



December 14, 2023

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts Materials for Webinar on Mobility Best Practices

On the [HCV Program Trainings and Resources](#) webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) has posted the [recording](#) and [presentation slides](#) for the “HCV Utilization - Mobility Best Practices” webinar that was held on November 16, 2023. The webinar discussed some of the many opportunities to leverage HCV policies and funding to help families expand their housing options. You’ll find the links to the recording and presentation slides on [this page](#).

The HCV Utilization webinar series is intended to help Housing Choice Voucher ([HCV](#)) program administrators learn about the latest HCV resources, program guidance, policy changes, and best practices in HCV administration. You can watch previous webinars [here](#).

GENERAL NEWS

DOJ Settles Housing Discrimination Lawsuit against City in Tennessee

In a [press release](#) Monday, the Department of Justice ([DOJ](#)) announced that a city in Tennessee has agreed to pay \$32,600 to resolve allegations that it violated the [Fair Housing Act](#) and the Americans with Disabilities Act ([ADA](#)) by refusing to allow four people with mental health disabilities to reside together in a single-family home in the city under the same terms and conditions as residents without disabilities.

The department’s lawsuit alleged that the city unnecessarily required a nonprofit housing provider to apply for a special use permit to manage a four-person transitional home in the city’s R-1 residential zoning district. Under the city’s own zoning ordinance and state law, the home was an allowed use in that neighborhood. The lawsuit further alleged that the city denied the permit without any legitimate reason.

Under the [agreement](#), which was approved by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee, the city agreed to amend its zoning ordinance to ensure that persons with disabilities are not illegally denied housing opportunities or excluded from participation in the city’s services or programs. The city also agreed to pay a \$5,000 civil penalty to the government, train officials and employees about their fair housing obligations under federal law, designate a fair housing compliance officer, and file periodic reports with the department.

The Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division enforces the Fair Housing Act, which prohibits discrimination in housing based on disability, race, color, religion, national origin, sex and familial status. The division also enforces the ADA, which protects persons with disabilities’ access to state and local governments’ programs and services.



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