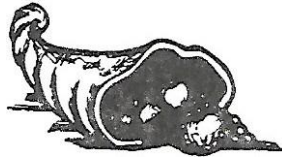


TOWN OF BELL
BAYFIELD COUNTY
715-743-3356 PO Box 280
CORNUCOPIA, WISCONSIN 54827



August 27, 2020

To: WHEDA Application Review Committee for RAWHI
Re: Support for Chequamegon Bay Community as a Pilot Community for the
WHEDA RAWHI program

To whom it may concern,

Please accept this letter as confirmation of our support for the Chequamegon Bay Community Application as a Pilot Community for WHEDA's Rural Affordable Workforce Housing Initiative.

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Bell Board of Supervisors, residents, and landowners.

Cornucopia contains a small business district. Although this is a small community, we are trying hard to develop a commercial structure that will support the needs and preferences of the existing residents as well as a growing population of middle-age and older residents and second "summer" home owners.

The increasing demand for local services, such as restaurants, requires service workers. These positions typically offer a low to moderate income. Unfortunately, there is a shortage of affordable housing for these individuals. The seasonal nature of such businesses further reduces the earning potential of these workers. Currently two businesses in Cornucopia provide workforce housing on-site instead of using the spaces for income generating short term rentals. Interviews with staff, quickly establishes the difficulty/impossibility of finding affordable housing. The bottom line is that to grow our commercial structure we need to find a way to make affordable housing available to these essential staffs.

As you know we are participating in the Housing Survey, have committed funds to contribute to the successful CBDG grant application, we participate as volunteers in the Chequamegon Bay Region Housing task force, and we provide volunteer assistance with WHEDA's Rural Affordable Workforce Housing Pilot application.

We are open to considering Reduced cost public land, forming a private patient capital loan fund group, planned application for other state or federal monies, or other initiatives that will encourage the production of workforce housing.

Providing affordable workforce housing in our community will require a strong collaboration across our region. We believe that the Pilot Team is well positioned to support successful implementation of collaborative solutions to our collective workforce housing challenge.

If the Chequamegon Bay Community is selected as a Pilot Community, we stand ready and willing to assist the Pilot Team in developing and implementing strategies to address workforce housing challenges in our community.

Thank you for your consideration,

Signed,

Roger Lindgren
Chairman
Town of Bell, Bayfield County Wisconsin