

September 20, 2024

PH PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Reminds PHAs of Rate Reduction Incentive Application Deadline

In an <u>email</u> yesterday via the Financial Management Division (FMD) <u>mailing list</u>, HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing (<u>PIH</u>) reminded PHAs that the deadline to submit applications for the rate reduction incentive (<u>RRI</u>) in the <u>Public Housing Portal</u> is **September 30, 2024, by 5:00 p.m. Eastern time**. No applications or documentation will be accepted after this date.

HUD will be holding a training on how to submit RRI applications through the RRI module in the Public Housing Portal next Monday September 23, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. Eastern time. Click <u>here</u> to join.

The RRI is a financial incentive that provides additional operating fund grant formula eligibility to PHAs that pursue special and significant efforts beyond what is required by statute and/or regulation to reduce their utility rate. Click <u>here</u> to read the current RRI notice and <u>here</u> to access the RRI submission user guide. For further details on the application requirements, please refer to the <u>email</u>.

HOUSING PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Extends HOTMA Compliance Date for Multifamily Housing

Today HUD's <u>Office of Housing</u> issued Notice <u>H 2024-09</u>, titled "Revised Compliance Date: Implementation of Sections 102 and 104 of the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016 (HOTMA)." Specifically, the notice extends the compliance date to July 1, 2025, for Multifamily Housing programs. According to an email from the National Leased Housing Association (<u>NLHA</u>), the TRACS update necessary to fully implement certain parts of HOTMA is not complete, the same issue that HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing (<u>PIH</u>) has with the Housing Information Portal (<u>HIP</u>), which will not be ready by January 1, 2025. You can access the notice <u>here</u>.

MTW PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts Revised 50900 Form

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) has posted a revised Form <u>HUD-50900</u>, "Elements for the Annual MTW Plan and Annual MTW Report." According to a <u>summary</u> <u>of changes</u> document, HUD updated the form to reduce reporting and administrative burden on Moving to Work (<u>MTW</u>) PHAs and to reflect numerous public comments the Department received in response to the <u>notice</u> of proposed information collection that was published on March 28, 2024. You can find the revised form and the summary of changes document on <u>this page</u>.

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts Recording for Mapping Resources Webinar

On the <u>HCV Program Trainings and Resources</u> webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) has posted the <u>recording</u> for the webinar titled "HCV Utilization – Review of HUD's Mapping Resources" that was held on August 15, 2024. The webinar focused on the GIS mapping tools and resources HUD has available to help communities understand how HCV is working in their area, with a deeper dive into the newest tool – <u>HUD Aggregated USPS</u> <u>Administrative Data on Address Vacancies</u>. The <u>presentation slides</u> had been previously posted. You'll find the links to the recording and slides on <u>this page</u> at HUD's website.

The HCV Utilization webinar series is intended to help Housing Choice Voucher (<u>HCV</u>) program administrators learn about the latest HCV resources, program guidance, policy changes, and best practices in HCV administration. You can watch previous webinars <u>here</u>.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Charges New Jersey Housing Providers with Discrimination

In a <u>press release</u> yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) announced that it has charged housing providers in New Jersey with violating the <u>Fair Housing</u> <u>Act</u> by discriminating against a Black Hispanic father and his three minor children because of his race, color, national origin, and familial status. HUD also charged the respondents with retaliating against the tenant for pursuing a fair housing complaint against them.

HUD's <u>charge</u> alleges that the respondents barred the complainant and his three minor children from the property and initiated an eviction immediately after his incarceration, even though his attorney advised the respondents that the incarceration was likely to be brief and his rent was fully paid during this time. The respondents claimed their actions were based on a purported rule allowing them to evict for the mere incarceration of a sole household member. HUD's investigation found that this rule was not similarly enforced against a white non-Hispanic tenant without children who was also incarcerated for pending charges. The charge further alleges that the respondents could not provide a nondiscriminatory justification for the more aggressive approach they took to enforcing their incarceration policies against the complainant.

A United States administrative law judge will hear HUD's charges unless any party elects to have the case heard in a 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 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 case is heard in a federal court, the judge may also award punitive damages.



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