

**DENISE L. THOMAS**

Housing & Community Development Manager  
Redevelopment and Economic Opportunity Department  
Community Development Division

Denise is the Housing and Community Development Manager for Manatee County's Redevelopment and Economic Opportunity Department. Her work experience encompasses over 22+ years with Manatee County and over 16 years of mortgage lending and housing development services.

In her tenure with Manatee County, she serves as the administrator for Manatee County's State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) program, Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, Federal HOME Investment Partnership program and Manatee County's Livable Manatee Incentive program. Her primary function is to ensure the expenditure of over 3.2+ million dollars of Federal and State allocation to promote and encourage community development and housing initiatives, to assess the needs and barriers within our low-income communities, and to incentive developers to create affordable/attainable housing for our workforce within Manatee County. She truly believes that the vital fabric of a strong community is decent and safe housing and economic opportunity for all.