fair and affordable housing opportunities being developed throughout the Consortium communities.

The continuation of the program will relate to The Preservation Company's on-going services to low and moderate income persons, who will be educated with the skills of maintaining and retaining their housing as well as helped to understand their rights and obligations as renters and or homeowners. We would be happy to make a presentation to your Common Council or respond to any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,



Jeannette Phillips
Executive Director

Walk-in Location: 55 Bank Street, Peekskill, NY 10566

Nonprofit 501 (c) 3 Organizations