

[FoCHAT] CHAT Newsletter: Apr. 27, 2008

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Sent: Sunday, April 27, 2008 10:38 PM

To: fochat@thinknola.com; [CHAT \[chattra@yahoo.com\]](mailto:CHAT_chattra@yahoo.com)

Dear Concerned Citizen,

There are still big problems that we hope LRA will quickly resolve, for example, how appeals (dispute resolution) are conducted, giving all applicants a chance for a fair appeal (with greatly revised rules) once they request their full file, giving applicants their full file upon request (without any pay charges), giving grants to those who had to sell at a loss in 2006, giving grants to those who are still waiting for grants (and finally fast-tracking the earliest eligible applicants who are still waiting for a grant), resolving the issue of post-closing paybacks to Road Home not due to additional insurance benefits for structural damage or to fraud), non-response by some PALs, non-assignment of PALs, the lack of fast-tracking hazard mitigation (HMGP, FEMA) funds so that they can cover most elevation and other mitigation costs instead of using up precious grant money that should be saved to correct an unknown but large number of shortchanging mistakes on grants due to errors and unequal application of policies.

CHAT and TV:

1. Anderson Cooper, CNN, Tues., Apr. 29, 9 PM.

2. COX10 TV is showing the CHAT meeting from Apr. 9. This 2-hour meeting includes the following topics: Road Home appeals and dispute resolution, a class-action lawsuit against the Division of Administration and the Office of Community Development, pointers about grant calculations, the validity of applicants being asked to pay back money to Road Home for the contractor's (ICF International) errors in calculation of their grant or State policy-based changes in the way grants were calculated, summaries of testimony from applicants in distress, and a brief update on house-elevation allowances. This is the fifth CHAT meeting filmed and televised in its entirety by COX10. The fourth one was shown 24 times. We are very grateful to COX10 and George Blow for this chance to reach out again to the public.

- Sun., Apr. 14, 4 PM; Fri., Apr. 18, 6:30 PM; and Sat., Apr. 19, 11 AM; Sun., 4/20, 2 PM; Wed., Apr. 23, 5 PM; Sat., Apr. 26, 3 PM; Sun. Apr. 27, 7:30 AM; Sat., May 3, 11 AM; Sun, May 4, 1 PM; Sat, May 10, 3 PM.

Best wishes,

Melanie Ehrlich
Co-Chairman, CHAT