

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02-006R**

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN  
URBANA HOME CONSORTIUM COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
ORGANIZATION AGREEMENT**

**(First Followers CHDO Operating PY 2023)**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Urbana (“City”) is a home rule unit of local government pursuant to Article VII, Section 6, of the Illinois Constitution, 1970, and may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs, and the passage of this Resolution constitutes an exercise of the City’s home rule powers and functions as granted in the Illinois Constitution, 1970; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Urbana, Illinois, has found and determined that execution of the attached Community Housing Development Organization agreement is desirable and necessary to carry out one of the corporate purposes of the City of Urbana, to wit: implementation of Strategies and Objectives to Address the Affordable Housing Needs of Low and Moderate Income Households described in the *City of Urbana and Urbana HOME Consortium (Champaign/Urbana/Champaign County) FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan*.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF URBANA, ILLINOIS**, as follows:

Section 1. That an Agreement providing \$6,500 in HOME Program Operating funds, for administration and operating expenses related to the continued operation and agency capacity expansion, between the City of Urbana and First Followers, in substantially the same form of the copy of said Agreement attached hereto and hereby incorporated by reference, be and the same is hereby authorized and approved.

Section 2. That the Mayor of the City of Urbana, Illinois, be and the same is hereby authorized to execute and deliver and the City Clerk of the City of Urbana, Illinois, be and the same

is authorized to attest to said execution of said Agreement as so authorized and approved for and on behalf of the City of Urbana, Illinois.

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL** this 26th day of February, 2024.

AYES: Wu, Evans, Hursey, Wilken, Quisenberry

NAYS: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.



DocuSigned by:

*Darcy E. Sandefur*

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Darcy E. Sandefur, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY THE MAYOR** this 4th day of March, 2024.

DocuSigned by:

*Diane Wolfe Marlin*

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Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor

**URBANA HOME CONSORTIUM**  
**COMMUNITY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION**  
**AGREEMENT**

**(FirstFollowers CHDO Operating PY 2023)**

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into by and between the CITY OF URBANA, an Illinois Municipal Corporation, acting as lead entity for the Urbana HOME Consortium (hereinafter the “City”), and **FirstFollowers**, a not-for-profit corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois (hereinafter “**FirstFollowers**”).

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana, the City of Champaign, and Champaign County have been jointly designated as a Participating Jurisdiction by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (hereinafter “HUD”) for purposes of receiving HOME Investment Partnerships (hereinafter “HOME”) Program funds in the name of the Urbana HOME Consortium under provisions of Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended (42 U.S.C. 12701 *et seq.*) (hereinafter the “National Affordable Housing Act”); and

WHEREAS, the Urbana HOME Consortium, CFDA 14.239, will receive HOME Program funds from HUD for the period beginning **July 1, 2023**, and ending **June 30, 2024**, to increase affordable housing opportunities for low-income residents of Urbana, Champaign, and unincorporated Champaign County; and

WHEREAS, the Urbana City Council has adopted the *City of Urbana and Urbana HOME Consortium FY 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan* (hereinafter the “Consolidated Plan”), and the *City of Urbana and Urbana HOME Consortium Annual Action Plan FY 2023-2024* (hereinafter the “AAPs”) which budgets administrative costs incurred by Community Housing Development Organizations (“CHDOs”) in accordance with an Intergovernmental Agreement Concerning Administration of a Champaign/Urbana/Champaign County HOME Investment Partnerships Consortium executed by Mayor Tod Satterthwaite on behalf of the City on July 16, 2003 (hereinafter the “Intergovernmental Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, the Consolidated Plan encourages the development of non-profit housing development organizations eligible for CHDO status and promotes increasing the capacity for affordable housing production at the neighborhood level; and

WHEREAS, **FirstFollowers** has fulfilled all HOME Program requirements necessary to be certified as a CHDO; and

WHEREAS, **FirstFollowers** has been designated as an eligible recipient of CHDO funds for the Urbana HOME Consortium for the project located at 701 N Prospect Avenue, Champaign; and

WHEREAS, **FirstFollowers** has applied to the City for Urbana HOME Consortium funding for administration and operating costs related to the continued operation of HOME funded rental housing properties and for the building of agency capacity (hereinafter the “Operating Activities”); and

WHEREAS, the City has the right and authority, pursuant to both the HOME Program and the Intergovernmental Agreement to allocate Urbana HOME Consortium funds to **FirstFollowers** for the Operating Activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereby agree as follows.

