March 17, 2023

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Issues Notice on Foster Youth to Independence Initiative

Yesterday HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH) posted Notice PIH 2023-04, Foster Youth to Independence Initiative (FYI). The notice, which supersedes Notice PIH 2021-26, explains the eligibility and application requirements for FYI voucher funding, and how applications will be processed. Through the FYI initiative, HUD provides housing choice vouchers (HCVs) for youth eligible under the Family Unification Program (FUP), subject to availability. Yesterday's notice makes the following major changes from Notice PIH 2021-26:

- Sets forth the process by which PHAs may apply for \$30 million in new incremental voucher assistance made available through the 2022 and 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Acts and any carryover funding remaining from the 2020 and 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Acts.
- Sets forth what happens if additional funding is made available for this purpose in future appropriations acts.
- Introduces a new VMS field for FYI vouchers and clarifies VMS reporting requirements for FYI Tenant Protection Voucher (<u>TPV</u>) awards made under Notice <u>PIH 2019-20</u>.
- Adds changes to threshold requirements for PHAs with small FYI/FUP allocations and allows for PHAs that fall under the utilization threshold to submit an additional narrative to justify the need for more vouchers based on actual leased or issued vouchers and/or their plan to improve utilization.
- Clarifies that PHAs must comply with the Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities (FSHO) amendments, which provides an extension of the 36-month time limit for up to an additional 24 months if the FYI/FUP youth meet certain requirements. HUD published an FSHO implementation notice in the Federal Register on January 24, 2022.

Further information can be found in the notice.

PH PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Awards Nearly \$6 Million to Promote Healthy Housing and Energy Efficiency

In a <u>press release</u> yesterday, HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (<u>OLHCHH</u>) announced that it has awarded nearly \$6 million to public housing agencies and a state housing authority to protect children and families from housing-related hazards, including radon exposure.

HUD is awarding 10 grants to PHAs under its Radon Testing and Mitigation Demonstration program. The agencies will test public housing units and mitigate identified elevated radon levels. This investment will protect over 6,500 people in low-income families, including children, from cancer risks caused by radon exposure. HUD is also awarding a grant to improve the energy efficiency of 60 homes under its Healthy Homes and Weatherization Coordination Demonstration program.

You can find a state-by-state breakdown of the funding at the bottom of the press release. Click here for a complete project-by-project summary of the programs awarded grants.



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