

December 10, 2020

Mr. Chad Benson
Michigan State Housing Development Authority
735 E. Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI 48909

Re: MSHDA's 2021 Qualified Allocation Plan Comments

Dear Mr. Benson:

On behalf of Munson Healthcare, I am writing express support for the QAP changes recommended by Housing North in their December 1 letter.

The lack of affordable housing in northwest lower Michigan has reached crisis proportions. Employers like Munson Healthcare cannot find employees to fill jobs because they can't afford to live here. Working families are moving out of the area, which is putting additional pressure on local businesses and school budgets. More than 50% of the residents in our five county area are considered "overburdened" in housing and transportation costs.

Munson Healthcare's most recent community health needs assessment also identified housing concerns as a top priority in northern Michigan. Many groups are joining together to continue efforts to improve the housing situation in our area, which is why we support Housing North's efforts.

The changes Housing North has recommended will make it easier to create housing options for all people in our community, and will begin to help rectify the housing crisis in rural communities like ours.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Sue K. Peters, Chief Human Resources Officer
Munson Healthcare