

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Public and Indian Housing

PHA Plans

5 Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2005 - 2009
Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2005

May 23, 2005

**NOTE: THIS PHA PLANS TEMPLATE (HUD 50075) IS TO BE COMPLETED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS LOCATED IN APPLICABLE PIH NOTICES**

PHA Plan Agency Identification

PHA Name: Gastonia Housing Authority

PHA Number: NC057

PHA Fiscal Year Beginning: (mm/yyyy) 10/2005

Public Access to Information

Information regarding any activities outlined in this plan can be obtained by contacting: (select all that apply)

- Main administrative office of the PHA
- PHA development management offices
- PHA local offices

Display Locations For PHA Plans and Supporting Documents

The PHA Plans (including attachments) are available for public inspection at: (select all that apply)

- Main administrative office of the PHA
- PHA development management offices
- PHA local offices
- Main administrative office of the local government
- Main administrative office of the County government
- Main administrative office of the State government
- Public library
- PHA website
- Other (list below)

PHA Plan Supporting Documents are available for inspection at: (select all that apply)

- Main business office of the PHA
- PHA development management offices
- Other (list below)

5-YEAR PLAN
PHA FISCAL YEARS 2004 - 2008
[24 CFR Part 903.5]

A. Mission

State the PHA's mission for serving the needs of low-income, very low income, and extremely low-income families in the PHA's jurisdiction. (select one of the choices below)

The mission of the PHA is the same as that of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: To promote adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity and a suitable living environment free from discrimination.

The PHA's mission is:

The Gastonia Housing Authority is dedicated to providing this community with quality, affordable housing that is decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair and free from drugs and violent crime. We endeavor to provide livable communities that are made up of a diverse range of economic incomes so that the children of these communities have role models that are visibly striving to make economic gains for their families. We are committed to providing our residents with as many opportunities as possible to become self-sufficient. We shall do all of these things while serving our residents and neighboring citizens with the highest degree of professional courtesy, empathy and respect.

The GHA's Vision Statement is:

To provide quality housing on an interim basis to residents of diverse backgrounds, and provide financial opportunities while minimizing their economic sacrifices. We are committed to provide housing opportunities to allow residents to live in harmony and move toward self-sufficiency. We will do this by providing diverse services that will assist residents to set goals and move their families into a more favorable economic situation.

B. Goals

The goals and objectives listed below are derived from HUD's strategic Goals and Objectives and those emphasized in recent legislation. PHAs may select any of these goals and objectives as their own, or identify other goals and/or objectives. Whether selecting the HUD-suggested objectives or their own, **PHAS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO IDENTIFY QUANTIFIABLE MEASURES OF SUCCESS IN REACHING THEIR OBJECTIVES OVER THE COURSE OF THE 5 YEARS.** (Quantifiable measures would include targets such as: numbers of families served or PHAS scores achieved.) PHAs should identify these measures in the spaces to the right of or below the stated objectives.

HUD Strategic Goal: Increase the availability of decent, safe, and affordable housing.

X PHA Goal: Expand the supply of assisted housing

Objectives:

- Apply for additional rental vouchers:
- Reduce public housing vacancies:
- Leverage private or other public funds to create additional housing opportunities:
- Acquire or build units or developments
- Other (list below)

PHA Goal: Improve the quality of assisted housing

Objectives:

- Improve public housing management: (PHAS score) 93
- Improve voucher management: (SEMAP score) 81
- Increase customer satisfaction:
- Concentrate on efforts to improve specific management functions: (list; e.g., public housing finance; voucher unit inspections)
- Renovate or modernize public housing units:
- Demolish or dispose of obsolete public housing:
- Provide replacement public housing:
- Provide replacement vouchers:
- Other: (list below)

PHA Goal: Increase assisted housing choices

Objectives:

- Provide voucher mobility counseling:
- Conduct outreach efforts to potential voucher landlords
- Increase voucher payment standards
- Implement voucher homeownership program:
- Implement public housing or other homeownership programs:
- Implement public housing site-based waiting lists:
- Convert public housing to vouchers:
- Other: (list below)

HUD Strategic Goal: Improve community quality of life and economic vitality

PHA Goal: Provide an improved living environment

Objectives:

- Implement measures to deconcentrate poverty by bringing higher income public housing households into lower income developments:

- Implement measures to promote income mixing in public housing by assuring access for lower income families into higher income developments:
- Continue ongoing public housing security improvements:
- Designate developments or buildings for particular resident groups (elderly, persons with disabilities)
- Other: (list below)

HUD Strategic Goal: Promote self-sufficiency and asset development of families and individuals

- PHA Goal: Promote self-sufficiency and asset development of assisted households
 - Objectives:
 - Increase the number and percentage of employed persons in assisted families:
 - Provide or attract supportive services to improve assistance recipients' employability:
 - Provide or attract supportive services to increase independence for the elderly or families with disabilities.
 - Other: (list below)

HUD Strategic Goal: Ensure Equal Opportunity in Housing for all Americans

- PHA Goal: Ensure equal opportunity and affirmatively further fair housing
 - Objectives:
 - Undertake affirmative measures to ensure access to assisted housing regardless of race, color, religion national origin, sex, familial status, and disability:
 - Undertake affirmative measures to provide a suitable living environment for families living in assisted housing, regardless of race, color, religion national origin, sex, familial status, and disability:
 - Undertake affirmative measures to ensure accessible housing to persons with all varieties of disabilities regardless of unit size required:
 - Other: (list below)

Other PHA Goals and Objectives: (list below)

Annual PHA Plan
PHA Fiscal Year 2004

[24 CFR Part 903.7]

i. Annual Plan Type:

Select which type of Annual Plan the PHA will submit.

Standard Plan:

Streamlined Plan:

- High Performing PHA**
- Small Agency (<250 Public Housing Units)**
- Administering Section 8 Only**

Troubled Agency Plan

ii. Executive Summary of the Annual PHA Plan

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (r)]

Provide a brief overview of the information in the Annual Plan, including highlights of major initiatives and discretionary policies the PHA has included in the Annual Plan.

The Gastonia Housing Authority (GHA) has prepared this PHA Plan in compliance with Section 511 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 and the ensuing HUD requirements. GHA continues to use its Strategic Plan for guidance on management and operations goals and objectives.

We have adopted the following mission statement to guide the activities of the Gastonia Housing Authority.

The Gastonia Housing Authority is dedicated to providing this community with quality, affordable housing that is decent, safe, sanitary and in good repair and free from drugs and violent crime. We endeavor to provide livable communities that are made up of diverse range of economic incomes so that the children of these communities have role models that are visibly striving to make economic gains for their families. We are committed to providing our residents with as many opportunities as possible to become self-sufficient. We shall do all of these things while serving our residents and neighboring citizens with the highest degree of professional courtesy, empathy and respect.

We have also adopted the following goals and objectives for the next five years.

- (1) Reduce public housing vacancies
- (2) Acquire or build affordable housing
- (3) Improve public housing and Section 8 management

- (4) Increase customer satisfaction
- (5) Renovate or modernize public housing
- (6) Maintain Public Housing and Section 8 Operations within the parameters of the reduced funding and recently implemented HUD guidelines.
- (7) Provide improved living environments through deconcentration, income mixing, security improvements and modernization of public housing units.
- (8) Promote self-sufficiency and ensure equal opportunity for all residents.
- (9) Implement a Section 8 homeownership program.

Our PHA Plan is based on the premise that if we accomplish our goals and objectives we will be working towards the achievement of our mission.

The plans, statements, budget summary, policies, etc. set forth in the PHA Plan all lead towards the accomplishment of our goals and objectives. Taken as a whole, they outline a comprehensive approach towards our goals and objectives and are consistent with the City of Gastonia's Consolidated Plan. Here are just a few highlights of our PHA Plan:

- The Gastonia Housing Authority is maintaining an occupancy rate of 96 to 97 percent.
- Housing needs in Gastonia cross all boundaries of low-income families, minorities, non-minorities, elderly and disabled. The Consolidated Plan and this PHA Plan combine to develop short- and long-term goals to address these issues.
- Policies and procedures are in place to address deconcentration, local preferences, the latest eligibility, admissions and occupancy requirements. Calculations show that ongoing deconcentration efforts are not necessary in any of our three family developments.

Average income per development, as at 2/23/2005, versus GHA-wide average income (\$8,075.45) is as follows:

Cameron Courts	95% (\$7,654.40)
Weldon Heights	88% (\$7,091.90)
Mountain View	107% (\$8,649.89)

- Flat rents have been developed that strike a balance between market rental values and the need to further self-sufficiency. Payment Standards were raised in 2001 to 100% of FMR to encourage Section 8 recipients to look outside the traditionally low-income neighborhoods to reduce concentration of low-income neighborhoods.
- Capital improvements such as the installation of air conditioning strike a balance between long-term viability, curb appeal and general maintenance to preserve the housing stock and make it more competitive with private market developments in the surrounding areas.
- There is a major commitment to reduce the incidents of drugs and crime and expand resident initiatives, self-sufficiency and community services, both with allocation of staff and funding. We will continue with our highly successful drug and crime prevention program that combines youth and family services with crime data collection from the Gastonia Police Department and police office patrols in all communities. A Weed and Seed Grant that we administer will enhance this initiative.
- The GHA is a member of a North Carolina consortium of Housing Authorities that has put together a Capital Fund Bond Pool that will enable the GHA to make more efficient use of Capital Fund dollars.
- The Plan has considered the Resident Advisory Board comments, input from staff and residents and the City of Gastonia's Consolidated Plan.

In summary, we are on course to improve the condition of affordable housing in Gastonia.

iii. Annual Plan Table of Contents

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (r)]

Provide a table of contents for the Annual Plan, including attachments, and a list of supporting documents available for public inspection.

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Attachments

Indicate which attachments are provided by selecting all that apply. Provide the attachment's name (A, B, etc.) in the space to the left of the name of the attachment. Note: If the attachment is provided as a **SEPARATE** file submission from the PHA Plans file, provide the file name in parentheses in the space to the right of the title.

Required Attachments:

- Admissions Policy for Deconcentration (nc057a01)
- FY 2002 Capital Fund Program Annual Statement (nc057b01)
- Most recent board-approved operating budget (Required Attachment for PHAs that are troubled or at risk of being designated troubled ONLY)

RASS Follow-up Plan (nc057e01)

Section 8 Homeownership Capacity Statement (nc057g01)

Membership of the Resident Advisory Board or Boards (nc057h01)

Progress Report (nc057j01)

Optional Attachments:

- PHA Management Organizational Chart
- FY 2003 Capital Fund Program 5 Year Action Plan (nc057c01)
- Public Housing Drug Elimination Program (PHDEP) Plan
- Comments of Resident Advisory Board or Boards (must be attached if not included in PHA Plan text) (nc057d01)
- Other (List below, providing each attachment name)

Supporting Documents Available for Review

Indicate which documents are available for public review by placing a mark in the “Applicable & On Display” column in the appropriate rows. All listed documents must be on display if applicable to the program activities conducted by the PHA.

List of Supporting Documents Available for Review		
Applicable & On Display	Supporting Document	Applicable Plan Component
X	PHA Plan Certifications of Compliance with the PHA Plans and Related Regulations	5 Year and Annual Plans
X	State/Local Government Certification of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan	5 Year and Annual Plans
X	Fair Housing Documentation: Records reflecting that the PHA has examined its programs or proposed programs, identified any impediments to fair housing choice in those programs, addressed or is addressing those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available, and worked or is working with local jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdictions’ initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA’s involvement.	5 Year and Annual Plans
X	Consolidated Plan for the jurisdiction/s in which the PHA is located (which includes the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI)) and any additional backup data to support statement of housing needs in the jurisdiction	Annual Plan: Housing Needs
X	Most recent board-approved operating budget for the public housing program	Annual Plan: Financial Resources;
X	Public Housing Admissions and (Continued) Occupancy Policy (A&O), which includes the Tenant Selection and Assignment Plan [TSAP]	Annual Plan: Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions Policies
X	Section 8 Administrative Plan	Annual Plan: Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions Policies
X	Public Housing Deconcentration and Income Mixing Documentation: 1. PHA board certifications of compliance with deconcentration requirements (section 16(a) of the US	Annual Plan: Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions Policies

List of Supporting Documents Available for Review		
Applicable & On Display	Supporting Document	Applicable Plan Component
	Housing Act of 1937, as implemented in the 2/18/99 <i>Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act Initial Guidance; Notice</i> and any further HUD guidance) and 2. Documentation of the required deconcentration and income mixing analysis	
X	Public housing rent determination policies, including the methodology for setting public housing flat rents <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check here if included in the public housing A & O Policy	Annual Plan: Rent Determination
x	Schedule of flat rents offered at each public housing development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check here if included in the public housing A & O Policy	Annual Plan: Rent Determination
X	Section 8 rent determination (payment standard) policies <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check here if included in Section 8 Administrative Plan	Annual Plan: Rent Determination
X	Public housing management and maintenance policy documents, including policies for the prevention or eradication of pest infestation (including cockroach infestation)	Annual Plan: Operations and Maintenance
X	Public housing grievance procedures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check here if included in the public housing A & O Policy	Annual Plan: Grievance Procedures
X	Section 8 informal review and hearing procedures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check here if included in Section 8 Administrative Plan	Annual Plan: Grievance Procedures
X	The HUD-approved Capital Fund/Comprehensive Grant Program Annual Statement (HUD 52837) for the active grant year	Annual Plan: Capital Needs
	Most recent CIAP Budget/Progress Report (HUD 52825) for any active CIAP grant	Annual Plan: Capital Needs
X	Most recent, approved 5 Year Action Plan for the Capital Fund/Comprehensive Grant Program, if not included as an attachment (provided at PHA option)	Annual Plan: Capital Needs
	Approved HOPE VI applications or, if more recent, approved or submitted HOPE VI Revitalization Plans or any other approved proposal for development of public housing	Annual Plan: Capital Needs
	Approved or submitted applications for demolition and/or disposition of public housing	Annual Plan: Demolition and Disposition
	Approved or submitted applications for designation of public housing (Designated Housing Plans)	Annual Plan: Designation of Public Housing
x	Approved or submitted assessments of reasonable revitalization of public housing and approved or submitted conversion plans prepared pursuant to section 202 of the 1996 HUD Appropriations Act	Annual Plan: Conversion of Public Housing
	Approved or submitted public housing homeownership programs/plans	Annual Plan: Homeownership

List of Supporting Documents Available for Review		
Applicable & On Display	Supporting Document	Applicable Plan Component
X	Policies governing any Section 8 Homeownership program <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> check here if included in the Section 8 Administrative Plan	Annual Plan: Homeownership
X	Any cooperative agreement between the PHA and the TANF agency	Annual Plan: Community Service & Self-Sufficiency
X	FSS Action Plan/s for public housing and/or Section 8	Annual Plan: Community Service & Self-Sufficiency
	Most recent self-sufficiency (ED/SS, TOP or ROSS or other resident services grant) grant program reports	Annual Plan: Community Service & Self-Sufficiency
	The most recent Public Housing Drug Elimination Program (PHEDEP) semi-annual performance report for any open grant and most recently submitted PHDEP application (PHDEP Plan)	Annual Plan: Safety and Crime Prevention
x	The most recent fiscal year audit of the PHA conducted under section 5(h)(2) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437c(h)), the results of that audit and the PHA's response to any findings	Annual Plan: Annual Audit
	Troubled PHAs: MOA/Recovery Plan	Troubled PHAs
x	Other supporting documents (optional) RASS Follow-Up Plan	Annual Plan: RASS
x	GHA Pet Policy	Annual Plan
x	GHA Lease	Annual Plan

1. Statement of Housing Needs

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (a)]

A. Housing Needs of Families in the Jurisdiction/s Served by the PHA

Based upon the information contained in the Consolidated Plan/s applicable to the jurisdiction, and/or other data available to the PHA, provide a statement of the housing needs in the jurisdiction by completing the following table. In the "Overall" Needs column, provide the estimated number of renter families that have housing needs. For the remaining characteristics, rate the impact of that factor on the housing needs for each family type, from 1 to 5, with 1 being "no impact" and 5 being "severe impact." Use N/A to indicate that no information is available upon which the PHA can make this assessment.

