



August 16, 2024

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts HUD-VASH Additional Administrative Fee Awards List

On the [HUD-VASH](#) webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) posted the [award list](#) for the HUD-VASH additional administrative fees. According to the webpage, on August 8, 2024, HUD awarded approximately \$20 million to 245 HUD-VASH PHAs under Notice [PIH 2024-10](#).

HUD Posts Materials for VMS Reporting for EHV's Office Hours

On the [HUD Exchange](#) webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) posted the [recording](#) and [presentation slides](#) for the office hours session that provided an overview of Emergency Housing Vouchers ([EHVs](#)) reporting in the Voucher Management System ([VMS](#)). The office hours, held on June 18, 2024, also featured a Q&A session with HUD. You can find the links to the recording and presentation slides on [this page](#).

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Announces Latest in ConnectHome Webinar Series

On the [HUD Exchange News](#) webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced that it will be hosting the latest in its series of [training webinars](#) on the ConnectHomeUSA ([CHUSA](#)) initiative. The webinar series is meant to serve as guidance to help ConnectHome participating communities achieve their goals in connecting households to broadband and assisting communities in their digital inclusion and digital literacy efforts.

During the upcoming webinar, titled "[Administering a Baseline Survey](#)," staff from HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research ([PD&R](#)) will provide information on how to conduct a baseline survey and leverage this tool to advance digital inclusion goals. As a part of the CHUSA program, communities are required to conduct a baseline survey, which is a crucial step towards gaining a more accurate measure of the digital divide within a community. Surveys help determine a community's needs for internet service, affordable devices, and the training to use them. The live web conference is scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Eastern time. Click [here](#) for more information, including [instructions](#) on how to register.

DOJ Settles Sexual Harassment Suit against Ohio Landlord

In a [press release](#) yesterday, the Department of Justice ([DOJ](#)) announced that an owner and manager of residential rental properties in and around Athens, Ohio, has agreed to pay \$170,000 to resolve a lawsuit alleging that he sexually harassed female tenants and applicants in violation of the [Fair Housing Act](#).

The [lawsuit](#), filed in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, alleges that, from at least 2010 to at least 2020, the landlord harassed female tenants and applicants by requesting sex acts from them, subjecting them to unwelcome sexual touching, and making unwelcome sexual comments and advances. He also demanded that female tenants engage in sex acts with him in order not to lose housing and offered to reduce rent or excuse late or unpaid rent in exchange for sex acts. The lawsuit also alleges that the landlord initiated evictions or threatened to evict female tenants who objected to or refused his sexual advances.

Under the [consent decree](#), which still must be approved by the district court, the landlord has agreed to pay \$165,000 to former female tenants and applicants harmed by his harassment and a \$5,000 civil penalty to the United States. The consent decree permanently bars him from managing residential rental properties, requires him to retain a property manager for properties he continues to own, and mandates training and the adoption of policies and procedures to prevent future discrimination.



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