



JUNEAU REENTRY COALITION

*Promoting Success After Incarceration
To Reduce Recidivism and Increase Public Safety*

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410

October 4, 2024

Dear Acting Secretary Todman,

The Juneau Reentry Coalition (JREC) strongly supports the City & Borough of Juneau (CBJ)'s application for funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) grant program to help close the significant affordability gap that serves as the primary and ongoing barrier to affordable housing development in Juneau, Alaska.

The Juneau Reentry Coalition's mission is to promote strategies and engage in activities that serve justice-involved individuals, reduce recidivism, and improve public safety. A significant part of JREC's strategy is ensuring an adequate supply of safe, secure, low-cost housing after release. Currently, there are not enough, and many just-released individuals have no other option but to use the Glory Hall emergency shelter as a place to live. Frequently, this living situation leads to reentry into criminal activity rather than reentry success.

The CBJ's request for \$3 million in PRO Housing funds will support a new subprogram in future Juneau Affordable Housing Fund rounds. This subprogram will provide gap financing for organizations like ours that are working to create affordable (0% to 80% area median income) housing for our community's most vulnerable populations.

JREC is committed to continuing our collaborative work with CBJ to address obstacles to affordable housing and meet the goals of the PRO Housing funding program. We welcome CBJ's efforts to pursue this grant program and encourage your support of this request.

Sincerely yours,



Don Habeger
Coalition Coordinator
Juneau Reentry Coalition