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September 11, 2024

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Seeks Public Input on Revising EBLL Threshold for Children Under Six

Today in the *Federal Register*, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) published a <u>notice for comment</u> titled "Modifying HUD's Elevated Blood Lead Level Threshold for Children Under Age 6 Who are Living in Certain HUD-Assisted Target Housing Covered by the Lead Safe Housing Rule." The notice seeks public input regarding HUD's intention to revise the elevated blood lead level (EBLL) threshold in its requirements for assisted housing. As explained in the summary:

HUD intends to revise its EBLL threshold to 3.5 micrograms of lead per deciliter (mg/dL) of blood for a child under the age of 6, consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) current blood lead reference value (BLRV) of 3.5 (mg/dL) of blood for a child under the age of 6. The CDC uses its BLRV for encouraging actions such as environmental investigations of homes to identify potential sources of lead. When HUD last amended its EBLL threshold in 2017, CDC's BLRV for children under the age of 6 was 5 mg/dL, the level HUD uses as its current EBLL threshold.

According to the notice, conforming HUD's EBLL threshold for children under 6 to CDC's current BLRV would result in more environmental investigations of pre-1978 assisted housing units and more lead hazard control work being performed in those units. Section III of the document specifies the requested information. The due date for comments is **October 11**, **2024**.

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts Recording for Source of Income Discrimination Event

HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) has posted the recording for its latest quarterly update event, which was focused on source of income discrimination and laws. The panel discussion, held on September 25, 2024, explored source of income discrimination against housing voucher holders. Researchers, government officials, and fair housing experts provided valuable insights, evaluated the impacts of antidiscrimination laws, shared implementation lessons from localities, and discussed the challenges of enforcement. You can also find the link to the recording here at the Source of Income Protections for Housing Choice Voucher Holders webpage.

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS NEWS

HUD Awards \$6.5 Million in Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants

In a <u>press release</u> yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) announced \$6.5 million in <u>Choice Neighborhoods planning grants</u> to 13 communities in 11 states across the country. Each awardee will receive a \$500,000 grant to create a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plan to redevelop severely distressed public housing, improve outcomes for residents, and bring new amenities to high-poverty neighborhoods. A complete list of awardees can be found in the press release. To read each community's grant project summary, click <u>here</u>.



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