Housing Needs of Families in the Jurisdiction by Family Type							
Family Type	Overall	Afford-ability	Supply	Quality	Access-ibility	Size	Loca-tion
Income <= 30% of AMI	1651	5	5	3	2	2	2
Income >30% but <=50% of AMI	1372	4	5	3	2	2	2
Income >50% but <80% of AMI	2647	3	4	3	2	2	2

Housing Needs of Families in the Jurisdiction by Family Type							
Family Type	Overall	Afford-ability	Supply	Quality	Access-ibility	Size	Loca-tion
Elderly	1923	5	5	3	3	2	2
Families with Disabilities	1464	5	5	3	5	3	2
White	9118	5	4	3	2	2	2
African-American	586	5	5	3	3	2	2
Hispanic	29	5	5	3	3	2	2
Asian	29	5	5	3	3	2	2

What sources of information did the PHA use to conduct this analysis? (Check all that apply; all materials must be made available for public inspection.)

- Consolidated Plan of the Jurisdiction/s
Indicate year: 2005 (Annual Action Plan – 2005)
- U.S. Census data: the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (“CHAS”) dataset
- American Housing Survey data
Indicate year:
- Other housing market study
Indicate year:
- Other sources: (list and indicate year of information)

B. Housing Needs of Families on the Public Housing and Section 8 Tenant- Based Assistance Waiting Lists

State the housing needs of the families on the PHA’s waiting list/s. **Complete one table for each type of PHA-wide waiting list administered by the PHA.** PHAs may provide separate tables for site-based or sub-jurisdictional public housing waiting lists at their option.

Housing Needs of Families on the Waiting List			
Waiting list type: (select one)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 8 tenant-based assistance		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Housing		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Combined Section 8 and Public Housing		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Housing Site-Based or sub-jurisdictional waiting list (optional)		
If used, identify which development/sub-jurisdiction:			
	# of families	% of total families	Annual Turnover

Housing Needs of Families on the Waiting List			
Waiting list total	314		204
Extremely low income <=30% AMI	282	90%	
Very low income (>30% but <=50% AMI)	32	10%	
Low income (>50% but <80% AMI)			
Families with children	267	85%	
Elderly families	13	4%	
Families with Disabilities	35	11%	
Race/ethnicity			
White	89	28%	
Black	225	72%	
Hispanic	2	<1%	
American Indian	3	<1%	
Asian			
Is the waiting list closed (select one)? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes			
If yes:			
How long has it been closed (# of months)? <i>18 months</i>			
Does the PHA expect to reopen the list in the PHA Plan year? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			
Does the PHA permit specific categories of families onto the waiting list, even if generally closed? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			

Waiting list type: (select one)			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Section 8 tenant-based assistance		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Housing		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Combined Section 8 and Public Housing		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Housing Site-Based or sub-jurisdictional waiting list (optional)		
If used, identify which development/subjurisdiction:			
	# of families	% of total families	Annual Turnover
Waiting list total	350		85

Extremely low income <=30% AMI	323	92%	
Very low income (>30% but <=50% AMI)	24	7%	
Low income (>50% but <80% AMI)			
Families with children	262	75%	
Elderly families	1	<1%	
Families with Disabilities	87	25%	
Race/ethnicity			
White	152	43%	
Black	195	56%	
Indian	2	<1%	
Asian	1	<1%	
Characteristics by Bedroom Size (Public Housing Only)			
1BR	196	56%	25
2 BR	115	33%	28
3 BR	38	11%	25
4 BR	1	0 %	5
5 BR	0	0%	2
5+ BR	0	0%	0
Is the waiting list closed (select one)? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			
If yes:			
How long has it been closed (# of months)?			
Does the PHA expect to reopen the list in the PHA Plan year? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			
Does the PHA permit specific categories of families onto the waiting list, even if generally closed? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			

C. Strategy for Addressing Needs

Provide a brief description of the PHA's strategy for addressing the housing needs of families in the jurisdiction and on the waiting list **IN THE UPCOMING YEAR**, and the Agency's reasons for choosing this strategy.

(1) Strategies

Need: Shortage of affordable housing for all eligible populations

Strategy 1. Maximize the number of affordable units available to the PHA within its current resources by:

Select all that apply

- Employ effective maintenance and management policies to minimize the number of public housing units off-line
- Reduce turnover time for vacated public housing units
- Reduce time to renovate public housing units
- Seek replacement of public housing units lost to the inventory through mixed finance development
- Seek replacement of public housing units lost to the inventory through section 8 replacement housing resources
- Maintain or increase section 8 lease-up rates by establishing payment standards that will enable families to rent throughout the jurisdiction
- Undertake measures to ensure access to affordable housing among families assisted by the PHA, regardless of unit size required
- Maintain or increase section 8 lease-up rates by marketing the program to owners, particularly those outside of areas of minority and poverty concentration
- Maintain or increase section 8 lease-up rates by effectively screening Section 8 applicants to increase owner acceptance of program
- Participate in the Consolidated Plan development process to ensure coordination with broader community strategies
- Other (list below)
Maintain capacity of the Section 8 inspection department to provide better service to landlords and reduce initial approval of properties

Strategy 2: Increase the number of affordable housing units by:

Select all that apply

- Apply for additional section 8 units should they become available
- Leverage affordable housing resources in the community through the creation of mixed - finance housing
- Pursue housing resources other than public housing or Section 8 tenant-based assistance.
- Other: (list below)

Need: Specific Family Types: Families at or below 30% of median

Strategy 1: Target available assistance to families at or below 30 % of AMI

Select all that apply

- Exceed HUD federal targeting requirements for families at or below 30% of AMI in public housing
- Exceed HUD federal targeting requirements for families at or below 30% of AMI in tenant-based section 8 assistance
- Employ admissions preferences aimed at families with economic hardships
- Adopt rent policies to support and encourage work
- Other: (list below)

Need: Specific Family Types: Families at or below 50% of median

Strategy 1: Target available assistance to families at or below 50% of AMI

Select all that apply

- Employ admissions preferences aimed at families who are working
- Adopt rent policies to support and encourage work
- Other: (list below)

Need: Specific Family Types: The Elderly

Strategy 1: Target available assistance to the elderly:

Select all that apply

- Seek designation of public housing for the elderly
- Apply for special-purpose vouchers targeted to the elderly, should they become available
- Other: (list below)

Need: Specific Family Types: Families with Disabilities

Strategy 1: Target available assistance to Families with Disabilities:

Select all that apply

- Seek designation of public housing for families with disabilities
- Carry out the modifications needed in public housing based on the section 504 Needs Assessment for Public Housing
- Apply for special-purpose vouchers targeted to families with disabilities, should they become available
- Affirmatively market to local non-profit agencies that assist families with disabilities
- Other: (list below)

Need: Specific Family Types: Races or ethnicities with disproportionate housing needs

Strategy 1: Increase awareness of PHA resources among families of races and ethnicities with disproportionate needs:

Select if applicable

- Affirmatively market to races/ethnicities shown to have disproportionate housing needs
- Other: (list below)

Strategy 2: Conduct activities to affirmatively further fair housing

Select all that apply

- Counsel section 8 tenants as to location of units outside of areas of poverty or minority concentration and assist them to locate those units
- Market the section 8 program to owners outside of areas of poverty /minority concentrations
- Other: (list below)

Other Housing Needs & Strategies: (list needs and strategies below)

(2) Reasons for Selecting Strategies

Of the factors listed below, select all that influenced the PHA's selection of the strategies it will pursue:

- Funding constraints
- Staffing constraints
- Limited availability of sites for assisted housing
- Extent to which particular housing needs are met by other organizations in the community
- Evidence of housing needs as demonstrated in the Consolidated Plan and other information available to the PHA
- Influence of the housing market on PHA programs
- Community priorities regarding housing assistance
- Results of consultation with local or state government
- Results of consultation with residents and the Resident Advisory Board
- Results of consultation with advocacy groups
- Other: (list below)

2. Statement of Financial Resources

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (b)]

List the financial resources that are anticipated to be available to the PHA for the support of Federal public housing and tenant-based Section 8 assistance programs administered by the PHA during the Plan year. Note: the table assumes that Federal public housing or tenant based Section 8 assistance grant funds are expended on eligible purposes; therefore, uses of these funds need not be stated. For other funds, indicate the use for those funds as one of the following categories: public housing operations, public housing capital improvements, public housing safety/security, public housing supportive services, Section 8 tenant-based assistance, Section 8 supportive services or other.

Financial Resources: Planned Sources and Uses		
Sources	Planned \$	Planned Uses
1. Federal Grants (FY 2004 grants)		
a) Public Housing Operating Fund	1,203,292	
b) Public Housing Capital Fund	618,104	
c) HOPE VI Revitalization		
d) HOPE VI Demolition		
e) Annual Contributions for Section 8 Tenant-Based Assistance	6,674,571	
f) Public Housing Drug Elimination Program (including any Technical Assistance funds)	0	
g) Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency Grants	250,000	
h) Community Development Block Grant	0	
i) HOME	0	
Other Federal Grants (list below)		
Weed & Seed	275,000	Crime reduction
2. Prior Year Federal Grants (unobligated funds only) (list below)		
FY-2004 Capital Fund Program	396,215	
3. Public Housing Dwelling Rental Income	641,656	PH operations
4. Other income (list below)		
Interest	4,281	PH operations
Other income	46,965	PH operations
4. Non-federal sources (list below)		

Financial Resources: Planned Sources and Uses		
Sources	Planned \$	Planned Uses
Total resources	10,110,084	PH/Section 8 operations, maintenance, modernization, community/resident services

3. PHA Policies Governing Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (c)]

A. Public Housing

Exemptions: PHAs that do not administer public housing are not required to complete subcomponent 3A.

(1) Eligibility

a. When does the PHA verify eligibility for admission to public housing? (select all that apply)

- When families are within a certain number of being offered a unit: (state number) 5 – 20 depending on waiting list and rental success history
- When families are within a certain time of being offered a unit: (state time)
- Other: (describe)

b. Which non-income (screening) factors does the PHA use to establish eligibility for admission to public housing (select all that apply)?

- Criminal or Drug-related activity
- Rental history – including landlord references
- Housekeeping – GHA contacts previous landlords. Consults with DSS if applicant is receiving DSS case management and may visit current residence if deemed necessary.
- Other (describe)

c. Yes No: Does the PHA request criminal records from local law enforcement agencies for screening purposes?

- d. Yes No: Does the PHA request criminal records from State law enforcement agencies for screening purposes?
- e. Yes No: Does the PHA access FBI criminal records from the FBI for screening purposes? (either directly or through an NCIC-authorized source)

(2)Waiting List Organization

a. Which methods does the PHA plan to use to organize its public housing waiting list (select all that apply)

- Community-wide list
 Sub-jurisdictional lists
 Site-based waiting lists
 Other (describe)

b. Where may interested persons apply for admission to public housing?

- PHA main administrative office
 PHA development site management office
 Other (list below)

c. If the PHA plans to operate one or more site-based waiting lists in the coming year, answer each of the following questions; if not, skip to subsection **(3) Assignment**

1. How many site-based waiting lists will the PHA operate in the coming year?None

2. Yes No: Are any or all of the PHA's site-based waiting lists new for the upcoming year (that is, they are not part of a previously-HUD-approved site based waiting list plan)?
 If yes, how many lists?

3. Yes No: May families be on more than one list simultaneously
 If yes, how many lists?

4. Where can interested persons obtain more information about and sign up to be on the site-based waiting lists (select all that apply)?

- PHA main administrative office
 All PHA development management offices
 Management offices at developments with site-based waiting lists
 At the development to which they would like to apply
 Other (list below)

(3) Assignment

a. How many vacant unit choices are applicants ordinarily given before they fall to the bottom of or are removed from the waiting list? (select one)

- One
- Two
- Three or More. This policy may be changed to comply with deconcentration requirements

b. Yes No: Is this policy consistent across all waiting list types?

c. If answer to b is no, list variations for any other than the primary public housing waiting list/s for the PHA:

(4) Admissions Preferences

a. Income targeting:

- Yes No: Does the PHA plan to exceed the federal targeting requirements by targeting more than 40% of all new admissions to public housing to families at or below 30% of median area income?

b. Transfer policies:

In what circumstances will transfers take precedence over new admissions? (list below)

- Emergencies
- Overhoused
- Underhoused
- Medical justification
- Administrative reasons determined by the PHA (e.g., to permit modernization work)
- Resident choice: (state circumstances below)
- Other: (list below)

c. Preferences

1. Yes No: Has the PHA established preferences for admission to public housing (other than date and time of application)? (If “no” is selected, skip to subsection (5) Occupancy)

2. Which of the following admission preferences does the PHA plan to employ in the coming year? (select all that apply from either former Federal preferences or other preferences)

Former Federal preferences:

- Involuntary Displacement (Disaster, Government Action, Action of Housing Owner, Inaccessibility, Property Disposition)
- Victims of domestic violence
- Substandard housing
- Homelessness
- High rent burden (rent is > 50 percent of income)

Other preferences: (select below)

- Working families and those unable to work because of age or disability
- Veterans and veterans' families
- Residents who live and/or work in the jurisdiction
- Those enrolled currently in educational, training, or upward mobility programs
- Households that contribute to meeting income goals (broad range of incomes)
- Households that contribute to meeting income requirements (targeting)
- Those previously enrolled in educational, training, or upward mobility programs
- Victims of reprisals or hate crimes
- Other preference(s) (list below)
Singles preference

3. If the PHA will employ admissions preferences, please prioritize by placing a "1" in the space that represents your first priority, a "2" in the box representing your second priority, and so on. If you give equal weight to one or more of these choices (either through an absolute hierarchy or through a point system), place the same number next to each. That means you can use "1" more than once, "2" more than once, etc.

