



April 10, 2023

MTW PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Issues Notice on Agency Regionalization under MTW Demonstration

Last Friday HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) issued Notice [PIH 2023-08](#) to clarify HUD policies, federal statutes and regulations that apply to agency regionalization implemented under the Moving to Work ([MTW](#)) Demonstration program, pursuant to Section 239 of the fiscal year 2016 Appropriations Act.

As the notice states, in addition to authorizing the expansion of the MTW demonstration program to designate 100 additional MTW agencies, the 2016 Appropriations Act also states that the Secretary may, at the request of a MTW agency and one or more adjacent public housing agencies in the same area, designate that MTW agency as a regional agency. A MTW agency may be selected as a regional agency if the Secretary determines that unified administration of assistance under Sections 8 and 9 by that agency across multiple jurisdictions will lead to efficiencies and to greater housing choice for low-income persons in the region.

Some highlights of the 12-page notice:

- It applies to all MTW agencies that are interested in regionalizing with other agencies. This includes the 39 Initial MTW agencies that were designated prior to December 15, 2015, and the 100 expansion agencies that have or will be designated as MTW pursuant to the FY2016 Appropriations Act.
- Agencies that are participating in any HUD-sponsored research must disclose this within the application to become a regional MTW agency. HUD may not approve an MTW regionalization application with an MTW agency if it would compromise ongoing research until the research has concluded.
- HUD welcomes stakeholder feedback on all aspects of the notice via email at [MTW-info@hud.gov](mailto:MTW-info@hud.gov). HUD will consider all public comments for a 90-day period. During the public comment and review period, MTW agencies may apply for regional MTW designation.
- Interested agencies may pursue two regionalization options: 1. Transfer/consolidation of programs and 2. Management agreement, as described in Section 5 of the notice.

The notice also includes potential benefits to regionalization, definitions, requirements for the regionalization options, application process, ongoing MTW reporting requirements, and post regionalization requirements.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Announces Assistance for Arkansas Disaster Victims

In a [press release](#) last Wednesday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced the implementation of federal disaster relief for the state of Arkansas to assist state and local recovery efforts in the areas affected by severe storms and tornadoes on March 31, 2023.

A presidential [major disaster declaration](#) issued on April 2, 2023, allows HUD to offer assistance to affected individuals in Cross, Lonoke, and Pulaski counties. Effective immediately, the department will:

- Grant a [90-day moratorium](#) on foreclosures of FHA-insured homes
- Make mortgage insurance available under [HUD’s Section 203\(h\)](#) program
- Make insurance available for both mortgages and home rehabilitation under [HUD’s Section 203\(k\) program](#)
- Make [information on housing providers](#) and HUD programs available
- Provide flexibility to Community Planning and Development Grantees, which can apply for needed administrative flexibility in response to natural disasters. For more information on applying for a waiver or suspension of program requirements, [contact](#) your local CPD program office.
- Provide flexibility to PHAs, which can apply for needed waivers and flexibilities for disaster relief and recovery. To find detailed information on applying for a waiver, click [here](#) for the latest *Federal Register* disaster relief notice. The Department also released Notice [PIH 2021-34](#), which advises the public of HUD’s expedited process for waivers and flexibilities from HUD regulatory and administrative requirements for various public housing and voucher programs.
- Ensure [HUD-approved housing counseling agencies](#) are ready to assist
- Assist with housing discrimination

Federal funding is also available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B), including direct federal assistance, under the public assistance program in Cross, Lonoke, and Pulaski counties, and for hazard mitigation measures statewide. Click [here](#) for more information about disaster resources.



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