



June 19, 2020

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Settles Racial Discrimination Case against NY Housing Provider

In a [press release](#) yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced that it has approved a [conciliation agreement](#) between a local fair housing advocacy and enforcement agency and the owner of apartment complexes in New York. The agreement resolves allegations that employees of the apartment complexes discriminated against applicants based on their race, specifically, treating white testers posing as prospective tenants more favorably than African-American testers. Under the [Fair Housing Act](#), it is unlawful to deny housing or treat applicants differently because of race or color.

The case came to HUD’s attention when a local fair housing agency filed a complaint after several African Americans reported that they believed they were denied the opportunity to rent units at the apartment complexes because of their race. The local agency conducted fair housing testing using white and African-American who posed as prospective renters. The local agency complaint stated that the tests showed that white testers received more favorable treatment, including being told about the upcoming availability of units, while African-American testers were told that there was a long waiting list and that no units were available. The owners denied discriminating but agreed to settle the complaint.

Under the terms of the agreement, the housing provider will pay \$25,000 to the local agency, develop and maintain a nondiscrimination policy, and provide fair housing training for employees of the apartment complexes who have contact with prospective and current tenants and applicants. In addition, the housing provider will create a \$10,000 compensation fund for individuals who were denied housing or received misinformation about the availability of housing at the apartment complexes because of their race.

HUD Announces More than \$35 Million in HOPWA Awards

In a [press release](#) Wednesday, HUD announced that it has awarded \$35.8 million to assist more than 2,856 low-income persons and families living with HIV/AIDS. The funding, provided through HUD’s Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS ([HOPWA](#)) program, will renew HUD’s support to 31 local programs.

As the press release states, “under the HOPWA program, HUD makes grants to cities, states, and nonprofit organizations to provide housing assistance and supportive services to low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. By providing assistance with housing and related services, the HOPWA program helps persons living with HIV/AIDS enter into housing, access and remain in medical care, and adhere to complex treatment regimens.”

The press release includes a list of the grant recipients and the amounts they were awarded. Click [here](#) for a summary of the grant programs.

HCV PROGRAM NEWS

PIH Updates Two-Year Projection Tool and Tool of Tools

On the [Tools](#) page on the Housing Choice Vouchers ([HCV](#)) website, HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) posted updated versions of the two-year projection tool ([TYT](#)) and the Tool of Tools ([ToT](#)) for the HCV program. The tools are current as of June 18, 2020. You can access the tools through HUD’s Secure Systems.



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