1 Date and Time

Former Federal preferences:

- Involuntary Displacement (Disaster, Government Action, Action of Housing Owner, Inaccessibility, Property Disposition)
- 2 Victims of domestic violence
- Substandard housing
- Homelessness
- High rent burden

Other preferences (select all that apply)

- Working families and those unable to work because of age or disability
- Veterans and veterans' families
- Residents who live and/or work in the jurisdiction
- Those enrolled currently in educational, training, or upward mobility programs
- Households that contribute to meeting income goals (broad range of incomes)
- Households that contribute to meeting income requirements (targeting)

- Those previously enrolled in educational, training, or upward mobility programs
- Victims of reprisals or hate crimes
- Other preference(s) (list below)
Singles preference

4. Relationship of preferences to income targeting requirements:

- The PHA applies preferences within income tiers
- Not applicable: the pool of applicant families ensures that the PHA will meet income targeting requirements

(5) Occupancy

a. What reference materials can applicants and residents use to obtain information about the rules of occupancy of public housing (select all that apply)

- The PHA-resident lease
- The PHA's Admissions and (Continued) Occupancy policy
- PHA briefing seminars or written materials
- Other source (list)

b. How often must residents notify the PHA of changes in family composition? (select all that apply)

- At an annual reexamination and lease renewal
- Any time family composition changes
- At family request for revision
- Other (list)

(6) Deconcentration and Income Mixing

a. Yes No: Did the PHA's analysis of its family (general occupancy) developments to determine concentrations of poverty indicate the need for measures to promote deconcentration of poverty or income mixing?

b. Yes No: Did the PHA adopt any changes to its admissions policies based on the results of the required analysis of the need to promote deconcentration of poverty or to assure income mixing?

c. If the answer to b was yes, what changes were adopted? (select all that apply)

- Adoption of site based waiting lists
If selected, list targeted developments below:
- Employing waiting list “skipping” to achieve deconcentration of poverty or income mixing goals at targeted developments
If selected, list targeted developments below:
Mountain View
- Employing new admission preferences at targeted developments
If selected, list targeted developments below:
Mountain View
- Other (list policies and developments targeted below)
- d. Yes No: Did the PHA adopt any changes to **other** policies based on the results of the required analysis of the need for deconcentration of poverty and income mixing?
- e. If the answer to d was yes, how would you describe these changes? (select all that apply)
- Additional affirmative marketing
- Actions to improve the marketability of certain developments
- Adoption or adjustment of ceiling rents for certain developments
- Adoption of rent incentives to encourage deconcentration of poverty and income-mixing
- Other (list below)
- f. Based on the results of the required analysis, in which developments will the PHA make special efforts to attract or retain higher-income families? (select all that apply)
- Not applicable: results of analysis did not indicate a need for such efforts
- List (any applicable) developments below:
- g. Based on the results of the required analysis, in which developments will the PHA make special efforts to assure access for lower-income families? (select all that apply)
- Not applicable: results of analysis did not indicate a need for such efforts
- List (any applicable) developments below:

B. Section 8

Exemptions: PHAs that do not administer section 8 are not required to complete sub-component 3B.

Unless otherwise specified, all questions in this section apply only to the tenant-based section 8 assistance program (vouchers, and until completely merged into the voucher program, certificates).

(1) Eligibility

- a. What is the extent of screening conducted by the PHA? (select all that apply)
- Criminal or drug-related activity only to the extent required by law or regulation
 - Criminal and drug-related activity, more extensively than required by law or regulation
 - More general screening than criminal and drug-related activity (list factors below)
 - 1. Termination from assisted housing programs, and
 - 2. Disallowance of assistance for monies owed GHA or any other PHA
 - Other (list below)
- b. Yes No: Does the PHA request criminal records from local law enforcement agencies for screening purposes?
- c. Yes No: Does the PHA request criminal records from State law enforcement agencies for screening purposes?
- d. Yes No: Does the PHA access FBI criminal records from the FBI for screening purposes? (either directly or through an NCIC-authorized source)
- e. Indicate what kinds of information you share with prospective landlords? (select all that apply)
- Criminal or drug-related activity
 - Other (describe below)

(2) Waiting List Organization

- a. With which of the following program waiting lists is the section 8 tenant-based assistance waiting list merged? (select all that apply)
- None
 - Federal public housing
 - Federal moderate rehabilitation
 - Federal project-based certificate program
 - Other federal or local program (list below)

b. Where may interested persons apply for admission to section 8 tenant-based assistance? (select all that apply)

- PHA main administrative office
- Other (list below)
 - 1. By mail if out of state, and
 - 2. Via e-mail for pre-application only

(3) Search Time

a. Yes No: Does the PHA give extensions on standard 60-day period to search for a unit?

If yes, state circumstances below:

- 1. Medical reasons
- 2. If applicant can show proof that he/she is making active, reasonable efforts to find housing and housing is difficult to locate. This applies to those applicants seeking 4 and 5 bedroom units.

(4) Admissions Preferences

a. Income targeting

Yes No: Does the PHA plan to exceed the federal targeting requirements by targeting more than 75% of all new admissions to the section 8 program to families at or below 30% of median area income?

b. Preferences

- 1. Yes No: Has the PHA established preferences for admission to Section 8 tenant-based assistance? (other than date and time of application) (if no, skip to subcomponent (5) Special Purpose Section 8 assistance programs)
- 2. Which of the following admission preferences does the PHA plan to employ in the coming year? (select all that apply from either former Federal preferences or other preferences)

Former Federal preferences

- Involuntary Displacement (Disaster, Government Action, Action of Housing Owner, Inaccessibility, Property Disposition)
- Victims of domestic violence
- Substandard housing
- Homelessness
- High rent burden (rent is > 50 percent of income)

Other preferences (select all that apply)

- Working families and those unable to work because of age or disability
- Veterans and veterans' families
- Residents who live and/or work in your jurisdiction
- Those enrolled currently in educational, training, or upward mobility programs
- Households that contribute to meeting income goals (broad range of incomes)
- Households that contribute to meeting income requirements (targeting)
- Those previously enrolled in educational, training, or upward mobility programs
- Victims of reprisals or hate crimes
- Other preference(s) (list below)
Singles preference

3. If the PHA will employ admissions preferences, please prioritize by placing a "1" in the space that represents your first priority, a "2" in the box representing your second priority, and so on. If you give equal weight to one or more of these choices (either through an absolute hierarchy or through a point system), place the same number next to each. That means you can use "1" more than once, "2" more than once, etc.

1 Date and Time

Former Federal preferences

- Involuntary Displacement (Disaster, Government Action, Action of Housing Owner, Inaccessibility, Property Disposition)
- 2 Victims of domestic violence
- Substandard housing
- Homelessness
- High rent burden

Other preferences (select all that apply)

- Working families and those unable to work because of age or disability
- Veterans and veterans' families
- Residents who live and/or work in your jurisdiction
- Those enrolled currently in educational, training, or upward mobility programs
- Households that contribute to meeting income goals (broad range of incomes)
- Households that contribute to meeting income requirements (targeting)
- Those previously enrolled in educational, training, or upward mobility programs
- Victims of reprisals or hate crimes
- Other preference(s) (list below)
First - Singles preference

4. Among applicants on the waiting list with equal preference status, how are applicants selected? (select one)

- Date and time of application
 Drawing (lottery) or other random choice technique

5. If the PHA plans to employ preferences for “residents who live and/or work in the jurisdiction” (select one)

- This preference has previously been reviewed and approved by HUD
 The PHA requests approval for this preference through this PHA Plan

6. Relationship of preferences to income targeting requirements: (select one)

- The PHA applies preferences within income tiers
 Not applicable: the pool of applicant families ensures that the PHA will meet income targeting requirements

(5) Special Purpose Section 8 Assistance Programs

a. In which documents or other reference materials are the policies governing eligibility, selection, and admissions to any Special-Purpose Section 8 program administered by the PHA contained? (select all that apply)

- The Section 8 Administrative Plan
 Briefing sessions and written materials
 Other (list below)
Does not apply.

b. How does the PHA announce the availability of any Special-Purpose Section 8 programs to the public?

- Through published notices
 Other (list below)
Does not apply.

4. PHA Rent Determination Policies

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (d)]

A. Public Housing

Exemptions: PHAs that do not administer public housing are not required to complete sub-component 4A.

(1) Income Based Rent Policies

Describe the PHA's income based rent setting policy/ies for public housing using, including discretionary (that is, not required by statute or regulation) income disregards and exclusions, in the appropriate spaces below.

a. Use of discretionary policies: (select one)

- The PHA will not employ any discretionary rent-setting policies for income based rent in public housing. Income-based rents are set at the higher of 30% of adjusted monthly income, 10% of unadjusted monthly income, the welfare rent, or minimum rent (less HUD mandatory deductions and exclusions). (If selected, skip to sub-component (2))

---or---

- The PHA employs discretionary policies for determining income based rent (If selected, continue to question b.)

b. Minimum Rent

1. What amount best reflects the PHA's minimum rent? (select one)

- \$0
 \$1-\$25
 \$26-\$50

2. Yes No: Has the PHA adopted any discretionary minimum rent hardship exemption policies?

3. If yes to question 2, list these policies below:

c. Rents set at less than 30% than adjusted income

1. Yes No: Does the PHA plan to charge rents at a fixed amount or percentage less than 30% of adjusted income?

2. If yes to above, list the amounts or percentages charged and the circumstances under which these will be used below:

d. Which of the discretionary (optional) deductions and/or exclusions policies does the PHA plan to employ (select all that apply)

- For the earned income of a previously unemployed household member
- For increases in earned income
- Fixed amount (other than general rent-setting policy)

If yes, state amount/s and circumstances below:

- Fixed percentage (other than general rent-setting policy)
If yes, state percentage/s and circumstances below:

- For household heads
- For other family members
- For transportation expenses
- For the non-reimbursed medical expenses of non-disabled or non-elderly families
- Other (describe below)

e. Ceiling rents

1. Do you have ceiling rents? (rents set at a level lower than 30% of adjusted income) (select one)

- Yes for all developments
- Yes but only for some developments
- No

2. For which kinds of developments are ceiling rents in place? (select all that apply)

- For all developments
- For all general occupancy developments (not elderly or disabled or elderly only)
- For specified general occupancy developments
- For certain parts of developments; e.g., the high-rise portion
- For certain size units; e.g., larger bedroom sizes
- Other (list below)

3. Select the space or spaces that best describe how you arrive at ceiling rents (select all that apply)

- Market comparability study
- Fair market rents (FMR)
- 95th percentile rents
- 75 percent of operating costs
- 100 percent of operating costs for general occupancy (family) developments
- Operating costs plus debt service
- The "rental value" of the unit
- Other (list below)

f. Rent re-determinations:

1. Between income reexaminations, how often must tenants report changes in income or family composition to the PHA such that the changes result in an adjustment to rent? (select all that apply)

- Never
- At family option
- Any time the family experiences an income increase – family must report all changes in income/family but increases in rent do not take effect until next re-exam date. Decreases are calculated from date of notification
- Any time a family experiences an income increase above a threshold amount or percentage: (if selected, specify threshold)_____
- Other (list below)

g. Yes No: Does the PHA plan to implement individual savings accounts for residents (ISAs) as an alternative to the required 12 month disallowance of earned income and phasing in of rent increases in the next year?

(2) Flat Rents

1. In setting the market-based flat rents, what sources of information did the PHA use to establish comparability? (select all that apply.)

- The section 8 rent reasonableness study of comparable housing
- Survey of rents listed in local newspaper
- Survey of similar unassisted units in the neighborhood
- Other (list/describe below) – third-party market study/rent comparability analysis conducted in late 1999

B. Section 8 Tenant-Based Assistance

Exemptions: PHAs that do not administer Section 8 tenant-based assistance are not required to complete sub-component 4B. **Unless otherwise specified, all questions in this section apply only to the tenant-based section 8 assistance program (vouchers, and until completely merged into the voucher program, certificates).**

(1) Payment Standards

Describe the voucher payment standards and policies.

a. What is the PHA's payment standard? (select the category that best describes your standard)

- At or above 90% but below 100% of FMR (95%)
- 100% of FMR
- Above 100% but at or below 110% of FMR
- Above 110% of FMR (if HUD approved; describe circumstances below)

b. If the payment standard is lower than FMR, why has the PHA selected this standard? (select all that apply)

- FMRs are adequate to ensure success among assisted families in the PHA's segment of the FMR area
- The PHA has chosen to serve additional families by lowering the payment standard
- Reflects market or submarket
- Other (list below)

c. If the payment standard is higher than FMR, why has the PHA chosen this level? (select all that apply)

- FMRs are not adequate to ensure success among assisted families in the PHA's segment of the FMR area
- Reflects market or submarket
- To increase housing options for families
- Other (list below)

d. How often are payment standards reevaluated for adequacy? (select one)

- Annually
- Other (list below)

e. What factors will the PHA consider in its assessment of the adequacy of its payment standard? (select all that apply)

Success rates of assisted families

Rent burdens of assisted families

Other (list below)

Input from landlords, advise of Section 8 Landlord Advisory Board and market conditions

(2) Minimum Rent

a. What amount best reflects the PHA's minimum rent? (select one)

\$0

\$1-\$25

\$26-\$50

b. Yes No: Has the PHA adopted any discretionary minimum rent hardship exemption policies? (if yes, list below)

5. Operations and Management

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (e)]

Exemptions from Component 5: High performing and small PHAs are not required to complete this section. Section 8 only PHAs must complete parts A, B, and C(2)

A. PHA Management Structure

Describe the PHA's management structure and organization.

(select one)

An organization chart showing the PHA's management structure and organization is attached.

A brief description of the management structure and organization of the PHA follows:

The GHA Board of Commissioners consists of five (5) members with a Chair and Vice-Chair that make policy and review operations on a monthly meeting basis.

The Executive Director is responsible for administration of the agency, and for implementing and enforcing policy adopted by the Board of Commissioners.

The Assistant Executive Director is responsible for the day-to-day activities of agency departments and implementing directions of the Executive Director.

There are five (5) department managers, (Senior Accounting Technician, Section 8 Supervisor, Property Management Supervisor, Maintenance Director and Community Services Director) that are responsible for supervision, policy recommendations, compliance with laws and regulations, oversight of day-to-day operations and resident services.

The Senior Accounting Technician supervises the Accounting Technician, and Collections Clerk and is responsible for budgets, payroll, accounting, insurance, leave, etc. A fee accountant supports the operation of the Finance Department.

The Section 8 Supervisor supervises three Section 8 Occupancy Specialists and one Section 8 Inspector.

The Property Management Supervisor supervises two Property Managers, one Occupancy Specialist, Receptionist, and a Public Communications Specialist. The Occupancy Specialist is responsible for maintaining the waiting list and conducting intake classes.

The Community Services Director supervises nine staff members. This department is responsible for resident services, grant writing and administration of ROSS grants.

The Maintenance Director supervises the Administrative Assistant, Maintenance Mechanics/Laborers and Force Account crew. He also supervises and implements the Capital Fund Program.

B. HUD Programs Under PHA Management

List Federal programs administered by the PHA, number of families served at the beginning of the upcoming fiscal year, and expected turnover in each. (Use "NA" to indicate that the PHA does not operate any of the programs listed below.)

Program Name	Units or Families Served at Year Beginning	Expected Turnover
Public Housing	383	204
Section 8 Vouchers	1109	315
Section 8 Certificates		
Section 8 Mod Rehab		
Special Purpose Section 8 Certificates/Vouchers (list individually)		
Public Housing Drug		

Elimination Program (PHDEP)		
Other Federal Programs(list individually)		

C. Management and Maintenance Policies

List the PHA's public housing management and maintenance policy documents, manuals and handbooks that contain the Agency's rules, standards, and policies that govern maintenance and management of public housing, including a description of any measures necessary for the prevention or eradication of pest infestation (which includes cockroach infestation) and the policies governing Section 8 management.

(1) Public Housing Maintenance and Management: (list below)

- Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy
- Check Signing Authorization Policy
- Disposition Policy
- Dwelling Lease
- Equal Housing Opportunity Policy
- Facilities Use Policy
- Funds Transfer Policy
- Grievance Procedure Policy
- Hardship Exemption Policy
- Housekeeping Policy
- Maintenance Policy
- Pest Control Policy
- Pet Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Rent Collection Policy
- Resident Initiatives Policy
- Screening and Eviction Policy
- Statement of Policy Governing Capitalization of Fixed Assets
- Statement of Policy Governing Depreciation of Fixed Assets
- Trespass Policy
- Section 504 Plan

(2) Section 8 Management: (list below)

Administrative Plan for the Section 8 Certificate and Voucher Programs

Check Signing Authorization Policy
Equal Housing Opportunity Policy
Funds Transfer Policy

6. PHA Grievance Procedures

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (f)]

Exemptions from component 6: High performing PHAs are not required to complete component 6.
Section 8-Only PHAs are exempt from sub-component 6A.

A. Public Housing

1. Yes No: Has the PHA established any written grievance procedures in addition to federal requirements found at 24 CFR Part 966, Subpart B, for residents of public housing?

