NSO
Neighborhood Service Organization

CENTRAL OFFICE
220 Bagley, Suite 1200
Detroit, Michigan 48226

313.961.4890 (p) 313.961.5120 (f)

A Service Provider of the Detroit-Wayne County
Community Mental Health Agency

United Way Community Services

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December 4, 2007

Governor Jennifer Granholm
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Governor Granholm:

The Neighborhood Service Organization (NSO) is a 52-year old nonprofit agency that provides a diverse array of services to residents of Detroit, as well as Wayne and Oakland Counties. One of the main groups of people upon which we focus our services are the chronically homeless and those with special needs. Given this, we applaud MSHDA's policy goal of targeting the Low Income Housing Tax Credit resource to serve these populations.

Also, as a member of Community Development Advocates of Detroit (CDAD) we want to thank MSHDA for incorporating many of CDAD's policy recommendations. In addition to CDAD, there is a broad coalition of support for the QAP among important community development stakeholders such as nonprofit developers, the City of Detroit, LISC, and the Corporation for Supportive Housing.

In closing, we strongly support MSHDA's commitment to target the LIHTC resource to areas with high concentrations of poverty, such as Detroit, and using it to help address the pressing need for supportive housing. As such we request the following:

- That the QAP be approved at the December 6, 2007 MSHDA Board meeting; and
- Any future rounds should be based on the new QAP as it is consistent with the priorities of MSHDA and the needs of Michigan's communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Joe Heaphy
Vice-President of Housing

Cc: Sheilah Clay – NSO President and CEO
Bill Weld-Wallis – NSO Chief Operating Officer
State Representative Steve Tobocman
State Senator Buzz Thomas
State Senator Mark Jansen
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