

July 6, 2022

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD to Host Virtual Symposium for Region VII Landlords

On the <u>HCV Landlord Resources</u> webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) <u>announced</u> that it will be hosting a three-day virtual symposium for landlords located in HUD's Region VII (IA, KS, MO, NE). The symposium, titled "<u>Why Housing Choice Vouchers Should Be a Part of Every Rental Portfolio</u>," will provide landlords with information about HUD voucher assistance programs, including the Housing Choice Voucher (<u>HCV</u>) program. HUD's Landlord Task Force invites landlords, PHA representatives, and other industry partners to participate. Topics and dates are as follows:

- The Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8): Basics and Program Updates for Landlords – July 19, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Central time
- A Closer Look: Special Purpose Vouchers and Inspections July 20, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Central time
- <u>Strategies for PHAs to Increase Landlord Recruitment and Retention</u> July 21, 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Central time

Click on each link to register. Separate registration is required for each day.

HUD Posts HCV Utilization Webinar Materials

On the <u>HCV Program Trainings and Resources</u> webpage, HUD has posted the <u>recording</u> and <u>presentation slides</u> for the "HCV Utilization: Practices in Housing Search Assistance" webinar that was held on June 16, 2022. The live web conference highlighted ways PHAs have improved leasing through tenant search assistance. You can watch previous webinars <u>here</u> on the <u>HCV website</u>.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Charges FL RV Park with Gender Identity Discrimination

In a <u>press release</u> yesterday, HUD announced that it is charging the owner and manager of a RV resort park in Florida with discriminating against a former tenant because of her gender identity. The <u>Fair Housing Act</u> prohibits housing providers from discriminating because of a tenant's gender identity. This includes prohibiting tenants from expressing their gender.

The <u>charge</u>, which resulted from a complaint the tenant filed with HUD, alleges that the manager violated the Act when he gave the tenant a letter stating that he was aware she was transitioning and telling her to act as a man, talk as a man, and dress as a man to avoid trouble.

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 complainant for the harm caused by the discrimination. The judge may also order injunctive relief and other equitable relief, as well as payment of attorney fees. In addition, the judge may impose fines to vindicate the public interest. If the matter is decided in federal court, the judge may also award punitive damages.



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