If yes, list additions to federal requirements below:

2. Which PHA office should residents or applicants to public housing contact to initiate the PHA grievance process? (select all that apply)

- PHA main administrative office
 PHA development management offices
 Other (list below)

B. Section 8 Tenant-Based Assistance

1. Yes No: Has the PHA established informal review procedures for applicants to the Section 8 tenant-based assistance program and informal hearing procedures for families assisted by the Section 8 tenant-based assistance program in addition to federal requirements found at 24 CFR 982?

If yes, list additions to federal requirements below:

2. Which PHA office should applicants or assisted families contact to initiate the informal review and informal hearing processes? (select all that apply)

- PHA main administrative office
 Other (list below)

7. Capital Improvement Needs

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (g)]

Exemptions from Component 7: Section 8 only PHAs are not required to complete this component and may skip to Component 8.

A. Capital Fund Activities

Exemptions from sub-component 7A: PHAs that will not participate in the Capital Fund Program may skip to component 7B. All other PHAs must complete 7A as instructed.

(1) Capital Fund Program Annual Statement

Using parts I, II, and III of the Annual Statement for the Capital Fund Program (CFP), identify capital activities the PHA is proposing for the upcoming year to ensure long-term physical and social viability of its public housing developments. This statement can be completed by using the CFP Annual Statement tables provided in the table library at the end of the PHA Plan template **OR**, at the PHA's option, by completing and attaching a properly updated HUD-52837.

Select one:

The Capital Fund Program Annual Statement is provided as an attachment to the PHA Plan at Attachment **(nc057b01)**

-or-

The Capital Fund Program Annual Statement is provided below: (if selected, copy the CFP Annual Statement from the Table Library and insert here)

(2) Optional 5-Year Action Plan

Agencies are encouraged to include a 5-Year Action Plan covering capital work items. This statement can be completed by using the 5 Year Action Plan table provided in the table library at the end of the PHA Plan template **OR** by completing and attaching a properly updated HUD-52834.

a. Yes No: Is the PHA providing an optional 5-Year Action Plan for the Capital Fund? (if no, skip to sub-component 7B)

b. If yes to question a, select one:

The Capital Fund Program 5-Year Action Plan is provided as an attachment to the PHA Plan at Attachment **(nc057c01)**

-or-

The Capital Fund Program 5-Year Action Plan is provided below: (if selected, copy the CFP optional 5 Year Action Plan from the Table Library and insert here)

B. HOPE VI and Public Housing Development and Replacement Activities (Non-Capital Fund)

Applicability of sub-component 7B: All PHAs administering public housing. Identify any approved HOPE VI and/or public housing development or replacement activities not described in the Capital Fund Program Annual Statement.

- Yes No: a) Has the PHA received a HOPE VI revitalization grant? (if no, skip to question c; if yes, provide responses to question b for each grant, copying and completing as many times as necessary)
b) Status of HOPE VI revitalization grant (complete one set of questions for each grant)

1. Development name:
2. Development (project) number:
3. Status of grant: (select the statement that best describes the current status)
 - Revitalization Plan under development
 - Revitalization Plan submitted, pending approval
 - Revitalization Plan approved
 - Activities pursuant to an approved Revitalization Plan underway

- Yes No: c) Does the PHA plan to apply for a HOPE VI Revitalization grant in the Plan year?
If yes, list development name/s below:

- Yes No: d) Will the PHA be engaging in any mixed-finance development activities for public housing in the Plan year?
If yes, list developments or activities below:

- Yes No: e) Will the PHA be conducting any other public housing development or replacement activities not discussed in the Capital Fund Program Annual Statement?
If yes, list developments or activities below:

8. Demolition and Disposition

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (h)]

Applicability of component 8: Section 8 only PHAs are not required to complete this section.

1. Yes No: Does the PHA plan to conduct any demolition or disposition activities (pursuant to section 18 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437p)) in the plan Fiscal Year? (If “No”, skip to component 9; if “yes”, complete one activity description for each development.)

2. Activity Description

- Yes No: Has the PHA provided the activities description information in the **optional** Public Housing Asset Management Table? (If “yes”, skip to component 9. If “No”, complete the Activity Description table below.)

Demolition/Disposition Activity Description
1a. Development name: 1b. Development (project) number:
2. Activity type: Demolition <input type="checkbox"/> Disposition <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Application status (select one) Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted, pending approval <input type="checkbox"/> Planned application <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Date application approved, submitted, or planned for submission: (DD/MM/YY)
5. Number of units affected: 6. Coverage of action (select one) <input type="checkbox"/> Part of the development <input type="checkbox"/> Total development
7. Timeline for activity: a. Actual or projected start date of activity: b. Projected end date of activity:

9. Designation of Public Housing for Occupancy by Elderly Families or Families with Disabilities or Elderly Families and Families with Disabilities

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (i)]

Exemptions from Component 9; Section 8 only PHAs are not required to complete this section.

1. Yes No: Has the PHA designated or applied for approval to designate or does the PHA plan to apply to designate any public housing for occupancy only by the elderly families or only by families with disabilities, or by elderly families and families with disabilities or will apply for designation for occupancy by only elderly families or only families with disabilities, or by elderly families and families with disabilities as provided by section 7 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437e) in the upcoming fiscal year? (If “No”, skip to component 10. If “yes”, complete one activity description for each development, unless the PHA is eligible to complete a streamlined submission; PHAs completing streamlined submissions may skip to component 10.)

2. Activity Description

Yes No: Has the PHA provided all required activity description information for this component in the **optional** Public Housing Asset Management Table? If “yes”, skip to component 10. If “No”, complete the Activity Description table below.

Designation of Public Housing Activity Description	
1a. Development name:	
1b. Development (project) number:	
2. Designation type:	Occupancy by only the elderly <input type="checkbox"/> Occupancy by families with disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Occupancy by only elderly families and families with disabilities <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Application status (select one)	Approved; included in the PHA’s Designation Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted, pending approval <input type="checkbox"/> Planned application <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Date this designation approved, submitted, or planned for submission: <u>(DD/MM/YY)</u>	
5. If approved, will this designation constitute a (select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> New Designation Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of a previously-approved Designation Plan?
6. Number of units affected:	
7. Coverage of action (select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part of the development <input type="checkbox"/> Total development

10. Conversion of Public Housing to Tenant-Based Assistance

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (j)]

Exemptions from Component 10; Section 8 only PHAs are not required to complete this section.

A. Assessments of Reasonable Revitalization Pursuant to section 202 of the HUD FY 1996 HUD Appropriations Act

1. Yes No: Have any of the PHA's developments or portions of developments been identified by HUD or the PHA as covered under section 202 of the HUD FY 1996 HUD Appropriations Act? (If "No", skip to component 11; if "yes", complete one activity description for each identified development, unless eligible to complete a streamlined submission. PHAs completing streamlined submissions may skip to component 11.)

2. Activity Description

- Yes No: Has the PHA provided all required activity description information for this component in the **optional** Public Housing Asset Management Table? If "yes", skip to component 11. If "No", complete the Activity Description table below.

Conversion of Public Housing Activity Description	
1a. Development name: Weldon Heights	
1b. Development (project) number: NC057-1	
2. What is the status of the required assessment?	
<input type="checkbox"/> Assessment underway <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assessment results submitted to HUD <input type="checkbox"/> Assessment results approved by HUD (if marked, proceed to next question) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain below)	
3. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: Is a Conversion Plan required? (If yes, go to block 4; if no, go to block 5.)	
4. Status of Conversion Plan (select the statement that best describes the current status)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conversion Plan in development <input type="checkbox"/> Conversion Plan submitted to HUD on: (DD/MM/YYYY) <input type="checkbox"/> Conversion Plan approved by HUD on: (DD/MM/YYYY) <input type="checkbox"/> Activities pursuant to HUD-approved Conversion Plan underway	
5. Description of how requirements of Section 202 are being satisfied by means other than conversion (select one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Units addressed in a pending or approved demolition application (date	

submitted or approved:

- Units addressed in a pending or approved HOPE VI demolition application
(date submitted or approved:)
- Units addressed in a pending or approved HOPE VI Revitalization Plan
(date submitted or approved:)
- Requirements no longer applicable: vacancy rates are less than 10 percent
- Requirements no longer applicable: site now has less than 300 units
- Other: (describe below)

B. Reserved for Conversions pursuant to Section 22 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937

C. Reserved for Conversions pursuant to Section 33 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937

11. Homeownership Programs Administered by the PHA

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (k)]

A. Public Housing

Exemptions from Component 11A: Section 8 only PHAs are not required to complete 11A.

1. Yes No: Does the PHA administer any homeownership programs administered by the PHA under an approved section 5(h) homeownership program (42 U.S.C. 1437c(h)), or an approved HOPE I program (42 U.S.C. 1437aaa) or has the PHA applied or plan to apply to administer any homeownership programs under section 5(h), the HOPE I program, or section 32 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437z-4). (If “No”, skip to component 11B; if “yes”, complete one activity description for each applicable program/plan, unless eligible to complete a streamlined submission due to **small PHA** or **high performing PHA** status. PHAs completing streamlined submissions may skip to component 11B.)

2. Activity Description

- Yes No: Has the PHA provided all required activity description information for this component in the **optional** Public Housing Asset Management Table? (If “yes”, skip to component 12. If “No”, complete the Activity Description table below.)

Public Housing Homeownership Activity Description (Complete one for each development affected)	
1a. Development name:	
1b. Development (project) number:	
2. Federal Program authority:	<input type="checkbox"/> HOPE I <input type="checkbox"/> 5(h) <input type="checkbox"/> Turnkey III <input type="checkbox"/> Section 32 of the USHA of 1937 (effective 10/1/99)
3. Application status: (select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved; included in the PHA's Homeownership Plan/Program <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted, pending approval <input type="checkbox"/> Planned application
4. Date Homeownership Plan/Program approved, submitted, or planned for submission: (DD/MM/YYYY)	
5. Number of units affected:	
6. Coverage of action: (select one)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part of the development <input type="checkbox"/> Total development

B. Section 8 Tenant Based Assistance

1. Yes No: Does the PHA plan to administer a Section 8 Homeownership program pursuant to Section 8(y) of the U.S.H.A. of 1937, as implemented by 24 CFR part 982 ? (If "No", skip to component 12; if "yes", describe each program using the table below (copy and complete questions for each program identified), unless the PHA is eligible to complete a streamlined submission due to high performer status. **High performing PHAs** may skip to component 12.)

2. Program Description:

a. Size of Program

- Yes No: Will the PHA limit the number of families participating in the section 8 homeownership option?

If the answer to the question above was yes, which statement best describes the number of participants? (select one)

- 25 or fewer participants
 26 - 50 participants

- 51 to 100 participants
 more than 100 participants

b. PHA-established eligibility criteria

- Yes No: Will the PHA's program have eligibility criteria for participation in its Section 8 Homeownership Option program in addition to HUD criteria?

If yes, list criteria below:

The program has not been determined at this time

12. PHA Community Service and Self-sufficiency Programs

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (I)]

Exemptions from Component 12: High performing and small PHAs are not required to complete this component. Section 8-Only PHAs are not required to complete sub-component C.

A. PHA Coordination with the Welfare (TANF) Agency

1. Cooperative agreements:

- Yes No: Has the PHA has entered into a cooperative agreement with the TANF Agency, to share information and/or target supportive services (as contemplated by section 12(d)(7) of the Housing Act of 1937)?

If yes, what was the date that agreement was signed? *05/02/02*

2. Other coordination efforts between the PHA and TANF agency (select all that apply)

- Client referrals
 Information sharing regarding mutual clients (for rent determinations and otherwise)
 Coordinate the provision of specific social and self-sufficiency services and programs to eligible families
 Jointly administer programs
 Partner to administer a HUD Welfare-to-Work voucher program
 Joint administration of other demonstration program
 Other (describe)

B. Services and programs offered to residents and participants

(1) General

a. Self-Sufficiency Policies

Which, if any of the following discretionary policies will the PHA employ to enhance the economic and social self-sufficiency of assisted families in the following areas? (select all that apply)

- Public housing rent determination policies
- Public housing admissions policies
- Section 8 admissions policies
- Preference in admission to section 8 for certain public housing families
- Preferences for families working or engaging in training or education programs for non-housing programs operated or coordinated by the PHA
- Preference/eligibility for public housing homeownership option participation
- Preference/eligibility for section 8 homeownership option participation
- Other policies (list below)

b. Economic and Social self-sufficiency programs

- Yes No: Does the PHA coordinate, promote or provide any programs to enhance the economic and social self-sufficiency of residents? (If “yes”, complete the following table; if “no” skip to sub-component 2, Family Self Sufficiency Programs. The position of the table may be altered to facilitate its use.)

Services and Programs				
Program Name & Description (including location, if appropriate)	Estimated Size	Allocation Method (waiting list/random selection/specific criteria/other)	Access (development office / PHA main office / other provider name)	Eligibility (public housing or section 8 participants or both)
Parenting skills	40	Volunteer	Site community building	Public housing
Budgeting skills	12	Volunteer	Site community building	Public housing
Nutrition skills	15	Volunteer	Site community building	Public housing
Computer skills	10	Volunteer	Site community building	Public housing
Homeownership	10	FSS / volunteer	Main office / SCB	Section 8
Strengthen families	10	Volunteer	Site community building	PH and S8

(2) Family Self Sufficiency program/s

a. Participation Description

Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Participation		
Program	Required Number of Participants (start of FY 2001 Estimate)	Actual Number of Participants (As of: 3/11/2002)
Public Housing	0	25
Section 8	0	5

b. Yes No: If the PHA is not maintaining the minimum program size required by HUD, does the most recent FSS Action Plan address the steps the PHA plans to take to achieve at least the minimum program size?

If no, list steps the PHA will take below:

C. Welfare Benefit Reductions

1. The PHA is complying with the statutory requirements of section 12(d) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (relating to the treatment of income changes resulting from welfare program requirements) by: (select all that apply)

- Adopting appropriate changes to the PHA's public housing rent determination policies and train staff to carry out those policies
- Informing residents of new policy on admission and reexamination
- Actively notifying residents of new policy at times in addition to admission and reexamination.
- Establishing or pursuing a cooperative agreement with all appropriate TANF agencies regarding the exchange of information and coordination of services
- Establishing a protocol for exchange of information with all appropriate TANF agencies
- Other: (list below)

D. Reserved for Community Service Requirement pursuant to section 12(c) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937

13. PHA Safety and Crime Prevention Measures

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (m)]

Exemptions from Component 13: High performing and small PHAs not participating in PHDEP and Section 8 Only PHAs may skip to component 15. High Performing and small PHAs that are participating in PHDEP and are submitting a PHDEP Plan with this PHA Plan may skip to sub-component D.

A. Need for measures to ensure the safety of public housing residents

1. Describe the need for measures to ensure the safety of public housing residents (select all that apply)

- High incidence of violent and/or drug-related crime in some or all of the PHA's developments – Mountain View and Weldon Heights
- High incidence of violent and/or drug-related crime in the areas surrounding or adjacent to the PHA's developments
- Residents fearful for their safety and/or the safety of their children
- Observed lower-level crime, vandalism and/or graffiti
- People on waiting list unwilling to move into one or more developments due to perceived and/or actual levels of violent and/or drug-related crime – Mountain View and Weldon Heights
- Other (describe below)

2. What information or data did the PHA use to determine the need for PHA actions to improve safety of residents (select all that apply).

