



September 28, 2021

GENERAL NEWS

HUD Extends NSPIRE Demonstration

In a *Federal Register* [notice](#) today, HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) announced that the demonstration to assess the National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate ([NSPIRE](#)) and associated protocols will continue through April 30, 2023.

As the notice states, the demonstration allows HUD to test the NSPIRE standards and protocols as the means for assessing the physical conditions of HUD-assisted and HUD-insured housing. The continuation provides the authority to further evaluate and refine the future state of HUD’s physical inspection model.

The NSPIRE model will revise the way that HUD-assisted housing is inspected and evaluated to reduce regulatory burden and improve HUD oversight through a unified assessment of housing quality and a prioritization of resident health and safety.

HUD to Host Webinar on 2021 CoC NOFA for YHDP Communities

On the [HUD Exchange News webpage](#), HUD’s Office of Public and Indian Housing ([PIH](#)) [announced](#) that it will be holding a webinar specifically for Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program ([YHDP](#)) communities that have grants that will renew under the 2021 Continuum of Care (CoC) notice of funding availability ([NOFA](#)). This includes any projects from round 1 or 2 that have previously been renewed under the CoC program, as well as round 3 projects that have a start date in 2020 and expire in 2022.

According to the announcement, the 2021 CoC NOFA has specific provisions for YHDP grants, including the ability to noncompetitively renew or replace projects, the ability to not have match requirements on grants, and special YHDP activities that communities can now take advantage of (without waivers or alternative requirements). The webinar, which will be held on **September 30, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time**, will review these provisions and answer questions that communities might have about YHDP grants. Participants do not need to register in advance. Click [here](#) to join.

HUD Settles Disability Discrimination Case against AZ Housing Authority

In a [press release](#) last Friday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced that it has reached a voluntary compliance agreement ([VCA](#)) between a housing authority in Mesa, Arizona, and one of its residents who has a mental health disability. The agreement resolves claims that the housing authority violated the [Fair Housing Act](#) by failing to fulfill the resident’s reasonable accommodation request.

Specifically, the tenant filed a fair housing complaint alleging that the housing authority failed to provide her brother with copies of all correspondence, including her recertification notice, as part of a reasonable accommodation the tenant had in place. As a result, the tenant failed to respond to the recertification notice and was evicted.

The Fair Housing Act prohibits housing providers from discriminating against people with disabilities, including refusing to make reasonable accommodations in policies or practices when such accommodations may be necessary to provide persons with disabilities an equal opportunity to use or enjoy a dwelling. The tenant also alleged that the housing authority violated [Section 504](#) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by recipients of federal financial assistance.

Under the agreement, the housing authority will pay \$10,000 to the tenant and provide fair housing training for its employees who work with the public. The housing authority will also vacate the tenant’s eviction and waive the \$3,516 eviction judgment that had been entered against her.



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