The Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing is pleased to announce that it has moved to a new location on the University of Florida campus. For the first time in fifteen years all of the Shimberg Center’s staff will be in one building. This issue of the newsletter introduces the new accommodations, gives a brief introduction to the staff members, and provides the updated contact information for the Center.

New Office Location

The Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing is administratively attached to the M. E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction in the College of Design, Construction and Planning at the University of Florida. On October 14th, the School of Building Construction held a dedication ceremony for the newly constructed M. E. Rinker, Sr. Hall. The new Rinker Hall also serves as the new home of the Shimberg Center.

The Building

The $10 million, 47,270-square-foot building is special in its own right. It is one of about 600 buildings built nationwide that are certified under a national standard known as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). Rinker Hall is designed to use half the energy of other buildings its size and just a fraction of the water. Most of its components were recycled, came from responsibly managed forests, or can someday be reused in another building. The classrooms, labs, and offices were built with materials selected because they don’t emit chemicals tied to so-called sick building syndrome. Other steps ensure against mold or other biological pathogens. Abundant windows, airy classrooms, and a sky-lit atrium make the building more pleasant than futuristic.
Friends of the Shimberg Center

The Shimberg Center’s main office is located in Rinker Hall, room 203. Three of the Center’s faculty members are located in individual offices on the third floor and four graduate students are located in room 320. The furnishings and equipment in the Center were made possible through the generosity of a number of Friends of the Shimberg Center:

Jess Childre, St. Augustine, FL
Community Foundation of Tampa Bay, Tampa, FL
Emmer Development Corporation, Gainesville, FL
Florida Building Materials Association, Mount Dora, FL
Florida Wood Council, Mount Dora, FL
Charlie Johnson Builder, Inc., Mount Dora, FL
Northeast Florida Builders Association, Jacksonville, FL

Staff Listing

All of the members that comprise Team Shimberg can be contacted by calling 1-352-273-1192 or toll free at 1-800-259-5705. The office operates from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday except holidays. Each member of the team also has an e-mail address as well as individual telephone numbers. All incoming telephone calls can leave voice mail messages.

Robert C. Stroh, Sr. (Bob) Director stroh@ufl.edu
Marc T. Smith (Marc) Associate Director mtsmith@ufl.edu
Linda Stanley (Linda) Office Manager ljs@ufl.edu
William O’Dell (Bill) Manager, Florida Housing Data Center bill@ufl.edu
James Martinez (Jim) Software development jjm@dcp.ufl.edu
Diep Nguyen (Diep) Software development diep@ufl.edu
Jayson Boxman (Jayson) Software development webzeus@ufl.edu
Douglas White (Doug) Economist daw6201@ufl.edu
Anne Williamson (Anne) Housing policy arwill@ufl.edu

Street Address

Correspondence sent to the Center should employ the following address:

<Recipient’s name>
Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing
P. O. Box 115703
Gainesville, FL 32611-5703

Parcel delivery, however, requires a physical location rather than a post office box. The recommended shipping address for the Center therefore is:
Remote Access

The Shimberg Center maintains an Internet web site at www.shimberg.ufl.edu where newsletters published by the Center are made available along with Technical Notes and Research Reports. These publications are available by going to the Center’s web site and clicking on “Publications”.

The Florida Housing data Clearinghouse has become the primary source of housing inventory data for policy makers and program planners. All of the reports prepared by the Florida Housing Data Clearinghouse are made publicly available by going to the Center’s web site and clicking on “Fla Housing Data”. Taking this path will provide the tools to investigate the local housing inventory at the county or multi-county level. Over the next couple years the capabilities of this web site will be greatly enhanced, made even more people-friendly, and remain free to the public.