- Safety and security survey of residents
- Analysis of crime statistics over time for crimes committed “in and around” public housing authority
- Analysis of cost trends over time for repair of vandalism and removal of graffiti
- Resident reports
- PHA employee reports
- Police reports
- Demonstrable, quantifiable success with previous or ongoing anticrime/anti drug programs
- Other (describe below)

3. Which developments are most affected? (list below)

Cameron Courts, Weldon Heights, Mountain View, Linwood Terrace

B. Crime and Drug Prevention activities the PHA has undertaken or plans to undertake in the next PHA fiscal year

1. List the crime prevention activities the PHA has undertaken or plans to undertake:
(select all that apply)

- Contracting with outside and/or resident organizations for the provision of crime- and/or drug-prevention activities
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
- Activities targeted to at-risk youth, adults, or seniors
- Volunteer Resident Patrol/Block Watchers Program
- Other (describe below)
GHA is receiving monthly crime data from the Gastonia Police Department
Police patrols have been established in all developments
A consultant is providing technical assistance with policies and procedures
Purchased an adjacent property where drugs dealing was prevalent

2. Which developments are most affected? (list below)

Cameron Courts, Weldon Heights, Mountain View, Linwood Terrace

C. Coordination between PHA and the police

1. Describe the coordination between the PHA and the appropriate police precincts for carrying out crime prevention measures and activities: (select all that apply)

- Police involvement in development, implementation, and/or ongoing evaluation of drug-elimination plan
- Police provide crime data to housing authority staff for analysis and action
- Police have established a physical presence on housing authority property (e.g., community policing office, officer in residence)
- Police regularly testify in and otherwise support eviction cases
- Police regularly meet with the PHA management and residents
- Agreement between PHA and local law enforcement agency for provision of above-baseline law enforcement services – agreements with individual officers
- Other activities (list below) GHA and City of Gastonia have received Weed and Seed Official Recognition and will apply for a Weed & Seed competitive grant. GHA will also apply for a ROSS grant

2. Which developments are most affected? (list below)

Cameron Courts, Weldon Heights, Mountain View, Linwood Terrace

D. Additional information as required by PHDEP/PHDEP Plan

PHAs eligible for FY 2002 PHDEP funds must provide a PHDEP Plan meeting specified requirements prior to receipt of PHDEP funds.

- Yes No: Is the PHA eligible to participate in the PHDEP in the fiscal year covered by this PHA Plan?

- Yes No: Has the PHA included the PHDEP Plan for FY 2002 in this PHA Plan?
- Yes No: This PHDEP Plan is an Attachment.

14. RESERVED FOR PET POLICY

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (n)]

GHA Pet Policy is included under List of Supporting Documents Available for Review

15. Civil Rights Certifications

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (o)]

Civil rights certifications are included in the PHA Plan Certifications of Compliance with the PHA Plans and Related Regulations.

16. Fiscal Audit

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (p)]

1. Yes No: Is the PHA required to have an audit conducted under section 5(h)(2) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437c(h))?
(If no, skip to component 17.)
2. Yes No: Was the most recent fiscal audit submitted to HUD?
3. Yes No: Were there any findings as the result of that audit?
4. Yes No: If there were any findings, do any remain unresolved?
If yes, how many unresolved findings remain? **2**
5. Yes No: Have responses to any unresolved findings been submitted to HUD?
If not, when are they due (state below)?

17. PHA Asset Management

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (q)]

Exemptions from component 17: Section 8 Only PHAs are not required to complete this component. High performing and small PHAs are not required to complete this component.

1. Yes No: Is the PHA engaging in any activities that will contribute to the long-term asset management of its public housing stock, including how the Agency will plan for long-term operating, capital investment, rehabilitation, modernization, disposition, and other needs that have **not** been addressed elsewhere in this PHA Plan?

2. What types of asset management activities will the PHA undertake? (select all that apply)

- Not applicable
- Private management
- Development-based accounting
- Comprehensive stock assessment
- Other: (list below)

3. Yes No: Has the PHA included descriptions of asset management activities in the **optional** Public Housing Asset Management Table?

18. Other Information

[24 CFR Part 903.7 9 (r)]

A. Resident Advisory Board Recommendations

1. Yes No: Did the PHA receive any comments on the PHA Plan from the Resident Advisory Board/s?

2. If yes, the comments are: (if comments were received, the PHA **MUST** select one)

- Attached at Attachment (nc057n01)
- Provided below:

3. In what manner did the PHA address those comments? (select all that apply)

- Considered comments, but determined that no changes to the PHA Plan were necessary.
- The PHA changed portions of the PHA Plan in response to comments
List changes below:
- Other: (list below)

B. Description of Election process for Residents on the PHA Board

1. Yes No: Does the PHA meet the exemption criteria provided section 2(b)(2) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937? (If no, continue to question 2; if yes, skip to sub-component C.)

2. Yes No: Was the resident who serves on the PHA Board elected by the residents? (If yes, continue to question 3; if no, skip to sub-component C.)

3. Description of Resident Election Process

a. Nomination of candidates for place on the ballot: (select all that apply)

- Candidates were nominated by resident and assisted family organizations
- Candidates could be nominated by any adult recipient of PHA assistance
- Self-nomination: Candidates registered with the PHA and requested a place on ballot
- Other: (describe) Appointed by Mayor. Phyllis Murriel – Appointed 3/2002
Expires 6/30/2007

b. Eligible candidates: (select one)

- Any recipient of PHA assistance
- Any head of household receiving PHA assistance
- Any adult recipient of PHA assistance
- Any adult member of a resident or assisted family organization
- Other (list)

c. Eligible voters: (select all that apply)

- All adult recipients of PHA assistance (public housing and section 8 tenant-based assistance)
- Representatives of all PHA resident and assisted family organizations
- Other (list)

C. Statement of Consistency with the Consolidated Plan

For each applicable Consolidated Plan, make the following statement (copy questions as many times as necessary).

1. Consolidated Plan jurisdiction: City of Gastonia, NC

2. The PHA has taken the following steps to ensure consistency of this PHA Plan with the Consolidated Plan for the jurisdiction: (select all that apply)

- The PHA has based its statement of needs of families in the jurisdiction on the needs expressed in the Consolidated Plan/s.
- The PHA has participated in any consultation process organized and offered by the Consolidated Plan agency in the development of the Consolidated Plan.
- The PHA has consulted with the Consolidated Plan agency during the development of this PHA Plan.
- Activities to be undertaken by the PHA in the coming year are consistent with the initiatives contained in the Consolidated Plan. (list below)
Implementation of a Section 8 Homeownership Program
Request additional Housing Choice or Special Vouchers if available.

Other: (list below)

4. The Consolidated Plan of the jurisdiction supports the PHA Plan with the following actions and commitments: (describe below)

The City of Gastonia is committed to working with the Gastonia Housing Authority in the identification of housing needs.

The Consolidated Plan contains language that the City recognizes our CGP Annual and 5-Year CGP Plans. It goes on to state that the “City fully supports the GHA in their five-year planning process and their plan is incorporated into this document [Consolidated Plan] by reference.” GHA fully expects the City to provide the same level of support for this PHA Plan.

D. Other Information Required by HUD

Use this section to provide any additional information required.

Attachments

Use this section to provide any additional attachments referenced in the Plans.

The Gastonia Housing Authority’s sole criteria for determining “substantially deviation” is any alteration that *Changes rent or admissions policies or organization of the waiting list.*

**PHA Plan
Table Library
(See Attachments nc057b and nc057c)**

**Component 7
Capital Fund Program Annual Statement
Parts I, II, and II**

**Annual Statement
Capital Fund Program (CFP) Part I: Summary**

Capital Fund Grant Number FFY of Grant Approval: (MM/YYYY)

Original Annual Statement

Line No.	Summary by Development Account	Total Estimated Cost
1	Total Non-CGP Funds	
2	1406 Operations	
3	1408 Management Improvements	
4	1410 Administration	
5	1411 Audit	
6	1415 Liquidated Damages	
7	1430 Fees and Costs	
8	1440 Site Acquisition	
9	1450 Site Improvement	
10	1460 Dwelling Structures	
11	1465.1 Dwelling Equipment-Nonexpendable	
12	1470 Nondwelling Structures	
13	1475 Nondwelling Equipment	
14	1485 Demolition	
15	1490 Replacement Reserve	
16	1492 Moving to Work Demonstration	
17	1495.1 Relocation Costs	
18	1498 Mod Used for Development	
19	1502 Contingency	
20	Amount of Annual Grant (Sum of lines 2-19)	
21	Amount of line 20 Related to LBP Activities	
22	Amount of line 20 Related to Section 504 Compliance	
23	Amount of line 20 Related to Security	
24	Amount of line 20 Related to Energy Conservation Measures	

Annual Statement
Capital Fund Program (CFP) Part II: Supporting Table

Development Number/Name HA-Wide Activities	General Description of Major Work Categories	Development Account Number	Total Estimated Cost

Annual Statement

Capital Fund Program (CFP) Part III: Implementation Schedule

Development Number/Name HA-Wide Activities	All Funds Obligated (Quarter Ending Date)	All Funds Expended (Quarter Ending Date)

Optional Table for 5-Year Action Plan for Capital Fund (Component 7)

Complete one table for each development in which work is planned in the next 5 PHA fiscal years. Complete a table for any PHA-wide physical or management improvements planned in the next 5 PHA fiscal year. Copy this table as many times as necessary. Note: PHAs need not include information from Year One of the 5-Year cycle, because this information is included in the Capital Fund Program Annual Statement.

Optional 5-Year Action Plan Tables				
Development Number	Development Name (or indicate PHA wide)	Number Vacant Units	% Vacancies in Development	
Description of Needed Physical Improvements or Management Improvements			Estimated Cost	Planned Start Date (HA Fiscal Year)
Total estimated cost over next 5 years				

Annual Statement/Performance and Evaluation Report

Capital Fund Program and Capital Fund Program, Replacement Housing Factor (CFP/CFPRHF) Part I Summary

PHA Name: Housing Authority of the City of Gastonia	Grant Type and Number Capital Fund Program Grant No NC19P057501-05 Replacement Housing Factor No.	FFY of Grant Approval 2005
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Original Annual Statement Revised for Disasters/Emergencies Revised Annual Statement/Revision Number 1

Performance and Evaluation Report for Program Year Ending Final Performance and Evaluation Report

Line No.	Summary by Development Account	Total Estimated Cost		Actual Cost (2)	
		Original	Revised (D)	Obligated	Estimated
1	Total Non-CFP Funds				
2	1406 Operations (May not exceed 10% of Line 20)				
3	1408 Management Improvements Soft Costs	\$58,000.00	\$55,000.00		
	1408 Management Improvements Hard Costs				
4	1410 Administration	\$55,978.00	\$55,978.00		
5	1411 Audit				
6	1415 Liquidated Damages				
7	1430 Fees and Costs	\$32,150.00	\$40,150.00		
8	1440 Site Acquisition				
9	1450 Site Improvements	\$122,684.00	\$137,684.00		
10	1460 Dwelling Structures	\$224,375.00	\$209,375.00		
11	1465.1 Dwelling Equipment - Nonexpendable	\$31,600.00	\$31,600.00		
12	1470 Nondwelling Structures				
13	1475 Nondwelling Equipment	\$35,000.00	\$30,000.00		
14	1485 Demolition				
15	1490 Replacement Reserve				
16					
17	1495.1 Relocation Costs				
18	1498 Mod Used for Development				
19	1502 Contingency (may not exceed 8% of line 20)				
20	Amount of Annual Grant (sum of lines 2 - 19)	\$559,787.00	\$559,787.00		
	Amount of line 20 Related to LBP Activities				
	Amount of line 20 Related to Section 504 Compliance				
	Amount of line 20 Related to Security - Soft Costs	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00		
	Amount of line 20 Related to Security - Hard Costs				
	Amount of line 20 Related to Energy Conservation Measures				



**Capital Fund Five-Year Action Plan
Part I: Summary**

PHA/IHA Name The Housing Authority of the City of Gastonia		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original 5-Year Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Revision No.				
Development Number / Name / HA-Wide	Year 1 2005	Work Statement for Year 2 FFY Grant: 2007 PHA FFY: 2006	Work Statement for Year 3 FFY Grant: 2008 PHA FFY: 2007	Work Statement for Year 4 FFY Grant: 2009 PHA FFY: 2008	Work Statement for Year 5 FFY Grant: 2010 PHA FFY: 2009	
NC57-1A Cameron Courts	Annual Statement	\$25,000.00	\$44,755.00	\$57,284.00	\$30,000.00	
NC57-1B Weldon Heights		\$71,041.00	\$71,041.00	\$50,000.00	\$38,176.00	
NC57-1C Mt. View		\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$38,176.00	
NC57-3 Linwood		\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$50,000.00	
GHA Wide		\$114,200.00	\$120,200.00	\$76,000.00	\$90,000.00	
Physical Improvements Subtotal			\$285,241.00	\$310,996.00	\$283,284.00	\$246,352.00
Management Improvements Subtotal			\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$63,000.00
Nondwelling Structures and Equipment			\$80,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$25,000.00
Administration			\$55,978.00	\$55,978.00	\$55,978.00	\$55,978.00
Other			\$83,568.00	\$82,813.00	\$88,568.00	\$92,500.00
Operations			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$46,957.00	\$76,957.00
Demolition			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Replacement Reserves			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Mod used for Development			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total CFP Funds (Est.)		\$559,787.00	\$559,787.00	\$559,787.00	\$559,787.00	
Total Replacement Housing Factor Funds		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Grand Total		\$559,787.00	\$559,787.00	\$559,787.00	\$559,787.00	
Signature of Executive Director X		Date				

**Capital Fund Five-Year Action Plan
Part I: Summary (Continuation)**

PHA/IHA Name The Housing Authority of the City of Gastonia		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original 5-Year Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Revision No.			
Development Number / Name / HA-Wide	Year 1 2002	Work Statement for Year 2 FFY Grant: 2003 PHA FFY: 2002	Work Statement for Year 3 FFY Grant: 2004 PHA FFY: 2003	Work Statement for Year 4 FFY Grant: 2005 PHA FFY: 2004	Work Statement for Year 5 FFY Grant: 2006 PHA FFY: 2005
	Annual Statement				
Physical Improvements Subtotal					
Management Improvements Subtotal					
Nondwelling Structures and Equipment					
Administration					
Other					
Operations					
Demolition					
Replacement Reserves					
Mod used for Development					
Total CFP Funds (Est.)					
Total Replacement Housing Factor Funds					
Grand Total					
Signature of Executive Director X		Date			

Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan

Part II: Supporting Pages - Work Activities

Activities for Year 1 2005	Activities for Year: Two FFY Grant 2007 PHA FY: 2006			Activities for Year: Three FFY Grant: 2008 PHA FY: 2007		
	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost
	See Annual Statement	HA Wide Operations 1406			HA Wide Operations 1406	
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$0.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$0.00
	HA Wide Management Improvements 1408			HA Wide Management Improvements 1408		
	Computer Software Upgrade	LS	\$5,000.00	Computer Software Upgrade	LS	\$5,000.00
	Administration Training	LS	\$5,000.00	Administration Training	LS	\$5,000.00
	Maintenance skills Training	LS	\$5,000.00	Maintenance skills Training	LS	\$5,000.00
	Asbestos Training Update	LS	\$0.00		LS	
	Resident Initiatives Program	LS	\$40,000.00	Resident Initiatives Program	LS	\$40,000.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$55,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$55,000.00
	HA Wide Administration			HA Wide Administration		
	Partial Funding for Staff in CFP Program	LS	\$55,978.00	Partial Funding for Staff in CFP Program	LS	\$55,978.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$55,978.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$55,978.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Costs		\$110,978.00	Subtotal of Estimated Costs		\$110,978.00

Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan

Part II: Supporting Pages - Work Activities

Activities for Year 1 2005	Activities for Year: Two			Activities for Year: Three		
	FFY Grant: 2007			FFY Grant: 2008		
	PHA FY: 2006			PHA FY: 2007		
	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost
See Annual Statement	HA Wide Fees and Costs 1430			HA Wide Fees and Costs 1430		
	Consultant Fees for CFP	LS	\$4,980.00	Consultant Fees for CFP	LS	\$4,175.00
	A/E Fees	LS	\$31,500.00	A/E Fees	LS	\$31,550.00
	Criminal / Drug Elimination	LS	\$10,000.00	Criminal / Drug Elimination	LS	\$10,000.00
	Asbestos Abatement Plan and Monitoring	LS	\$7,088.00	Asbestos Abatement Plan and Monitoring	LS	\$7,088.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$53,568.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$52,813.00
	NC57-1A Cameron Courts			NC57-1A Cameron Courts		
	504 Compliance		\$25,000.00	504 Compliance		\$44,755.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$25,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$44,755.00
	NC57-1B Weldon Heights			NC57-1B Weldon Heights		
	Sewer Modifications		\$29,698.00	Sewer Modifications	LS	\$29,698.00
	504 Compliance		\$41,343.00	504 Compliance	LS	\$41,343.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$71,041.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$71,041.00
		Subtotal of Estimated Costs		\$260,587.00	Subtotal of Estimated Costs	

Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan

Part II: Supporting Pages - Work Activities

Activities for Year 1 2005	Activities for Year: Two FFY Grant: 2007 PHA FY: 2006			Activities for Year: Three FFY Grant: 2007 PHA FY: 2006			
	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost	
See Annual Statement	NC57-1C Mt. View			NC57-1C Mt. View			
	504 Compliance		\$35,000.00	No Work		\$35,000.00	
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$35,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$35,000.00	
	NC57-3 Linwood			NC57-3 Linwood			
	504 Compliance-Laundry Room		\$40,000.00	504 Compliance		\$40,000.00	
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$40,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$40,000.00	
	HA Wide Non Dwelling Equipment			HA Wide Non Dwelling Equipment 1475		\$50,000.00	
	Central Office 504 Compliance		\$75,000.00				
	Upgrade Computer Hardware	LS	\$5,000.00	Upgrade Computer Hardware	LS	\$5,000.00	
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$80,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$55,000.00	
Subtotal of Estimated Costs			\$445,587.00	Subtotal of Estimated Costs			\$409,587.00

Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan

Part II: Supporting Pages - Work Activities

Activities for Year 1 2005	Activities for Year: Four			Activities for Year: Five		
	FFY Grant: 2009			FFY Grant: 2010		
	PHA FY: 2008			PHA FY: 2009		
	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost
See Annual Statement	HA Wide Operations 1406	LS	\$46,957.00	HA Wide Operations 1406	LS	\$76,957.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost			Subtotal of Estimated Cost		
	HA Wide Management Improvements 1408			HA Wide Management Improvements 1408		
	Computer Software Upgrade	LS	\$5,000.00	Computer Software Upgrade	LS	\$5,000.00
	Administration Training	LS	\$5,000.00	Administration Training	LS	\$10,000.00
	Maintenance skills Training	LS	\$5,000.00	Maintenance skills Training	LS	\$8,000.00
	Resident Initiatives Program	LS	\$40,000.00	Resident Initiatives Program	LS	\$40,000.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost			Subtotal of Estimated Cost		
	HA Wide Administration			HA Wide Administration		
	Partial Funding for Staff in CFP Program	LS	\$55,978.00	Partial Funding for Staff in CFP Program	LS	\$55,978.00
Subtotal of Estimated Cost			Subtotal of Estimated Cost			
Subtotal of Estimated Costs			\$157,935.00	Subtotal of Estimated Costs		
				\$195,935.00		

Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan

Part II: Supporting Pages - Work Activities

Activities for Year 1 2005	Activities for Year: Four			Activities for Year: Five		
	FFY Grant: 2009			FFY Grant: 2010		
	PHA FY: 2008			PHA FY: 2009		
	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost
See Annual Statement	HA Wide Fees and Costs 1430			HA Wide Fees and Costs 1430		
	Consultant Fees for CFP	LS	\$4,980.00	Consultant Fees for CFP	LS	\$5,000.00
	A/E Fees	LS	\$31,500.00	A/E Fees	LS	\$35,000.00
	Criminal / Drug Elimination	LS	\$10,000.00	Criminal / Drug Elimination	LS	\$10,000.00
	Asbestos Abatement Plan and Monitoring	LS	\$7,088.00	Asbestos Abatement Plan and Monitoring	LS	\$7,500.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$53,568.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$57,500.00
	NC57-1A Cameron Courts			NC57-1A Cameron Courts		
	Replace Roofs		\$45,000.00	Resurface Parking	100	\$30,000.00
	Replace Sidewalks		\$12,284.00			
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$57,284.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$30,000.00
NC57-1B Weldon Heights			NC57-1B Weldon Heights			
Interior Painting	27	\$30,000.00	Resurface Parking Lots		\$38,176.00	
Replace Sidewalks	27	\$20,000.00				
Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$50,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$38,176.00	
	Subtotal of Estimated Costs		\$318,787.00	Subtotal of Estimated Costs		\$321,611.00

Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan

Part II: Supporting Pages - Work Activities

Activities for Year 1 2005	Activities for Year: Four FFY Grant: 2009 PHA FY: 2008			Activities for Year: Five FFY Grant: 2010 PHA FY: 2009			
	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost	
See Annual Statement	NC57-1C Mt. View			NC57-1C Mt. View			
	Interior Painting		\$30,000.00	Resurface Parking Lots		\$38,176.00	
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$30,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$38,176.00	
	NC57-3 Linwood			NC57-3 Linwood			
	Interior Painting	60	\$45,000.00	Resurface Parking Lots		\$50,000.00	
	Replace Kitchen Cabinets		\$25,000.00				
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$70,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$50,000.00	
	HA Wide Non Dwelling Equipment 1475			HA Wide Non Dwelling Equipment 1475			
	Maintenance Equipment		\$20,000.00	Maintenance Equipment		\$20,000.00	
	Upgrade Computer Hardware	LS	\$10,000.00	Upgrade Computer Hardware	LS	\$5,000.00	
Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$30,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$25,000.00		
Subtotal of Estimated Costs			\$448,787.00	Subtotal of Estimated Costs			\$434,787.00

Capital Fund Program Five-Year Action Plan

Part II: Supporting Pages - Work Activities

Activities for Year 1 2005	Activities for Year: Four			Activities for Year: Five		
	FFY Grant: 2009			FFY Grant: 2010		
	PHA FY: 2008			PHA FY: 2009		
	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost	Major Work Category	Quantity	Estimated Cost
See Annual Statement	HA Wide Dwelling Structures			HA Wide Dwelling Structures		
	Abate Asbestos Floor Tile	4	\$16,000.00	Abate Asbestos Floor Tile	4	\$30,000.00
	Replace Roofs		\$60,000.00	Replace Roofs		\$60,000.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$76,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$90,000.00
	HA Wide Dwelling Equip.		\$35,000.00	HA Wide Dwelling Equip.		\$35,000.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$35,000.00	Subtotal of Estimated Cost		\$35,000.00
	Subtotal of Estimated Costs		\$559,787.00	Subtotal of Estimated Costs		\$559,787.00

**THE
GASTONIA HOUSING
AUTHORITY**

**DECONCENTRATION POLICY
May 2000**

ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR DECONCENTRATION

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure acceptable deconcentration and income mixing of developments occupied predominately by families with children. It is intended to complement the Deconcentration of Poverty and Income Mixing language found in GHA's Admissions and Occupancy Policy.

BACKGROUND

The Board of Commissioners formally adopted a revision to the Admissions and Occupancy Policy on June 14, 1999 pertaining to deconcentration and income mixing of all developments. This action formalized GHA's long-standing policy of not concentrating higher- or lower-income households in any one development. This policy provides additional guidance to staff in the continued implementation of deconcentration and income mixing.

STATEMENT ON DECONCENTRATION AND INCOME MIXING

It is the policy of the Gastonia Housing Authority to promote and encourage deconcentration and income mixing in all developments. Further, the Gastonia Housing Authority has in the past adhered to the policy of deconcentration and mixed incomes developments and is committed to continuing this policy in the future.

DEFINITIONS

Deconcentration of poverty – the process of selecting families for admission to developments occupied predominately by families with children to prevent the concentration of lower-income or higher income households in any specific development.

Income-mixing – the process of selecting families to ensure that a mix of households with a full range of incomes is housed in any specific development.

Development – For the purposes of this policy, development means any development occupied predominately by families with children.

Average authority-wide household income – Housing authority-wide average income of all households in all developments. Total of household incomes divided by total number of households in all developments.

Average household income - Average income of all households in any specific development. Total of household incomes divided by total number of households in that development.

Higher-income development – Development with an average family income over the average GHA household income.

Lower-income development - Development with an average family income below the average GHA household income.

PROCEDURES

Staff will monitor the admissions of families on an ongoing basis to prevent the concentration of higher- or lower-income families in any development.

The average authority-wide household income and average household incomes for each development will be reviewed biannually. A determination will be made as to the existence of higher-or lower-income developments and addressed accordingly.

If the biannual review of average household income for each individual development indicates that the average income of any development is above or below the average authority-wide household income by more than 15 percent, actions as described below will be taken

- Skipping over certain families on the waiting list based on income;
- Taking appropriate affirmative marketing actions;
- Reviewing procedures to determine if additional applicant consultation and dissemination of information is required; and/or
- Providing additional supportive services and amenities.

Chapter 4

TENANT SELECTION AND ASSIGNMENT PLAN

(Includes Preferences and Managing the Waiting List)

[24 CFR 960.203, 960.204, 960.205, 960.206]

*In October 1998, Congress passed the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, which repealed the use of Federal preferences. **Site-Based Waiting Lists:** Per the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, PHAs are now allowed to implement site-based waiting lists upon approval of the Annual Plan or upon HUD's approval to the PHA's request before the submission of the Annual Plan. This policy assumes that the PHA will receive approval for and continue to use site-based waiting lists in accordance with the PHA's Annual Plan to be submitted in compliance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.]*

INTRODUCTION

It is the PHA's policy that each applicant shall be assigned an appropriate place on a jurisdiction-wide waiting list.

Applicants will be listed in sequence based upon:

- date and time the application is received,
- the size and type of unit they require,
- and factors of preference or priority

In filling an actual or expected vacancy, the PHA will offer the dwelling unit to an applicant in the appropriate sequence, with the goal of accomplishing deconcentration of poverty and income-mixing objectives. The PHA will offer the unit until it is accepted. This Chapter describes the PHA's policies with regard to the number of unit offers that will be made to applicants selected from the waiting list.

PHA's Objectives

PHA policies will be followed consistently and will affirmatively further HUD's fair housing goals.

It is the PHA's objective to ensure that families are placed in the proper order on the waiting list so that the offer of a unit is not delayed to any family unnecessarily or made to any family prematurely. This chapter explains the policies for the management of the waiting list.

When appropriate units are available, families will be selected from the waiting list in their preference-determined sequence.

By maintaining an accurate waiting list, the PHA will be able to perform the activities which ensure that an adequate pool of qualified applicants will be available to fill unit vacancies in a timely manner. Based on the PHA's turnover and the availability of appropriate sized units, groups of families will be selected from the waiting list to form a final eligibility "pool." Selection from the pool will be based on completion of verification.

A. MANAGEMENT OF THE WAITING LIST

The PHA will administer its waiting list as required by 24 CFR Part 5, Part 945 and Part 960, Subparts A and B. The waiting list will be maintained in accordance with the following guidelines:

The application will be a permanent file.

All applicants in the pool will be maintained in order of date and time of application receipt.

Applications equal in preference will be maintained by date and time sequence lottery-determined sequence.

All applicants must meet applicable income eligibility requirements as established by HUD.

Opening and Closing the Waiting Lists

The PHA, at its discretion, may restrict application intake, suspend application intake, and close waiting lists in whole or in part.

The decision to close the waiting list will be based on the number of applications available for a particular size and type of unit, and the ability of the PHA to house an applicant in an appropriate unit within a reasonable period of time.

When the PHA opens the waiting list, the PHA will advertise through public notice in the following newspapers, minority publications and media entities. location(s), and program(s) for which applications are being accepted in the local paper of record, "minority" newspapers, and other media including:

List the names of papers for all major "minority" groups, other media to be used, locations where notices will be placed, and agencies to be notified by mail/contacted.

Newspapers: The Gaston Gazette & The Charlotte Observer

To reach persons with disabilities, the PHA will provide separate notice to local organizations representing the interests and needs of the disabled.

The notice will contain:

The dates, times, and the locations where families may apply.

The programs for which applications will be taken.

A brief description of the program.

A statement that Section 8 participants must submit a separate application if they want to apply for Public Housing.

Limitations, if any, on who may apply.

The notices will be made in an accessible format if requested. They will provide potential applicants with information that includes the PHA address and telephone number, how to submit an application, and

information on eligibility requirements.

Upon request from a person with a disability, additional time will be given as an accommodation for submission of an application after the closing deadline. This accommodation is to allow persons with disabilities the opportunity to submit an application in cases when a social service organization provides inaccurate or untimely information about the closing date.

When Application Taking is Suspended

The waiting list may not be closed if it would have a discriminatory effect inconsistent with applicable civil rights laws.

During the period when the waiting list is closed, the PHA will not maintain a list of individuals who wish to be notified when the waiting list is open.

Suspension of application taking is announced in the same way as opening the waiting list.

The open period shall be long enough to achieve a waiting list adequate to cover projected turnover over the next 12 months. The PHA will give at least 10 days' notice prior to closing the list. When the period for accepting applications is over, the PHA will add the new applicants to the list by:

Unit size, and/or date and time of application receipt.

The PHA will update the waiting list every 6 months by removing the names of those families who are no longer interested, no longer qualify for housing, or cannot be reached by mail or telephone. At the time of initial intake, the PHA will advise families of their responsibility to notify the PHA when mailing address or telephone numbers change.

Reopening the List

If the waiting list is closed and the PHA decides to open the waiting list, the PHA will publicly announce the opening.

Any reopening of the list is done in accordance with the HUD requirements.

PHA may open the list to applications from families qualified for the Singles Preference and not Other Singles if families with the Singles preference will absorb available program openings.

Limits on Who May Apply

When the waiting list is open,

Any family asking to be placed on the waiting list for Public Housing rental assistance will be given the opportunity to complete.

When the application is submitted to the PHA:

It establishes the family's date and time of application for placement order on the waiting list.

Multiple Families in Same Household

When families apply that consist of two families living together, (such as a mother and father, and a daughter with her own husband or children), if they apply as a family unit, they will be treated as a family unit.

B. SITE BASED WAITING LISTS

The GHA does not offer a Site-Based Waiting List

C. WAITING LIST PREFERENCES

The PHA must offer public comment before changing its preference system. All applicants must be notified of any changes so that they have an opportunity to claim any preferences for which they believe they are eligible.

A preference does not guarantee admission to the program. Preferences are used to establish the order of placement on the waiting list. Every applicant must meet the PHA's Selection Criteria as defined in this policy.

The PHA's preference system will work in combination with requirements to match the characteristics for the family to the type of unit available, including units with targeted populations, and further deconcentration of poverty in public housing. When such matching is required or permitted by current law, the PHA will give preference to qualified families.

Families who reach the top of the waiting list will be contacted by the PHA to verify their preference and, if verified, the PHA will complete a full application for occupancy. Applicants must complete the application for occupancy and continue through the application processing and may not retain their place on the waiting list if they refuse to complete their processing when contacted by the PHA.

Among applicants with equal preference status, the waiting list will be organized by date and time.