1. **Preamble.** The preamble set forth above is hereby incorporated and made part of this Community Housing Development Organization Agreement (hereinafter the “Agreement”).
2. **Purpose.** The purpose of this Agreement is to pledge PY 2023 (FY 2023-2024) Urbana HOME Consortium funds to provide **FirstFollowers** with administrative and operating activities to complete the Operating Activities.
3. **Pledge of HOME and Match Funds.** The City pledges to **FirstFollowers** \$6,500 in Urbana HOME Consortium funds for the Operating Activities.

Specific uses of said funds are for administration and operating activities related to the continued operation and capacity building of the organization as shown in Exhibit 1.

**FirstFollowers** shall not request disbursement of HOME funds until HOME funds are needed to pay eligible costs related to the Operating Activities. The amount of any request for funds shall not exceed the amount needed and shall be supported by appropriate documentation (i.e., payroll documentation, receipts, and invoices). The City shall make payment to **FirstFollowers** within fourteen (14) calendar days of receipt of a complete and acceptable request by the City. The City reserves the right to withhold disbursement of funds until appropriate documentation is submitted. All checks shall be made payable to “**FirstFollowers**.” All monies granted to **FirstFollowers** pursuant to this Agreement shall be expended by **FirstFollowers** by July 31, 2026.

4. **Eligible Uses of Funds.** **FirstFollowers** may expend funds per 24 CFR 92.208(a) and 24 CRF 92.300(f).

*24 CFR 92.208(a): Up to 5 percent of a participating jurisdiction's fiscal year HOME allocation may be used for the operating expenses of community housing development organizations (CHDOs). These funds may not be used to pay operating expenses incurred by a CHDO acting as a subrecipient or contractor under the HOME Program. Operating expenses means reasonable and necessary costs for the operation of the community housing development organization. Such costs include salaries, wages, and other employee compensation and benefits; employee education, training, and travel; rent; utilities; communication costs; taxes; insurance; equipment; materials and supplies. The*

*requirements and limitations on the receipt of these funds by CHDOs are set forth in 92.300(f).*

*24 CFR 92.300(f): Limitation on community housing development organization operating funds. A community housing development organization may not receive HOME funding for any fiscal year in an amount that provides more than 50 percent or \$50,000, whichever is greater, of the community housing development organization's total operating expenses in that fiscal year. This also includes organizational support and housing education provided under section 233(b)(1), (2), and (6) of the Act, as well as funds for operating expenses provided under 92.208.*

5. **Financial Responsibility.** The allocation of funds by the City pursuant to this Agreement shall in no way obligate the City for any financial responsibility incurred by the Operating Activities in excess of the funding pledged herein.
  
6. **Equal Employment.** **FirstFollowers** agrees that there shall be no discrimination against any person who is employed in carrying out the Operating Activities, or against any applicant for such employment, because of race, color, religion, sex, age, or national origin, or any other discrimination prohibited by Urbana law, including but not limited to employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. **FirstFollowers** further agrees to the following.
  - A. It shall be bound by said equal opportunity clause with respect to its own employment practices during the duration of its participation with the City and HUD.
  - B. It shall furnish the City and HUD with information as they may require for the supervision of such compliance and will otherwise assist the City and HUD in the discharge of primary responsibility for securing compliance.
  - C. It shall carry out such sanctions and penalties for violation of the equal opportunity clause as may be imposed upon contractors and subcontractors by the Secretary of Labor, the City, or HUD.
  - D. It shall abide by the Urbana Human Rights Ordinance regarding equal employment.
  
7. **Certifications.** **FirstFollowers** represents the following with respect to this Agreement.
  - A. **FirstFollowers** possesses legal authority to receive HOME Program funds from the City and to execute the Operating Activities as described herein.
  - B. The governing body of **FirstFollowers** has duly adopted or passed as an official act a resolution, motion, or similar action authorizing execution of this Agreement including all understandings and assurances contained herein, and directing and designating the authorized representative of **FirstFollowers** to act in connection with this Agreement and to provide such additional information as may be required.

