



HUMAN SERVICES AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

DATE: June 20, 2025

TO: Chair Mike Rogers and the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County

FROM: Jelani Marks, Leon County Housing Services Manager

SUBJECT: County FY 2026 Budget Request

This County staff report is provided by the Leon County Division of Housing Services to the Housing Finance Authority of Leon County (HFA) for the June 20, 2025, HFA meeting. The report presents Housing Services' formal budget request for FY 2026.

Fiscal Year 2026 Funding Requests

In accordance with the Interlocal Agreement between the County and HFA, the HFA will adopt an estimated budget for County-adopted programs and/or HFA-adopted programs prior to the start of each fiscal year. **County staff is requesting that the HFA maintain the funding level of \$78,000 for Fiscal Year 2026 for the Emergency Short-Term Housing Repair Program, the Leon County Home Expo, and the Leon County 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service as reflected in Table 1.**

Table 1. County Funding Request, FY 2026	
<u>Program</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Emergency Short-Term Housing Repair Program	\$75,000
Leon County Home Expo	\$1,500
9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service	\$1,500
Total	\$78,000

Emergency Housing Repair Program

The HFA provides funding to the Division of Housing Services to assist low-income residents with emergency home repairs. The Emergency Short-Term Housing Repair Program (Repair Program) provides repairs to remediate an immediate health hazard; eliminate a developing threat to the dwelling or infrastructure; and to improve the home's resilience to the impact of a future disaster. Emergency repairs include but are not limited to roof replacement, septic system replacement, HVAC replacement, electrical repair, plumbing repair, and tree removal. The program is limited to households with income at or below 80% of the Area Median Income.

It is recommended that the HFA maintain the funding level for the Repair Program at \$75,000 for FY 2026. County staff will continue to provide monthly reports during the fiscal year on the program and if additional funding may be necessary to meet the needs in the community.

Leon County Home Expo

Historically, the HFA has been a financial sponsor of the annual Leon County Home Expo. The Home Expo offers current and potential homeowners a variety of workshops and do-it-yourself demonstrations, led by local experts, about home buying and maintenance, disaster preparedness and more. This year, the Home Expo was held on Saturday, April 19, 2025, and featured informational workshops on heirs property and the Leon County-Tallahassee Community Land Trust. Approximately 137 Leon County residents and almost two-dozen vendors participated in this year's event. The next Home Expo is anticipated to be held in Spring 2026; therefore, it is recommended that the HFA maintain the funding level of \$1,500 for the FY 2025 Leon County Home Expo.

9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service

The County's 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service event is held annually to help revitalize a neighborhood in an unincorporated area of the County. In the past, County staff, community partners and volunteers provide minor home rehabilitation and landscape projects to residents in commemoration of the spirit of community displayed following the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

Previous neighborhoods hosting the day of service event include: Woodside Heights (2016), Oak Ridge (2017), Deer Tree Hills (2018), Lakewood Estates (2019), Frontier Estates (2021), Capital City Estates (2022), and Yons Lakeside Estates (2023), and Forest Grove (2024). This year's Day of Remembrance and Service will occur on Thursday, August 21, 2025, and will focus on revitalizing homes in the Appaloosa Run subdivision in northern unincorporated Leon County.

The HFA has been a strategic and financial partner of the 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service since the inception of the event and program. Therefore, it is recommended that the HFA maintain the funding level of \$1,500 for the FY 2026 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service.

Options:

1. Approve the \$78,000 Fiscal Year 2026 budget request for the Emergency Short-Term Housing Repair Program, the Leon County Home Expo, and the Leon County 9/11 Day of Remembrance and Service.
2. Do not approve the \$78,000 Fiscal Year 2026 budget request.
3. Board direction.