

Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Augusta Housing & Community Development & The Housing Authority
of the City of Augusta

Choice Neighborhood Early Action Activities Proposal

This Memorandum of Understanding is made and entered into as of the _____ day of _____ 2025 by and between the Housing Authority of the City of Augusta and Augusta-Richmond County Housing and Community Development in part to the Choice Neighborhood Initiative Planning Grant (CNI) for Allen Homes apartments located at 526 Hines St., Augusta Georgia 30901. This MOU is intended to address the CNI Early Action Activities (EAA) to be located at Allen Homes. Augusta-Richmond County Housing and Community Development, is a government organization, whose principal place of business is 510 Fenwick Street, Augusta, Georgia 30901 (hereinafter referred to as HCD) and The Housing Authority of the City of Augusta an independent corporation established through a resolution of the City of Augusta, Georgia, authorized by State and Federal legislation, and supervised by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, whose principal place of business is 1435 Walton Way, Augusta, Georgia 30901 (hereinafter referred to as AHA) will enable a partnership between HCD and AHA to create a comprehensive transformation plan to revitalize severely distressed public housing and/or HUD-assisted housing and the surrounding neighborhood.

Part I. Structure and Purpose of Initiative

The local initiative will be known as the Augusta Housing Authority (AHA) and Augusta (c/o HCD) Choice Neighborhood (CN) Early Action Activities Initiative.

Part II. Partnership Goals

The goal of the Initiative is to partner with AHA within the Allen Homes community is to:

- Foster partnerships through AHA's resources that would benefit the local residents
- HCD and AHA will work together as a team to effectively meet the community's needs within the Allen Homes community.

This level of collaboration will require thorough and timely communication between all parties.

Part III. Responsibilities of the Parties:

- HCD will be responsible for complying with the Choice Neighborhoods requirements.
- Any physical improvements, modifications, or alterations proposed by HCD or its partners must receive approval from AHA before any work may begin.
- HCD will reimburse AHA from the CNI EAA budget for items procured under this MOU
- HCD will be responsible for creating Gateway enhancements to Allen Homes that mark an entrance to the neighborhood with public art or signage.
- HCD will be responsible for contributing removable murals provided by local artists with

- residents' involvement to beautify the community.
- HCD will transform a vacant lot at Allen Homes into a community garden with raised garden beds with an electric water timer, a pergola with gathering spaces to include benches and tables, removable mural art around the garden area, and a shed to store gardening equipment.
 - HCD will provide a community book exchange box that will house books that can be exchanged within the community as well as non-perishable food items that can be used by the residents. HCD and/or its partners will provide the books and non-perishable items on a continuous basis.
 - This agreement represents the initial entire agreement and understanding between the parties. Any modification of this agreement must be made and signed by authorized representatives of both parties

Part IV. Payment & Fees

AHA agrees to commit a total of \$125,000 for the Choice Neighborhood activities toward the community garden beds to include gardening installation, materials and labor, garden bed tools and education, additional installation of fixtures to include a sunshade structure, paintable park benches, Little Library materials, community art installation and artist fees, basketball court materials and labor, Wi-Fi repeater and installation, and site prep and project management.

The parties agree that initially, and throughout the term of this MOU, marketing, and public announcements relative to Initiative activities be coordinated among and approved by both HCD and ALG prior to public release.

Part VI. Relationship of Parties

Nothing in this MOU shall be deemed to constitute or create an association, partnership or joint venture among the participating parties, or any agency or employer-employee relationship. No party is granted, nor shall it represent that it has been granted, any right or authority to assume or create any obligation or responsibility, expressed or implied, on behalf of, or in the name of another party, or bind another party in any manner.

Part VII. Term; Early Termination

The term of the MOU is twelve (12) months from the date of the execution. It is the intention of the participants to work diligently to ensure that within 90 days, all of the Initiative Development Goals shall be met. At that time, renewal of the partnership may be extended upon the agreement of both parties. The participating parties reserve the right to terminate the MOU with 90 days' notice.

Part VIII. Administration and Reports

HCD will facilitate monitoring the Initiative and providing bi-monthly reports to the participants.

Part IX. Additional Provisions

HCD and AHA shall each identify a primary contact and an alternative contact.

Part X. Acknowledgements

As the authorized representative for my organization, I have read this MOU regarding the Initiative. I agree that it accurately describes the purpose, operational plan, and roles of the Initiative participants. I understand that this document is not a contract and is not a legally binding agreement.

However, by executing this Memorandum of Understanding, I further understand that the participating parties are forming an alliance to accomplish the goals set forth herein.

DRAFT

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have set their hands and seals as of the date first written above:

ATTEST: AUGUSTA, GEORGIA
(The City)

Approved as to form: _____
Augusta, GA Law Department

Date: _____

By: _____
Garnett L. Johnson
As its Mayor

Date: _____

By: _____
Charles Jackson
Interim Director

Date: _____

By: _____
Jacob Oglesby
Executive Director
The Housing Authority of the
City of Augusta

Date: _____

SEAL

Lena Bonner
As its Clerk