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PH PROGRAM NEWS

SAC Posts Updated Section 18 Application Checklist

HUD's Special Applications Center (<u>SAC</u>) has posted an updated <u>Section 18 application</u> <u>checklist</u> to its <u>Demolition and Disposition</u> webpage. The eight-page document, dated October 2021, summarizes the application requirements for the demolition and/or disposition of public housing in accordance with Section 18 of the 1937 Act, <u>24 CFR part 970</u>, and <u>Notice PIH 2021-07</u>. The checklist does not apply to Section 18 dispositions proposed as part of a RAD/Section 18 Blend under <u>Notice PIH 2021-07</u>. For application requirements on the blends, click <u>here</u>.

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

HUD Posts EHV Exception Report to Identify IMS/PIC Reporting Discrepancies

On the Emergency Housing Vouchers (<u>EHV</u>) webpage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (<u>HUD</u>) has posted an <u>EHV Exception Report</u>. HUD advises EHV PHAs to use this report to identify and resolve IMS/PIC reporting discrepancies. If you have any questions, please email <u>EHV@hud.gov</u>.

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Announces Latest in FYI Initiative Webinar Series

HUD has announced that it will be hosting the latest in its series of <u>training webinars</u> on the Foster Youth to Independence (<u>FYI</u>) Initiative. The series provides guidance on starting and administering a FYI voucher program. From understanding the population served, to developing partnerships, engaging youth, using data, and voucher administration, this series promotes necessary information and best practices for the FYI initiative. As such, the webinars are relevant for all PHAs that are administering or considering administering FYI vouchers, public child welfare agencies (PCWAs), and support services agencies working in collaboration with PHAs.

The latest scheduled webinar, titled "<u>Youth Engagement</u>," will discuss best practices for engaging FYI-eligible youth in developing and implementing programming. It is scheduled for Tuesday, October 19, 2021, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Eastern time. Click <u>here</u> to register.

HUD Settles Discrimination Case against Alabama Housing Providers

In a <u>press release</u> last Friday, HUD announced that it has signed a <u>conciliation agreement</u> with the owners of a HUD-subsidized community in Alabama. The agreement resolves allegations and a HUD investigation into whether the owners' policy prohibiting visitors under the age of 12 due to COVID-19 was discriminatory.

The case came to HUD's attention when a resident filed a complaint alleging that the owners of the community discriminated against her. The resident, who had been providing childcare for her grandchildren, was allegedly told that she could no longer do so because it violated the owners' policy, instituted due to COVID-19, prohibiting visitors to the property under the age of 12. HUD also engaged in a compliance review to assess whether the owners had adopted an impermissible age distinction in their HUD-assisted programs or activities. Further, the resident alleged that respondents were allegedly responsible for otherwise denying or making housing unavailable and imposing discriminatory terms, conditions, privileges, or services in connection with the housing because of her perceived disability and familial status and retaliating against her for exercising her fair housing rights.

The Fair Housing Act prohibits housing providers from making housing unavailable and imposing discriminatory terms or conditions based on a person's actual or perceived disability (including the perception that they are unsafe to associate with because of fear they may spread contagious disease) or their familial status, or retaliating against a person for exercising their fair housing rights. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by recipients of federal financial assistance. In addition, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance.

Under the agreement, the owners will pay the resident \$20,000 and rescind their policy prohibiting visitors to the property who are under the age of 12, provide residents with notice of the rescission, and remove playground signage targeting anyone on the basis of age. The owners will also implement revised visitation policies across all their federally funded properties, implement a nondiscrimination policy at the community and across their federally funded properties, and undergo annual training for their management staff on how to comply with the Fair Housing Act, Section 504, and the Age Discrimination Act.



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