



February 6, 2023

PH PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Announces 2023 Reporting Changes for Utility Types and Unit of Measure

In an email to executive directors last Friday via HUD’s Financial Management Division (FMD) [mailing list](#), HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) announced that beginning in the 2023 funding period, HUD will no longer include “Other” as a valid Utility Type or Unit of Measure on the form HUD-52722. According to the announcement, PHAs must convert any valid utility consumption data into one of the existing choices included in the tool’s drop-down menus. PHAs should contact their field office representative for help to ensure the validity and accuracy of these conversions. The email includes a [document](#) that contains additional guidance on how PHAs should address this change.

HUD Announces Latest in PH Repositioning Webinar Series

The Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) has [announced](#) that it will be hosting the latest in its series of training webinars on repositioning public housing. The series enables PHAs to understand multiple aspects of the repositioning process and identify strategies and resources available to successfully complete it. As such, the series is relevant for PHA directors, staff, residents, board members, and others working with PHAs to develop and execute a repositioning strategy.

The latest scheduled webinar, titled “[How to Prepare and Submit a SAC Application](#),” will provide step-by-step instructions on how to prepare and submit an Inventory Removals Application (i.e., Section 18 Demo/Dispo, Section 22 Voluntary Conversion or SVC, Section 32 Homeownership) to HUD’s Special Applications Center ([SAC](#)) via the HUD-52860 forms and Inventory Management/Public Housing Information Center ([IMS/PIC](#)) system. Presenters will utilize screenshots and provide information PHAs need to ensure a smooth, complete, and efficient application submission to the SAC.

The live web conference is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Eastern time. Click [here](#) for more information, including [instructions](#) on how to register.

GENERAL NEWS

DOJ Settles Housing Discrimination Lawsuit against Village in Illinois

In a [press release](#) last week, the Department of Justice ([DOJ](#)) announced that a village in Illinois has agreed to pay \$800,000 to settle a lawsuit alleging that the village violated the [Fair Housing Act](#) when it refused to allow the operation of a sober living home for persons in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction in a residential neighborhood.

“Individuals with disabilities – including those recovering from drug and alcohol addiction – should not be excluded from living in residential neighborhoods,” said U.S. Attorney John R. Lausch Jr. for the Northern District of Illinois. “Such discrimination by local governments is forbidden under the Fair Housing Act.”

The settlement, which still must be approved by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, resolves a lawsuit that the department filed in November 2020. The lawsuit alleged that the village violated the Fair Housing Act after it denied a reasonable accommodation request to operate a sober living home with ten residents and a house manager in a residential neighborhood. The complaint alleged that, one day after the accommodation was requested, the village sued the sober living home’s owner and operator in state court for violations of the zoning code, including that the home was a “commercial use” and would have more than three unrelated adults.

Under the [settlement](#), the village will amend its zoning ordinance to comply with federal antidiscrimination laws, including permitting homes for persons with disabilities in residential districts, with the same size limitations applied to families of similar size, and implementing a reasonable accommodation policy. The village will also pay \$790,000 in monetary damages to the sober living home’s owner and operator as well as a civil penalty of \$10,000 to the United States. The village also agreed to take a number of other actions to guard against housing discrimination, including training village officials and employees about their obligations under federal law, designating a fair housing compliance officer and reporting periodically to the Justice Department.



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