NOTE: An applicant will not be granted any preference if any member of the family has been evicted from any federally assisted housing during the past three years because of drug-related criminal activity. However the PHA may grant an exception to such a family if:

- A. The responsible family member has successfully completed a rehabilitation program or;
- B. The evicted person is no longer involved in any drug related activity.

Local Preferences

Public hearing/ public notice with opportunity for public comment will be held before the PHA adopts any local preference.

The hearing will be publicized using the same guidelines as those for opening and closing the waiting list.

The notice will be distributed following the same guidelines as those used for opening or closing the waiting list.

D. VERIFICATION OF PREFERENCE QUALIFICATION

The family may be placed on the waiting list upon their certification that they qualify for a preference. When the family is selected from the waiting list for the final determination of eligibility, the preference will be verified.

The PHA will verify all preference claims at the time they are made.

If the preference verification indicates that an applicant does not qualify for the preference, the applicant will be returned to the waiting list and ranked without the Local Preference and given an opportunity for a review.

If at the time the family applied, the preference claim was the only reason for placement of the family on the waiting list and the family cannot verify their eligibility for the preference as of the date of the application, the family will be removed from the list.

The PHA uses the following Local Preferences:

Date and time of receipt of a completed application.

Treatment of Single Applicants

Singles Preference

Definition of Singles Preference: Single applicants who are elderly, disabled, homeless or displaced will be given a selection priority over all "Other Single" applicants regardless of preference status.

"Other Singles" denotes a one-person household in which the individual member is neither elderly, disabled, homeless or displaced by government action. Such applicants will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with their preferences, but cannot be selected for assistance before any elderly, disabled, homeless or displaced one-person family regardless of local preferences.

Involuntary Displacement Preference

Involuntary displacement is not a local preference.

E. ORDER OF SELECTION FOR GENERAL OCCUPANCY (FAMILY) DEVELOPMENTS

The PHA has established the following local admissions preferences for general occupancy (family) developments:

Date and time of receipt of a completed application only.

The PHA has established the following system to apply local preferences: *[Select option 1, 2 or 3 following.]*

1. All local preferences will be treated equally.

F. ORDER OF SELECTION FOR MIXED POPULATION DEVELOPMENTS

A mixed population project is a public housing project, or portion of a project that was reserved for elderly

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families and disabled families at its inception (and has retained that character).

In accordance with the 1992 Housing Act, elderly families whose head spouse or sole member is at least 62 years of age, and disabled families whose head, co-head or spouse or sole member is a person with disabilities, will receive equal preference to such units.

No limit will be established on the number of elderly or disabled families that may occupy a mixed population property. All other PHA preferences will be applied.

G. VERIFICATION OF PREFERENCE QUALIFICATION

The family may be placed on the waiting list upon their certification that they qualify for a preference. When the family is selected from the waiting list for the final determination of eligibility, the preference will be verified.

If the preference verification indicates that an applicant does not qualify for the preference, the applicant will be returned to the waiting list and ranked without the Local Preference.

Change in Circumstances

Changes in an applicant's circumstances while on the waiting list may affect the family's entitlement to a preference. Applicants are required to notify the PHA in writing when their circumstances change. When an applicant claims an additional preference, s/he will be placed on the waiting list in the proper order of their newly-claimed preference.

The family may be placed on the waiting list upon their certification that they qualify for a preference. When the family is selected from the waiting list for the final determination of eligibility, the preference will be verified.

The PHA will verify all preference claims at the time they are made.

If the preference verification indicates that an applicant does not qualify for the preference, the applicant will be returned to the waiting list and ranked without the Local Preference and given an opportunity for a review.

If at the time the family applied, the preference claim was the only reason for placement of the family on the waiting list and the family cannot verify their eligibility for the preference as of the date of the application, the family will be removed from the list.

H. PREFERENCE DENIAL

If the PHA denies a preference, the applicant will be placed on the waiting list without benefit of the preference.

The PHA will notify the applicant in writing of the reasons why the preference was denied and offer the applicant an opportunity for an informal meeting. The applicant will have 5 working days to request the meeting in writing. If the preference denial is upheld as a result of the meeting, or the applicant does not request a meeting, the applicant will be placed on the waiting list without benefit of the preference. Applicants may exercise other rights if they believe they have been discriminated against.

Any applicant who falsifies documents or makes false statements in order to qualify for any preference will be removed from the waiting list with notification to the family.

I. FACTORS OTHER THAN PREFERENCES THAT AFFECT SELECTION OF APPLICANTS

Before applying its preference system, the PHA will first match the characteristics of the available unit to the applicants available on the waiting lists. Factors such as unit size, accessible features, deconcentration or income mixing, income targeting, or units in housing designated for the elderly limit the admission of families to those characteristics that match the characteristics and features of the vacant unit available.

By matching unit and family characteristics, it is possible that families who are lower on the waiting list may receive an offer of housing ahead of families with an earlier date and time of application.

The PHA's Deconcentration Policy, as described in the PHA Plan, may include skipping of families on the waiting list in order to bring families above the established income range into developments below the established income range, and to bring families below the established income range into developments above the established income range.

Any admission mandated by court order related to desegregation or Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity will take precedence over the Preference System. Other admissions required by court order will also take precedence over the preference system. If permitted by the court order, the PHA may offer the family a housing voucher.

Low-Income Family Admissions

The PHA will admit only families whose incomes do not exceed 80% of the HUD approved area median income.

Very Low-Income Family Admissions

Once the PHA has met the 40% targeted income requirement for new admissions of extremely low-income families, the PHA will fill the remainder of its new admission units with families whose incomes do not exceed 50% of the HUD approved area median income.

J. UNITS DESIGNATED FOR THE ELDERLY

In accordance with the 1992 Housing Act, elderly families with a head, spouse or sole member at least 62 years of age will receive a preference for admission to such units or buildings covered by a HUD-approved Allocation Plan, except for the units which are accessible, which may be offered to persons with disabilities.

The PHA will take the following action when processing families for developments designated for the elderly:

When there are insufficient elderly families who wish to reside in a development, near-elderly families (head or spouse ages 50-61) receive a preference for this type of unit.

Families with members who require a unit with accessible features will receive preference for such units over families who do not require such features.

Procedure to Be Used When There Are Insufficient Applicants on the List

When there are insufficient applicants on the waiting list for the elderly-designated development, the development will contact applicants on other waiting lists to determine their interest in applying for the waiting list of the development with insufficient applicants on it. If an interested elderly family is located,

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the housing management staff of the development with no waiting list will place the applicant on its waiting list, also, and will contact them to verify their preference and complete a full application when their name is close to the top of the waiting list.

Where the PHA anticipates that there are insufficient elderly or near-elderly families on the waiting list for these units the PHA will notify local senior service centers and local media sources aimed at the elderly to recruit elderly families for the waiting list for these projects.

When there are no elderly applicants from other sites interested in the elderly-designated development, after conducting outreach, near-elderly applicants who are 50-61 years of age can be admitted to the elderly-designated development. If there are no near-elderly applicants on the list, the development housing management staff will contact near-elderly applicants on other development lists to determine interest and add to their list, if applicable.

K. UNITS DESIGNATED FOR THE DISABLED

In accordance with the 1992 Housing Act, disabled families with a head, spouse or sole member who qualifies as a person with disabilities as defined in 24 CFR 945.105 will receive a preference for admission to units that are covered by a HUD-approved Allocation Plan.

The PHA has units designed for persons with mobility, sight and hearing impairments (referred to as accessibility units). These units were designed and constructed specifically to meet the needs of persons requiring the use of wheelchairs and persons requiring other modifications.

Preference for occupancy of these units will be given to families with disabled family members who require the modifications or facilities provided in the units.

When offering an accessible/adaptable unit to a non-disabled applicant, the PHA must require the applicant to sign an agreement to move to an available non-accessible unit within 30 days when either a current resident or an applicant with a disability needs the unit. This requirement is also reflected in the lease agreement signed with the applicant.

L. DECONCENTRATION OF POVERTY AND INCOME-MIXING

The PHA's admission policy is designed to provide for deconcentration of poverty and income-mixing by bringing higher income tenants into lower income projects and lower income tenants into higher income projects.

Nothing in the deconcentration policy relieves the PHA of the obligation to meet the income targeting requirement.

Gross annual income is used for income limits at admission and for income-mixing purposes.

The PHA will gather data and analyze, at least annually, the tenant characteristics of its public housing stock, including information regarding tenant incomes, to assist in the PHA's deconcentration efforts.

The PHA will use the gathered tenant incomes information in its assessment of its public housing developments to determine the appropriate designation to be assigned to the project for the purpose of assisting the PHA in its concentration goals.

If the PHA's annual review of tenant incomes indicates that there has been a change in the tenant income characteristics of a particular project, the PHA will evaluate the changes to determine whether, based on the PHA methodology of choice, the project needs to be redesignated as a higher or lower income project.

Deconcentration and Income-Mixing Goals

The PHA's deconcentration and income-mixing goal, in conjunction with the requirement to target at least 40 percent of new admissions to public housing in each fiscal year to "extremely low-income families", will be to admit families above the PHA's Established Income Range (EIR) to developments below the EIR, and families below the PHA's EIR to developments above the EIR.

Deconcentration applies to transfer families as well as applicant families.

If a unit becomes available at a lower income development, and there is no higher income family on the waiting list or no higher income family accepts the offer, then the unit will be offered to the next family regardless of income.

If a unit becomes available at a higher income development, and there is no lower income family on the waiting list or no lower income family accepts the offer, then the unit will be offered to the next family regardless of income.

Project Designation Methodology

Annually, the PHA will determine the average income of all families residing in general occupancy developments

The PHA will then determine the average income of all families residing in each general occupancy development.

The PHA will then determine whether each general occupancy development falls above, within or below the Established Income Range (EIR).

The EIR is 85 percent to 115 percent (inclusive of 85 percent and 115 percent) of the PHA-wide average income for general occupancy developments.

If a covered development is both below the 30 percent area-wide median and above the 115 percent income average for PHA-wide covered developments, it will be considered to be within the EIR.

The PHA will then determine whether or not developments outside the EIR are consistent with local goals and strategies in the PHA Plan. Any deconcentration policy as needed is described in the PHA Plan.

The PHA may explain or justify the income profile for these developments as being consistent with any furthering two goals:

1. Goals of deconcentration of poverty and income mixing (bringing higher income families into lower income developments and vice versa); and
2. Local goals and strategies contained in the PHA Plan.

The PHA provides a waiting list preference to victims of domestic violence by referral from the Shelter of Gaston County. This preference, and only this preference, overrides deconcentration and income mixing policies.

Deconcentration Policy

If, at annual review, there are found to be development(s) with average income above or below the EIR, and where the income profile for a general occupancy development above or below the EIR is not explained or justified in the PHA Plan, the PHA shall list these covered developments in the PHA Annual Plan.

The PHA shall adhere to the following policies for deconcentration of poverty and income mixing in applicable developments:

Skipping a family on the waiting list or transfer list to reach another family in an effort to further the goals of the PHA's deconcentration policy:

If a unit becomes available at a development below the EIR, the first eligible family on the waiting list or transfer list with income above the EIR will be offered the unit. If that family refuses the unit, the next eligible family on the waiting list [or transfer list] with income above the EIR will be offered the unit. The process will continue in this order. For the available unit at the development below the EIR, if there is no family on the waiting list [or transfer list] with income above the EIR, or no family with income above the EIR accepts the offer, then the unit will be offered to the first eligible family on the waiting list or transfer list in preference order regardless of income.

If a unit becomes available at a development above the EIR, the first eligible family on the waiting list or transfer list with income below the EIR will be offered the unit. If that family refuses the unit, the next eligible family on the waiting list [or transfer list] with income below the EIR will be offered the unit. The process will continue in this order. For the available unit at the development above the EIR, if there is no family on the waiting list or transfer list with income below the EIR, or no family with income below the EIR accepts the offer, then the unit will be offered to the first eligible family on the waiting list or transfer list in preference order regardless of income.

Skipping of families for deconcentration purposes will be applied uniformly to all families.

A family has the sole discretion whether to accept an offer of a unit made under the PHA's deconcentration policy. The PHA shall not take any adverse action toward any eligible family for choosing not to accept an offer of a unit under the PHA's deconcentration policy. However, the PHA shall uniformly limit the number of offers received by applicants [and transfer families], described in this Chapter.

Deconcentration Compliance

If, at annual review, the average incomes at all general occupancy developments are within the Established Income Range, the PHA will be considered to be in compliance with the deconcentration requirement.

M. PROMOTION OF INTEGRATION

Beyond the basic requirement of nondiscrimination, PHA shall affirmatively further fair housing to reduce racial and national origin concentrations.

The PHA shall not require any specific income or racial quotas for any development or developments.

A PHA shall not assign persons to a particular section of a community or to a development or building based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin for purposes of segregating populations.

N. VERIFICATION OF PREFERENCE QUALIFICATION

The family may be placed on the waiting list upon their certification that they qualify for a preference. When the family is selected from the waiting list for the final determination of eligibility, the preference will be verified.

The PHA will verify all preference claims at the time they are made.

If the preference verification indicates that an applicant does not qualify for the preference, the applicant will be returned to the waiting list and ranked without the Local Preference and given an opportunity for a review.

If at the time the family applied, the preference claim was the only reason for placement of the family on the waiting list and the family cannot verify their eligibility for the preference as of the date of the application, the family will be removed from the list.

O. DECONCENTRATION METHODOLOGY

The PHA shall admit lower income families to higher income buildings (or developments) and admit higher income families to lower income buildings (or developments) using the following steps:

Step 1: The PHA will annually determine the average income of all of its general occupancy (family)developments (including families residing in developments (including families residing in developments approved for demolition or conversion to tenant-based assistance and families residing in public housing units in mixed-finance developments).

Step 2: The PHA will annually determine the average income of all families residing in each building of each general occupancy development.

Step 3: The PHA will annually characterize each building of each general occupancy development as higher income or lower income based on whether the average income in the building is above or below the overall average.

Step 4: The PHA will determine which families on the waiting list have incomes higher than the PHA-wide average and designate these families "higher income families" and which have incomes lower than the PHA-wide average and designate these families "lower income families."

Step 5: When a unit becomes available in a higher income building, the PHA shall skip families on the waiting list if necessary to reach a lower income family to whom it will offer the unit to and vice versa.

If the waiting list does not contain a family in the income category within needed the PHA shall offer the unit to a family in the other income category.

Definition of Building for Purposes of Deconcentration

For purposes of deconcentration, a "building" is one or more contiguous structures containing at least 8 public housing units.

For scattered site and small developments, if a development contains no structures that qualify as a building, the deconcentration requirement is applied to the entire development as if the development were a building.

For mixed-finance developments and units newly added to the PHA's housing stock, the deconcentration requirement is:

For initial lease-up of vacant public housing units, the average income for the public housing units in each building must not exceed the PHA's average overall income.

After the initial lease-up, the leasing of public housing units is covered by the deconcentration steps listed above.

If the PHA has provided the family that resided in public housing on the site of a mixed-finance or other development the right to return to that development after revitalization, the deconcentration policy does not preclude fulfilling that commitment.

A family has the sole discretion whether to accept an offer of a unit made under the deconcentration policy.

The PHA shall not take adverse action toward any eligible family for choosing not to accept an offer of a unit.

The PHA shall uniformly limit the number of offers received by applicants, described in this chapter.

Nothing in the deconcentration policy relieves the PHA of the obligation to meet the income targeting requirements.

PHA Incentives for Higher Income Families

The PHA will offer certain incentives to higher income families willing to move into lower income projects. The PHA will not take any adverse action against any higher income family declining an offer by the PHA to move into a lower income project.

