



October 5, 2022

PH PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Awards Nearly \$10.4 Million in Emergency Safety and Security Grants

In a [press release](#) yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced that it has awarded nearly \$10.4 million to PHAs throughout the country to make needed capital improvements in public housing developments that serve to enhance safety and security for residents.

The funds, awarded under the [Capital Fund Emergency Safety and Security program](#), may be used to install, repair, or replace capital equipment or systems that contribute to a safer living environment for residents, including security systems/surveillance cameras, fencing, lighting systems, emergency alarm systems, window bars, deadbolt locks, doors, and carbon monoxide detectors.

To view a complete list of the grantees, the amounts they were awarded, and program descriptions, click [here](#).

RAD PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Updates List of RAD Transfers

HUD has posted an updated [list](#) of 2022 Rental Assistance Demonstration ([RAD](#)) transfers to the CY [2022 operating fund grant processing page](#). The document, dated October 4, 2022, lists the obligation and max RAD transfer amounts for January and February; March and April; May and June; July, August, and September; and October and November, by PHA code. The document also lists the physical development, application number, removal action date, number of RAD units removed, retroactive removals non-RAD, retroactive removals RAD, standing ACC units as of January 1, 2022, and the cumulative percent. You'll find a link to the [document](#) and other operating fund grant processing resources on [this page](#) at the [Operating Fund website](#).

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts Updated List of PHAs with FUP Vouchers

On the Family Unification Program ([FUP](#)) webpage, HUD posted an updated [list](#) of PHAs that have been awarded FUP vouchers. As the post states, FUP funding is allocated through a competitive process; therefore, not all PHAs administer the program. Individuals who are interested in obtaining a FUP voucher may use the updated list to identify whether there is a PHA in their area that administers FUP.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Charges CA Condominium Operators with Disability Discrimination

In a [press release](#) Monday, HUD announced that it is [charging](#) the operators of a 556-unit, high-rise condominium tower located in California with discriminating against a homeowner because of disability by refusing to provide her a permanent parking space to accommodate her wheelchair-accessible van.

The [Fair Housing Act](#) prohibits discrimination because of disability, including refusing to allow reasonable accommodations that would otherwise permit homeowners with disabilities an equal opportunity to use and enjoy their housing. A reasonable accommodation includes providing an accessible parking space.

According to the press release, HUD's charge alleges that the property's operators denied the homeowner's multiple requests to provide her with a permanent van accessible parking space. The charge further alleges that because the homeowner's designated parking space does not have the necessary clearance for her van's ramp to extend, she has routinely been forced to scour her building's parking garage in search of a space that has sufficient passenger-side clearance.

HUD's charge will be heard by a United States administrative law judge unless any party elects to have the case heard in federal district court. If the administrative law judge finds after a hearing that discrimination has occurred, the judge may award damages to the homeowner for their losses caused by the discrimination. The judge may also order injunctive relief and other equitable relief to deter further discrimination, as well as payment of attorney fees. In addition, the judge may impose civil penalties to vindicate the public interest. If the case is heard in federal court, the judge may also award punitive damages to the homeowner.

DOJ Settles Disability Discrimination Suit Against HA and Developers in LA

In a [press release](#) Monday, the Department of Justice ([DOJ](#)) announced that a housing authority in Louisiana and seven private developers have agreed to pay \$250,000 to settle claims that they violated the [Fair Housing Act](#) and the Americans with Disabilities Act ([ADA](#)) by failing to design and construct eight multifamily residential properties and associated places of public accommodation so that they are accessible to persons with disabilities. As part of the settlement, the defendants also agreed to make extensive retrofits to remove accessibility barriers at the properties.

The settlement, which must be approved by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, requires the defendants to pay all costs related to the retrofits, provide \$200,000 for a settlement fund to compensate individuals harmed by the inaccessible housing, and pay a civil penalty of \$50,000 to the federal government.

According to the announcement, the accessibility barriers alleged to exist at the properties include, among other violations, steps and excessive slopes leading to unit entry doors or building entrances from sidewalks and other public areas; common areas and amenities that are not usable by persons with disabilities, such as mailboxes mounted too high for persons using wheelchairs to reach; insufficiently wide openings at interior doors that make them inaccessible for many persons with mobility impairments; inadequate interior space to maneuver a wheelchair; and inaccessible parking.



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