The HCV Connect

Program Updates, tools and tips to help with HCV Program administration.

January 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Finalize 2023 Reporting by January 29, 2024

This is a quick reminder that HUD needs all HCV Program Administrators to finalize 2023 reporting by January 29th, so that 2024 funding allocations can be calculated. Questions can be sent to your Financial Management Center (FMC) Financial Analyst or emailed to pihfinancialmanagementdivision@hud.gov.

Reminder for Quarterly Reporting of Commitments and Obligations in VMS

Please report the Moving To Work (MTW) eligible activities that you have dedicated MTW HCV reserves towards in the Voucher Management System (VMS). For more information about reporting these activities, visit the MTW HCV Resources Webpage.

Click Here to View the Updated MTW Dashboard

Emergency Housing Voucher Program (EHV) - Upcoming Revocation and Reallocation

The EHV Program will conduct a revocation and reallocation in February 2024 (PIH Notice 2023-31). If your PHA is on the list for a revocation, HUD strongly recommends working with your partnering Continuum of Care to fully maximize your voucher issuance and leasing authority. To help PHAs monitor this metric, the EHV Team developed these dashboards.

Per <u>PIH Notice 2023-31</u>, the EHV Team will use IMS/PIC 50058 data as of **February 15th**, to identify PHAs who fall into the revocation category. Please ensure all 50058 reporting is up to date beforehand.

If you have any questions or would like to voluntarily return available EHVs, please contact EHV@hud.gov.

Click Here to View the EHV Data Dashboard

Enterprise Voucher Management Systems (eVMS)

The Financial Management Center (FMC) has successfully disbursed January 2024 HAP to the 97 Wave 1 PHAs utilizing calculations from eVMS! The eVMS Team looks forward to working with these PHAs to gather feedback and valuable input that will be used to further improve eVMS. The <u>eVMS Website</u> has been updated with the Wave 1 On-Boarding webinar, which provides an overview of eVMS and the on-boarding process.

We encourage all PHAs to actively review and utilize the <u>PIC Error</u> <u>Dashboards</u> to help prepare for migrating to eVMS. More details on Wave 2 will be communicated in the near future.

Click Here to Visit the eVMS Website

Stability Vouchers

HUD has published <u>FAQs</u> for Stability Vouchers on the <u>Stability Vouchers</u> <u>webpage</u>. The FAQs address program issues related to eligibility, portability, financial reporting, partnership requirements, HMIS reporting, and required approvals for MTW agencies. Additional questions about Stability Vouchers can be sent to <u>StabilityVouchers@hud.gov</u>.

Click Here for the Stability Voucher Program Website

Staff Spotlight



We would like to acknowledge two of our staff, within HUD's Office of Housing Voucher Programs, recognized for their excellence and dedication, as they bring their best to supporting voucher programs.

Molly Allen, known by some for her leadership of the recent nationwide HUD-VASH Bootcamps, has been named HUD's National HUD-VASH Lead!

Congratulations to <u>Jeff Zimmerman</u>, who was awarded as "HUD Staff Person of the Year" by the Illinois Association of Housing Authorities (IAHA) earlier this month. Jeff is leading the change management process for eVMS.

Reminder of Past Due NSPIRE Deadlines

Public housing agencies (PHAs) are reminded of past deadlines for the National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate (NSPIRE) for the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and Project-Based Voucher (PBV) programs. As announced in the <u>Federal Register</u>, HUD extended the compliance date for when NSPIRE replaces Housing Quality Standards (HQS) as the inspection standards for the HCV and PBV programs until October 1, 2024.

- The deadline for PHAs to notify HUD whether they will continue with HQS as previously defined or convert to NSPIRE was November 15, 2023. If your agency has not yet sent notification to NSPIREV_AlternateInspection@hud.gov, please do so.
- All unvented, fuel-burning space heaters should have been removed as of January 1, 2024. For more information, see <u>Notice</u> <u>PIH 2023-28</u>, for NSPIRE for HCV and PBV programs.

Visit the <u>NSPIRE website</u> for helpful checklists, tools, information and additional resources. Questions can be sent to <u>NSPIRE@hud.gov</u>.

Click Here to Visit the NSPIRE Homepage

EVENTS AND TRAININGS

Reminder of HCV Utilization Webinar Series

The third Thursday of every month we host an HCV Utilization Webinar. These webinars are intended to update HCV Program Administrators and stakeholders on recent program changes and highlight best practices in program administration. The topics are subject to change.

Upcoming Topics:

- End of Year Reconciliation and Special Purpose Vouchers (Jan 18th from 2:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern)
- Review of HCV Landlord Engagement Resources (Feb 15th from 2:00 3:00 PM Eastern)

Can't make a webinar? Don't worry. They are all recorded and posted on the <u>Past Trainings and Webinars site</u>. If you have topic suggestions, please email HCVUtilization@hud.gov.

Click Here to Register

Save the Date: Small Area Fair Market Rent (SAFMR) Virtual Convening, February 21, 2024

On **February 21, 2024**, PHAs are invited to join a Virtual Convening on Small Area Fair Market Rents (SAFMRs) hosted by HUD and our Technical Assistance Provider, CVR Associates. This event is primarily targeted to PHAs in newly designated SAFMR areas, but all PHAs are welcome to attend. During this live, remote session, PHAs will learn:

- Why HUD designates SAFMRs
- Details about SAFMR policies (including PIH Notice 2023-32)
- Best practices from PHAs that successfully implemented mandatory SAFMRs, including topics about technology and communications.

Registrants will also be able to participate in live question and answer sessions with HUD and presenting PHAs. Registration information will be available soon. If you have any questions about the convening in the meantime, please contact <u>onlinelearning@cvrassociates.com</u>.

HCV UTILIZATION TOOL UPDATES



The HCV program requires program administrators to make regular adjustments to reflect funding levels and local market conditions. HUD provides resources on the HCV Utilization Tools site to help PHAs forecast

the impact of different program adjustments and voucher issuance decisions. Here are recent HCV Utilization Tool updates:

Updated 2024 Funding Estimates Available

HUD recently updated the Two-Year Tool (TYT) projections for 2024 according to the latest information we have. PHAs may notice a lower projected funding amount for 2024. Since final funding amounts are still uncertain, we encourage PHAs to use these conservative estimates for program utilization in an effort to avoid any potential program shortfalls. If you have questions/concerns, please email HCVUtilization@hud.gov.

Click here to access the Two-Year Tool for your PHA





hud.gov/hcv