



Housing Leadership Academy 2025-2026



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An aerial photograph of a suburban neighborhood. The image shows several houses with light-colored roofs and walls, interspersed with green trees and shrubs. The houses are arranged in a typical residential pattern, with some featuring gabled roofs and others with more complex rooflines. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a sunny day.

Introduction

Palm Beach County is facing a growing housing crisis—one that touches individuals, families, and the essential workforce that keeps our community running. In the face of these complex challenges, we believe leadership matters.

The Housing Leadership Academy is a 9-month initiative created to build local capacity by equipping current and emerging leaders with the tools, knowledge, and partnerships needed to drive innovative, community-rooted solutions.

Why Housing Leadership?

Addressing Palm Beach County's housing needs requires more than just resources—it requires leadership. We need leaders who understand the complexities of housing systems, can build bridges across sectors, and are equipped to advocate for policies and solutions that reflect the needs of our communities.

Through monthly sessions featuring expert speakers, practical content, and opportunities for cross-sector collaboration, participants will:

- Deepen their understanding of local and regional housing systems,
- Strengthen relationships across sectors and organizations, and
- Build the skills to implement sustainable housing strategies.

Academy Mission and Purpose

To cultivate cross-sector leaders who can drive collaborative, informed, and equitable solutions to housing instability in Palm Beach County.



Program Overview

The Housing Leadership Academy is a 9-month professional development program designed to build local leadership capacity in response to Palm Beach County's housing crisis. Each month, participants will engage in interactive learning sessions led by experts in housing, policy, finance, behavioral health, and advocacy. The curriculum blends practical knowledge with real-world application, offering opportunities for collaboration, skill-building, and systems thinking.

Participants will also complete a Community Impact Project, applying what they've learned to advance housing solutions within their own spheres of influence. The Academy culminates in a final convening and celebration of leadership in action.

Session Dates

1: October 10, 2025

2: November 14, 2025

3: December 5, 2025

4: January 16, 2026

5: February 20, 2026

6: March 20, 2026

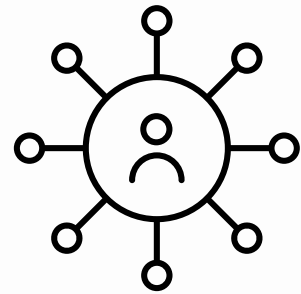
7: April 17, 2026

8: May 22, 2026

9: June 26, 2026



Curriculum Overview



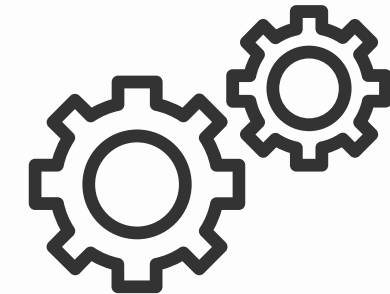
Core Topics

- Understanding Homelessness & Housing Systems
- Affordable Housing Development & Finance
- Policy, Planning & the Role of Government
- Equity, Behavioral Health, & Community Supports
- Advocacy & Strategic Communication



Leadership Development

- Cross-Sector Collaboration
- Systems Thinking & Problem Solving
- Ethical Leadership & Community Engagement
- Building Influence & Driving Change

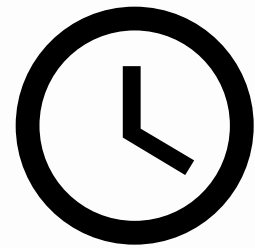


Applied Learning

- Real-World Scenarios & Problem-Solving
- Community Impact Project
- Expert Panels & Roundtable Discussions
- Hands-On Activities & Collaborative Exercises

Expectations

As a member of the Housing Leadership Academy cohort, you are part of a dedicated group of changemakers committed to advancing housing solutions in Palm Beach County. This program is designed to be engaging, collaborative, and impactful—and your full participation is essential to its success.



Time Commitment

- Attend one full-day session each month (9:00 AM – 4:30 PM)
- Optional opportunities for supplemental learning and networking
- Plan for additional time outside of sessions to complete assigned activities and project work



Active Participation

- Engage fully in discussions, group work, and interactive exercises
- Collaborate with peers across sectors and share your expertise
- Contribute to a respectful and inclusive learning environment



Community Impact Project

- Design and implement a project that addresses a housing-related challenge in Palm Beach County
- Participate in guided check-ins throughout the Academy
- Collaborate with the Florida Atlantic University (FAU) research team to track outcomes and assess program impact on local housing efforts

The background of the slide is a photograph of several people in a meeting. A woman with blonde hair is in the upper left, looking down. A man in a white shirt is in the center, looking at papers. A woman with dark curly hair is on the right. They are in a room with a white brick wall and large windows.