- C. **FirstFollowers**, its successors and assigns, agrees to fulfill the Operating Activities in accordance with HOME Program regulations promulgated at 24 CFR Part 92.
- D. **FirstFollowers** acknowledges there is no match requirement for these HOME CHDO funds disbursed by the City in the amount of **\$6,500**.
- E. **FirstFollowers** shall comply with the regulations, policies, guidelines, and requirements of federal management circulars as they relate to the acceptance and use of Federal funds for the Operating Activities. **FirstFollowers** agrees to maintain financial records in accordance with applicable Federal guidelines; OMB circulars A-110, A-122, and A-133; the following requirements of 24 CFR Part 84: 84.2, 84.5, 84.13, 84.16, 84.21, 84.22, 84.26 - 84.28, 84.30, 84.31, 84.34 - 84.37, 84.40 - 84.48, 84.51, 84.60 - 84.62, 84.72, and 84.73. **FirstFollowers** shall separately and accurately identify use of HOME funds pursuant to this Agreement.
- F. **FirstFollowers** shall comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) and the regulations issued pursuant thereto (24 CFR Part 1), which provides that no person in the United States shall on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which **FirstFollowers** receives Federal financial assistance.
- G. **FirstFollowers** shall comply with Executive Order 11246, and all regulations issued pursuant thereto (24 CFR Part 130), which provide that no person shall be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin in all phases of employment during the performance of Federal or Federally-assisted contracts. Such contractors and subcontractors shall take affirmative action to insure fair treatment in employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination, rates of pay or other forms of compensation and selection for training and apprenticeship.
- H. **FirstFollowers** shall establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using positions for a purpose that is or gives the appearance of being motivated by a desire for private gain for themselves or others, particularly those with whom they have family, business, or other ties in accordance with 24CFR92.356, and enforce such safeguards. Further, it will immediately report to the City any suspected or actual conflict situation.
- I. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of **FirstFollowers**, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency including the City, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal

grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid, or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency including the City, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, **FirstFollowers** will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. This form must be completed and submitted to the City prior to the execution of this agreement and prior to any disbursement of funds.

- J. **FirstFollowers** shall give HUD and the Comptroller General through any authorized representative access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the Operating Activities.
- K. **FirstFollowers** authorizes the City and HUD to conduct on-site reviews, examine personnel records, and to conduct any other procedure or practice necessary to assure compliance with this Agreement. **FirstFollowers** will ensure that all documents related to this Agreement shall be kept for a period of five years after project completion and final payout. Records to be retained include, but are not limited to timesheets; receipts and invoices for materials, supplies, and services; and documentation used to request re-imbursement of expenses.
- L. **FirstFollowers** shall at all times observe and comply with all laws, ordinances, or regulations of Federal, State, and local governments which may in any manner affect the performance of this Agreement. **FirstFollowers** shall be liable to perform all acts to the City in the same manner as the City performs these functions to the Federal government.
- M. **FirstFollowers** shall be responsible for any and all claims, costs, causes, actions, and expenses, including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees incurred by reason of a lawsuit or claim for compensation arising in favor of any person, including the employees, officers, independent contractors, subcontractors, or agents of **FirstFollowers**, on account of personal injuries or death, or damages to property occurring, growing out of, incident to, or resulting under this Agreement, whether such loss, damage, injury, or liability is contributed to by the negligence of the City or its officers, employees, or agents, or by the premises themselves or any equipment thereon whether latent or patent, or from other causes whatsoever, except that **FirstFollowers** shall have no liability for damages or the costs incident thereto caused by the sole negligence of the City, or its officers, employees, or agents.

- N. **FirstFollowers** shall have full control of the ways and means of performing the services referred to herein. **FirstFollowers** acknowledges and agrees that its employees, representatives, subcontractors, and agents may in no respect be considered employees of the City.
8. **Affirmative Marketing.** **FirstFollowers** must adopt an affirmative marketing policy and procedure acceptable to HUD to attract beneficiaries for their HOME-funded projects per 24 CFR 92.351. Affirmative marketing steps consist of actions to provide information and otherwise attract eligible persons in the housing market area to the available housing without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, familial status, or disability. The affirmative marketing requirements and procedures adopted must include:
- Methods for informing the public, owners, and potential beneficiaries about Federal fair housing laws and the City’s affirmative marketing policy.
  - Requirements and practices **FirstFollowers** must adhere to in order to carry out the affirmative marketing procedures and requirements.
  - Procedures to be used by **FirstFollowers** to inform and solicit applications from persons in the housing market area who are not likely to apply for the housing without special outreach.
  - Records that will be kept describing actions taken by **FirstFollowers** to affirmatively market units and records to assess the results of these actions.
  - A description of how the **FirstFollowers** will annually assess the success of affirmative marketing actions and what corrective actions will be taken where affirmative marketing requirements are not met.
9. **Prohibition Against Lobbying.** **FirstFollowers** acknowledges that no funds disbursed pursuant to this Agreement shall be used to finance lobbying activities. Furthermore, **FirstFollowers** acknowledges that no **FirstFollowers** employee funded in whole or part pursuant to this Agreement shall engage in lobbying activities at any time during the term of this Agreement. For purposes of this Agreement the term “lobbying activities” shall include the following.
- any activity related to the election or appointment of an individual to public office, including, but not limited to, contributions to campaign funds, solicitation in an attempt to influence the outcome of an election for public office, and preparation and dissemination of campaign materials
  - sponsorship of candidate forums
  - sponsorship of voter registration drives
  - provision of transportation to polling places
  - contributing financially to elected or appointed public officials in an attempt to influence legislation
  - hiring an individual or individuals to represent an organization and/or its position before elected or appointed public officials.
10. **Request for Disbursement of Funds.** **FirstFollowers** may request disbursement of HOME funds on a calendar quarter basis for reimbursement of eligible CHDO Operating expenses incurred during the previous quarter. An exception to this will be made for the



fourth quarter in order to facilitate financial close-out procedures associated with the end of the fiscal year. The schedule for disbursement requests is as follows:

