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PH PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Posts Detailed Calculation Reports for January and February

HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) has posted detailed calculation reports for operating subsidy obligations for January and February 2024. The calculations are presented in the same format as obligation letters—the calculations are organized with all PHAs in the same state combined in a single file, which you can access through a map here. The explanation and letters for January and February obligations were posted in December and beginning of January, respectively. You'll find the links to the explanation, letters, and calculation reports for January and February on the 2024 operating fund grant processing page at the operating fund website.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Issues Radon Policy, Awards \$3 Million for Radon Testing and Mitigation

In a <u>press release</u> yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) announced the publication of its <u>Departmental Policy for Addressing Radon in the Environmental Review Process</u>. The policy requires consideration of radon when appropriate and encourages the testing of radon as the most effective means by which site-specific levels of radon can be identified, though the policy does not require testing.

The policy applies to environmental reviews for all HUD programs subject to HUD's environmental review regulations at 24 CFR Parts 50 and 58, and it goes into effect 90 days after publication for all non-tribal recipients. For all Tribe, Tribally Designated Housing Entity, and Department of Hawaiian Homeland recipients, it goes into effect two years after publication.

HUD also announced that it has awarded over \$3 million to PHAs in six states to protect children and families from radon hazards. The grants, provided through the Radon Testing and Mitigation Demonstration Grant program, will allow PHAs to conduct testing and as needed mitigation of radon in the units that they manage. The program also supports the housing authorities' developing plans for future testing and mitigation. A state-by-state breakdown of the funding can be found at the bottom of the press release. Click here for a complete description of the projects awarded grants.

DOJ Settles Familial Status Discrimination Suit Against FL Housing Providers

In a <u>press release</u> Tuesday, the Department of Justice (<u>DOJ</u>) announced a settlement with three cooperative housing corporations in Florida to resolve allegations that they violated the <u>Fair Housing Act</u> by discriminating against families with children. The Act prohibits discrimination in housing based on familial status, race, color, national origin, religion, sex and disability.

The department's <u>lawsuit</u> alleged that the corporations maintained and/or enforced policies prohibiting children under age 12 at their respective properties during certain times since 2015. Under the agreements, in the form of three separate consent decrees that were approved by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida, the defendants will pay a total of \$52,000, including \$39,000 to individuals who are alleged to have been harmed by the defendants' practices and civil penalties to the government to vindicate the public interest. The defendants also agreed to undergo fair housing training and to submit periodic reports to the department. The three consents decrees can be found at the bottom of the press release.



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