

Mr. Russ Griffin
North Carolina Housing Finance Agency
P.O. Box 28066
Raleigh, NC 27611-8066

April 11, 2012

Dear Mr. Griffin:

I realize that the norm is for staff to develop the annual QAP and post it on the website for comment. However, I would request that some consideration be directed towards elderly housing in rural areas and small towns. In many cases, the need for affordable, decent housing is even more pronounced than in urban areas.

In many of these small towns the area senior citizen service facilities provide the only services available to the elderly. Being partially tax funded, these facilities are located next to services like health and dental, voting, tax-paying, meals, activities, and Departments of Social Services. Often they are not located adjacent to grocery stores. In my experience, operating an elderly complex one block from a grocery store, is that these tenants do not walk to the grocery store, but instead drive or family members will drive them.

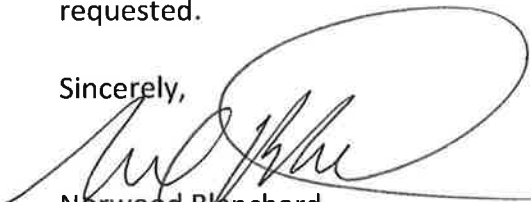
No single issue related to elderly lifestyles is more important than social interaction. Social interaction is essential for good health and longer life. Senior Citizens Service Facilities provide opportunities for interaction between all socio-economic classes. Seniors from public housing interact freely with more affluent members of the community at meal time, in the gym, in exercise classes, education classes and more.

These facilities also provide volunteer opportunities for seniors. As our population ages, the economic strain of providing services to our seniors will become more problematic. Volunteerism will be one of the ways to address this.

Locating elderly housing close to facilities that provide these benefits should receive priority on the QAP.

If this is not the appropriate venue and time for my comment, I will be happy to provide it when requested.

Sincerely,



Norwood Blanchard