<u>Expenses Incurred During:</u>	<u>Pay Request Submitted:</u>
January 1 – March 31	by April 10
April 1 – June 30	by July 10
July 1 – September 30	by October 10
October 1 – December 31	by January 10

Each request for payment shall be accompanied by documentation supporting the amount requested including, but not limited to, payroll documentation, receipts, and invoices. The City shall make payment to **FirstFollowers** within ten (10) calendar days of submission of a complete and acceptable payment request to the City. The City reserves the right to withhold disbursement of funds until appropriate documentation is submitted.

HUD regulations mandate that CHDOs utilizing CHDO Operating HOME funds must also be working on or toward an eligible housing project utilizing CHDO Project HOME funds. Such a project must be underway and to the point of drawing HOME Project funds within 24 months of the effective date of the CHDO Operating Agreement. If this requirement is not fulfilled, **FirstFollowers** shall repay to the City all HOME funds disbursed pursuant to this Agreement. Although the disbursement of CHDO Operating funds is not tied directly to the draw down of CHDO Project funds, the City reserves the right to delay disbursement of Operating Funds if it is evident that the CHDO project is experiencing excessive delays.

11. **Agency Training.** In order to ensure that the specific housing needs of the community continue to be addressed in ways that include current best practices, and that **FirstFollowers** understands and abides by all applicable local, State, and Federal regulations involved in the use of HOME funds, the City requires that **FirstFollowers** completes a minimum of two (2) approved workshops, conferences or training opportunities annually. The City may directly administer such training, or may recommend opportunities conducted by other agencies.
12. **Compliance.** **FirstFollowers** agrees that if the City determines that **FirstFollowers** has not complied with or is not complying with the provisions of this Agreement and so notifies **FirstFollowers** by written notice of said violations and **FirstFollowers** fails to correct said violations within thirty (30) days from receipt of said notice, the City may terminate this Agreement by written notice and may take any other action as may be permitted pursuant to this Agreement.
13. **Notices.** Notices and communications under this Agreement shall be sent first class, prepaid to the respective parties as follows:

TO THE CITY: Grants Division  
Attn: Manager  
400 South Vine Street  
Urbana, Illinois 61801

TO CHDO: Executive Director  
FirstFollowers  
PO Box 8923  
Champaign, IL 61826

14. **Contingencies.** This Agreement, including the provision of funds by the Urbana HOME Consortium for the Operating Activities as described herein, is contingent upon the construction of one single-family unit.
15. **Assignment.** **FirstFollowers** shall not assign this Agreement, nor any part thereof, without prior written approval of the City.
16. **Modification.** No modification of this Agreement, including modification of the budget in *Exhibit 1*, shall be effective unless in writing and executed by the parties hereto.
17. **Disbarment & Suspension.** The undersigned, **FirstFollowers**, certifies that it is not debarred or suspended, or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation in Federal assistance programs under Executive Order 12549.

**FirstFollowers** shall establish procedures to ensure they do not make any award to grantees and subgrantees (including contractors) at any tier in violation of the non procurement, debarment, and suspension common. No award of the contracts covered under the subject Agreement shall be made to any contractor who is at the time ineligible under the provisions of any applicable regulations of the City of Urbana, Illinois or the Federal Government to receive an award of such contract.

**FirstFollowers** shall verify and document that none of its grantees, subgrantees or contractors are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from participation through the effective use of the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement or Non-procurement programs (“List”). **FirstFollowers** may request assistance from the City of Urbana to access the List and document results to the file.

18. **Termination.** Unless otherwise extended through written confirmation, this Agreement shall terminate on **July 31, 2026**.
19. **Execution of Agreement.** This Agreement shall be binding upon the City and **FirstFollowers**, their successors and assigns, and shall be effective as of the date executed by the Mayor and attested by the City Clerk.

**CITY OF URBANA**

*Diane Wolfe Marlin* 02/28/24  
Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayor Date

*Darcy E. Sandefur*  
Attest: Darcy E. Sandefur, City Clerk

**FirstFollowers**

Marlon Mitchell *Marlon Mitchell* February 28, 2024  
Printed Name Signature Date

*Exhibit 1*

**Operating Budget**

**Eligible Operating Expenses:**

Staff Salaries & Benefits – 701 N Prospect Ave, Champaign	\$6,500
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