Community Impact Projects

Projects

- Apply your new knowledge, tools, and partnerships to drive change
- Address a housing issue aligned with your role, organization, or community priorities
- Create impact that is relevant and sustainable

Structure

- Projects may be individual or collaborative
- Clear goals, timelines, and deliverables will be developed with Academy guidance
- Final projects will be shared with peers, stakeholders, and local leaders at the culminating event

Evaluation

- Participants will receive guidance through coaching, peer learning, and milestone check-ins
- The FAU research team will support data collection and evaluation to measure project outcomes and the Academy's overall impact on Palm Beach County's housing system

Candidate Requirements

The Housing Leadership Academy is designed for current and emerging leaders who are committed to addressing housing challenges in Palm Beach County. We are seeking candidates who are passionate about creating change in our community—individuals who are eager to apply the knowledge, tools, and relationships gained through the program to help expand the capacity for affordable housing across the county.

Applicants from a wide range of sectors, backgrounds, and experiences are encouraged to apply.

01

Eligibility

- Reside in or work within Palm Beach County
- Currently engaged in housing, homelessness, behavioral health, planning, advocacy, or related systems
- Demonstrated interest in leadership, systems change, and community impact

02

Professional Background

- Open to professionals at all career stages—direct service providers, policy advocates, government staff, developers, community organizers, and more
- No formal title required—leadership is about influence, not just position

03

Commitment

- Attend one full-day session each month for 9 months (9:00 AM – 4:30 PM)
- Actively participate in all sessions, discussions, and activities
- Complete a Community Impact Project with evaluation support from FAU

04

Support from Community or Organization

- Letter of support from a supervisor, community leader, or colleague required
- Commitment from employer or organization to allow participation during work hours, if applicable
- Willingness to share project outcomes with stakeholders or community partners

How to Apply

Application Timeline

Opens: July 28, 2025

Closes: August 29, 2025

🔗 Apply via the online link:

<https://lxm.cc/u92m1l>

Selection:

Announcements of cohort selection will take place in September 2025.

Please note: Your application is not complete until all supporting documents are uploaded with your submission.

Application Requirements


Application Checklist

- ✓ Complete the online application
- ✓ Upload Letter of Recommendation
- ✓ Upload Letter of Support from your organizational leadership

Applications are only considered complete when both letters are submitted.

Selection Process

- Reviewed and ranked by a cross-sector selection committee
- 30 participants will be selected for the inaugural cohort
- Final decisions and next steps will be shared in September 2025

 **Ready to Lead?**
We're looking for leaders who want to create real impact in Palm Beach County. If that's you—apply and help shape the future of housing in our community.

Scan Here to Apply:



FAQ

Q: Who should apply to the Housing Leadership Academy?

A: Current or emerging leaders working in housing, homelessness, planning, behavioral health, advocacy, or related fields in Palm Beach County.

Q: Is there a cost to participate?

A: No, there is no cost to participants at this time. The program is funded through the Palm Beach County Continuum of Care Planning Grant.

Q: What if I can't attend one of the monthly sessions?

A: Full participation is strongly encouraged. We understand that emergencies happen, but regular attendance is expected to complete the program and the Community Impact Project.

Q Can I obtain CEUs through this Academy?

A: Yes! We are working with the Florida Certification Board to offer you CEUs.

Q: Can I apply if I don't work for a housing organization?

A: Yes! We welcome professionals from all sectors who are involved in or connected to housing issues- healthcare, education, local government, faith-based organizations, and more.

Q: What's the difference between the Letter of Recommendation and the Letter of Support?

A: The Letter of Recommendation should come from someone who can speak to your leadership potential. The Letter of Support should come from your organizational leadership, confirming their support for your participation (especially time commitment).

Q: When will I find out if I've been selected?

A: Final decisions will be announced in September 2025, along with details for onboarding and the first session.



Q & A



THANK YOU!



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