Dear [Agency Name],

I am reaching out to you today to request your agency's participation in the Office of Housing Counseling's Equity in Housing Counseling Survey. Your completion of this brief survey will help us to identify and develop innovative programming and best practices to make the dream of homeownership — and the security and wealth creation that comes with it — a reality for more Americans. The Survey can be found at (Insert Link). Please fill out the survey on behalf of [Agency name] (HCSID#: [Agency HCSID#]).

The Office of Housing Counseling is committed to taking a comprehensive approach to leverage the power of housing counseling and you, our partners, to achieve racial equity in housing. As a leader in the housing counseling community, your survey responses will help guide our priorities and future NOFOs to deliver services to historically underserved communities.

I would like to thank all of you who have already shared so many of your "best in class" programs and suggestions directly with me – including culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate counseling, public & private sector partnership initiatives, and the need for the creation and coordination of an outreach campaign that will increase participation in housing counseling programs. I look forward to continuing this dialogue with you.

Thank you for sharing your valuable insights and feedback. Your participation will help us to support and reinforce the critical importance of housing counseling in supporting the nation's housing needs and to realize our shared mission to ensure that families have the knowledge they need to obtain, sustain, and retain their housing. If you have also been asked to fill out the survey on behalf of other agencies you work with, please be advised that you might have to clear your browser's cache or use a different browser before filling out the survey additional times. Questions about completing the survey can be submitted to: <u>Housing.Equity@hud.gov</u>. Survey results will be shared during Fair Housing Month at a Virtual Research Symposium on the impact of Pre-Purchase Housing Counseling.

Sincerely,

David Berenbaum

David Berenbaum Deputy Assistant Secretary – Office of Housing Counseling