In addition to maintaining its public housing stock in a manner that is safe, clean, well landscaped and attractive, the PHA will offer the following incentives for higher income families moving into lower income projects:

PHA will allow occupancy standards of one child per bedroom.

Pha will approve a transfer request to another site of the family's preference after two years of occupancy (such transfers will be based on date order of similar requests received).

PHA will target homeownership opportunities to higher income families moving into lower income projects.

The GHA's Family Self-Sufficiency Program will serve as an opportunity to assist higher income families moving into lower income projects.

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P. OFFER OF PLACEMENT ON THE SECTION 8 WAITING LIST

The PHA will not merge the waiting lists for public housing and Section 8. However, if the Section 8 waiting list is open when the applicant is placed on the public housing list, the PHA must offer to place the family on both lists. If the public housing waiting list is open at the time an applicant applies for Section 8, the PHA must offer to place the family on the public housing waiting list.

Q. REMOVAL FROM WAITING LIST AND PURGING

The waiting list will be purged at least annually by a mailing to all applicants to ensure that the waiting list is current and accurate. The mailing will ask for current information and confirmation of continued interest.

If an applicant fails to respond within 30 calendar days s/he will be removed from the waiting list. If a letter is returned by the Post Office without a forwarding address, the applicant will be removed without further notice, and the envelope and letter will be maintained in the file. If a letter is returned with a forwarding address, it will be re-mailed to the address indicated.

If an applicant is removed from the waiting list for failure to respond, they will not be entitled to reinstatement unless a person with a disability requests a reasonable accommodation for being unable to reply within the proscribed period.

Notices will be made available in accessible format upon the request of a person with a disability. An extension to reply to the purge notification will be considered as an accommodation if requested by a person with a disability.

Applicants are notified with confirmation of the PHA's receipt of their application that they are responsible for notifying the PHA within 30 calendar days, if they have a change of address.

R. OFFER OF ACCESSIBLE UNITS

The PHA has units designed for persons with mobility, sight and hearing impairments, referred to as accessible units.

No non-mobility impaired families will be offered these units until all eligible mobility-impaired applicants have been considered.

Before offering a vacant accessible unit to a non-disabled applicant, the PHA will offer such units:

First, to a current occupant of another unit of the same development, or other public housing developments under the PHA's control, who has a disability that requires the special features of the vacant unit.

Second, to an eligible qualified applicant on the waiting list having a disability that requires the special features of the vacant unit.

When offering an accessible/adaptable unit to a non-disabled applicant, the PHA will require the applicant to agree to move to an available non-accessible unit within 30 days when either a current resident or an applicant needs the features of the unit and there is another unit available for the applicant. This requirement will be a provision of the lease agreement.

See "Leasing" chapter.

S. PLAN FOR UNIT OFFERS

The PHA plan for selection of applicants and assignment of dwelling units to assure equal opportunity and non-discrimination on grounds of race, color, sex, religion, or national origin is:

Plan "B". (2 to 3 offer plan). Under this plan, the PHA will determine how many locations within its jurisdiction have available units of suitable size and type in the appropriate type of project. Plan B is based on the distribution of vacancies. If a suitable unit is available in:

Three or more locations: The applicant will be offered a unit in the location with the highest number of vacancies. If the offer is rejected, the applicant will be offered a suitable unit in the location with the second highest number of vacancies. If that unit is rejected, a final offer will be made in the location with the third highest number of vacancies.

Note: In order to remain on the Waiting List all rejections of offers must be in writing or verbally communicated to the Gastonia Housing Authority, otherwise the applicant will be removed from the Waiting List as being non-responsive and no longer interested in housing.

If more than one unit of the appropriate type and size is available, the first unit to be offered will be the first unit that is ready for occupancy.

The PHA will maintain a record of units offered, including location, date and circumstances of each offer, each acceptance or rejection, including the reason for the rejection.

T. CHANGES PRIOR TO UNIT OFFER

Changes that occur during the period between removal from the waiting list and an offer of a suitable unit may affect the family's eligibility or Total Tenant Payment. The family will be notified in writing of changes in their eligibility or level of benefits and offered their right to an informal hearing when applicable (See Chapter on Complaints, Grievances, and Appeals)

U. APPLICANT STATUS AFTER FINAL UNIT OFFER

When an applicant rejects the final unit offer the PHA will:

Remove the applicant's name from the waiting list.

Removal from the waiting list means:

The applicant must reapply.

V. TIME-LIMIT FOR ACCEPTANCE OF UNIT

Applicants must accept a unit offer within 5 working days of the date the offer is made. Offers made over the telephone will be confirmed by letter. If unable to contact an applicant by telephone, the PHA will send a letter.

Applicants Unable to Take Occupancy

If an applicant is willing to accept the unit offered, but is unable to take occupancy at the time of the offer for "*good cause*," the applicant will not be placed at the bottom of the waiting list.

Examples of "*good cause*" reasons for the refusal to take occupancy of a housing unit include, but are not limited to:

An elderly or disabled family makes the decision not to occupy or accept occupancy in designated housing. [24 CFR 945.303(d)]

Inaccessibility to source of employment or children's day care such that an adult household member must quit a job, drop out of an educational institution or a job training program;

Presence of lead paint in the unit offered when the applicant has children under the age specified by current law;

The family demonstrates to the PHA's satisfaction that accepting the offer will result in a situation where a family member's life, health or safety will be placed in jeopardy. The family must offer specific and compelling documentation such as restraining orders, other court orders, or risk assessments related to witness protection from a law enforcement agency. The reasons offered must be specific to the family. Refusals due to the location of the unit alone are not considered to be good cause.

A qualified, knowledgeable, health professional verifies the temporary hospitalization or recovery from illness of the principal household member, other household members, or a live-in aide necessary to care for the principal household member.

The unit is inappropriate for the applicant's disabilities.

Applicants With a Change in Family Size or Status

Changes in family composition, status, or income between the time of the interview and the offer of a unit will be processed. The PHA shall not lease a unit to a family whose occupancy will overcrowd or underutilize the unit.

The family will take the appropriate place on the waiting list according to the date they first applied.

W. REFUSAL OF OFFER

If the unit offered is inappropriate for the applicant's disabilities, the family will retain their position on the waiting list.

If the unit offered is refused for other reasons, the PHA will follow the applicable policy as listed in the "Plan for Unit Offers" section and the "Applicant Status After Final Offer" section.

Chapter 6

INCOME AND RENT DETERMINATIONS

[24 CFR Part 5, Subparts E and F; 24 CFR 960, Subpart C]

INTRODUCTION

A family's income determines eligibility for assistance and is also used to calculate the family's rent payment. The PHA will use the policies and methods described in this chapter to ensure that only eligible families receive assistance and that no family pays more or less than its obligation under the regulations. This chapter describes HUD regulations and PHA policies related to these topics in three parts as follows:

- **Part I: Annual Income.** HUD regulations specify the sources of income to include and exclude to arrive at a family's annual income. These requirements and PHA policies for calculating annual income are found in Part I.
- **Part II: Adjusted Income.** Once annual income has been established HUD regulations require the PHA to subtract from annual income any of five mandatory deductions for which a family qualifies. These requirements and PHA policies for calculating adjusted income are found in Part II.
- **Part III: Calculating Rent.** This part describes the statutory formula for calculating total tenant payment (TTP), the use of utility allowances, and the methodology for determining family rent payment. Also included here are flat rents and the family's choice in rents.
- **Families declaring zero income must have their income status reviewed every 90 days to determine any change in income.**

PART I: ANNUAL INCOME

6-I.A. OVERVIEW

The general regulatory definition of *annual income* shown below is from 24 CFR 5.609.

5.609 Annual income.

(a) Annual income means all amounts, monetary or not, which:

- (1) Go to, or on behalf of, the family head or spouse (even if temporarily absent) or to any other family member; or
- (2) Are anticipated to be received from a source outside the family during the 12-month period following admission or annual reexamination effective date; and
- (3) Which are not specifically excluded in paragraph [5.609(c)].
- (4) Annual income also means amounts derived (during the 12-month period) from assets to which any member of the family has access.

In addition to this general definition, HUD regulations establish policies for treating specific types of income and assets. The full texts of those portions of the regulations are provided in exhibits at the end of this chapter as follows:

- Annual Income Inclusions (Exhibit 6-1)
- Annual Income Exclusions (Exhibit 6-2)
- Treatment of Family Assets (Exhibit 6-3)
- Earned Income Disallowance (Exhibit 6-4)
- The Effect of Welfare Benefit Reduction (Exhibit 6-5)

Sections 6-I.B and 6-I.C discuss general requirements and methods for calculating annual income. The rest of this section describes how each source of income is treated for the purposes of determining annual income. HUD regulations present income inclusions and exclusions separately [24 CFR 5.609(b) and 24 CFR 5.609(c)]. In this ACOP, however, the discussions of income inclusions and exclusions are integrated by topic (e.g., all policies affecting earned income are discussed together in section 6-I.D). Verification requirements for annual income are discussed in Chapter 7.

6-I.B. HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION AND INCOME

Income received by all family members must be counted unless specifically excluded by the regulations. It is the responsibility of the head of household to report changes in family composition. The rules on which sources of income are counted vary somewhat by family member. The chart below summarizes how family composition affects income determinations.

Summary of Income Included and Excluded by Person	
Live-in aides	Income from all sources is excluded [24 CFR 5.609(c)(5)].
Foster child or foster adult	Income from all sources is excluded [24 CFR 5.609(c)(2)].
Head, spouse, or cohead Other adult family members	All sources of income not specifically excluded by the regulations are included.
Children under 18 years of age	Employment income is excluded [24 CFR 5.609(c)(1)]. All other sources of income, except those specifically excluded by the regulations, are included.
Full-time students 18 years of age or older (not head, spouse, or cohead)	Employment income above \$480/year is excluded [24 CFR 5.609(c)(11)]. All other sources of income, except those specifically excluded by the regulations, are included.

Temporarily Absent Family Members

The income of family members approved to live in the unit will be counted, even if the family member is temporarily absent from the unit [HCV GB, p. 5-18].

Absent Full-Time Students

PHA Policy

When someone who has been considered a family member attends school away from home, the person will continue to be considered a family member unless information becomes available to the PHA indicating that the student has established a separate household or the family declares that the student has established a separate household.

Court-Ordered Absences

PHA Policy

If a member of the family is subject to a court order that restricts the member from the home, the PHA will determine whether the person will be considered temporarily or permanently absent. If the court order specifies a permanent restriction or if the court restriction exceeds 180 days, the person will no longer be considered a family member. If the individual intends to return to the unit at the end of the restriction, the individual is subject to the eligibility and screening requirements discussed in the chapter on eligibility.

Absences Due to Placement in Foster Care

Children temporarily absent from the home as a result of placement in foster care are considered members of the family [24 CFR 5.403].

PHA Policy

If a child has been placed in foster care, the PHA will verify with the appropriate agency whether and when the child is expected to be returned to the home. Unless the agency confirms that the child has been permanently removed from the home, the child will be counted as a family member.

Absences Due to Incarceration

PHA Policy

If a family member is expected to be incarcerated for more than 180 consecutive days, the person will not be considered a family member. If the individual intends to return to the unit following incarceration, the individual is subject to the eligibility and screening requirements discussed in the chapter on eligibility.

Family Members Permanently Confined for Medical Reasons

If a family member is confined to a nursing home or hospital on a permanent basis, that person is no longer considered a family member and the income of that person is not counted [HCV GB, p. 5-22].

PHA Policy

The PHA will request verification from a responsible medical professional and will use this determination. If the responsible medical professional cannot provide a determination, the person generally will be considered temporarily absent. The family may present evidence that the family member is confined on a permanent basis and request that the person not be considered a family member.

When an individual who has been counted as a family member is determined permanently absent, the family is eligible for the medical expense deduction only if the remaining head, spouse, or cohead qualifies as an elderly person or a person with disabilities.

Joint Custody of Children

PHA Policy

In the case of joint custody, only one family may claim a child as a dependent. When two assisted families could conceivably claim the child, the two families must resolve the issue and declare which household will receive the dependent deduction. If the two households are unable to resolve the issue, the PHA will make the determination on the basis of such factors as who claimed the child as a dependent on the most recent income tax filing and how much time the child spends in each household.

Caretakers for a Child

PHA Policy

If neither a parent nor a designated guardian remains in a household receiving assistance, the PHA will take the following actions.

- (1) If a responsible agency has determined that another adult is to be brought into the unit to care for a child for an indefinite period, the designated caretaker will not be considered a family member until a determination of custody or legal guardianship is made.
- (2) If a caretaker has assumed responsibility for a child without the involvement of a responsible agency or formal assignment of custody or legal guardianship, the caretaker will be treated as a visitor for 90 days. After the 90 days has elapsed, the caretaker will be considered a family member unless information is provided that would confirm that the caretaker's role is temporary. In such cases the PHA will extend the caretaker's status as an eligible visitor.
- (3) At any time that custody or guardianship legally has been awarded to a caretaker, the lease will be transferred to the caretaker, as head of household
- (4) During any period that a caretaker is considered a visitor, the income of the caretaker is not counted in annual income and the caretaker does not qualify the family for any deductions from income.

6-I.C. ANTICIPATING ANNUAL INCOME

The PHA is required to count all income "anticipated to be received from a source outside the family during the 12-month period following admission or annual reexamination effective date" [24 CFR 5.609(a)(2)]. Policies related to anticipating annual income are provided below.

Basis of Annual Income Projection

The PHA generally will use current circumstances to determine anticipated income for the coming 12-month period. HUD authorizes the PHA to use other than current circumstances to anticipate income when:

- An imminent change in circumstances is expected [HCV GB, p. 5-17]
- It is not feasible to anticipate a level of income over a 12-month period (e.g., seasonal or cyclic income) [24 CFR 5.609(d)]
- The PHA believes that past income is the best available indicator of expected future income [24 CFR 5.609(d)]

PHA Policy

When the PHA cannot readily anticipate income based upon current circumstances (e.g., in the case of seasonal employment, unstable working hours, or suspected fraud), the PHA will review and analyze historical data for patterns of employment, paid benefits, and receipt of other income and use the results of this analysis to establish annual income. Anytime current circumstances are not used to project annual income, a clear rationale for the decision will be documented in the file. In all such cases the family may present information and documentation to the PHA to show why the historic pattern does not represent the family's anticipated income.

Known Changes in Income

If the PHA verifies an upcoming increase or decrease in income, annual income will be calculated by applying each income amount to the appropriate part of the 12-month period.

Example: An employer reports that a full-time employee who has been receiving \$6/hour will begin to receive \$6.25/hour in the eighth week after the effective date of the reexamination. In such a case the PHA would calculate annual income as follows: (\$6/hour × 40 hours × 7 weeks) + (\$6.25 × 40 hours × 45 weeks).

The family may present information that demonstrates that implementing a change before its effective date would create a hardship for the family. In such cases the PHA will calculate annual income using current circumstances and then require an interim reexamination when the change actually occurs. This requirement will be imposed even if the PHA's policy on reexaminations does not require interim reexaminations for other types of changes.

Using Up-Front Income Verification (UIV) to Project Income

HUD strongly recommends the use of up-front income verification (UIV). UIV is "the verification of income, before or during a family reexamination, through an independent source that systematically and uniformly maintains income information in computerized form for a large number of individuals" [VG, p. 7].

HUD allows PHAs to use UIV information in conjunction with family-provided documents to anticipate income [UIV].

PHA Policy

PHA procedures for anticipating annual income will include the use of UIV methods approved by HUD in conjunction with family-provided documents dated within the last 60 days of the PHA interview date.

The PHA will follow "HUD Guidelines for Projecting Annual Income When Up-Front Income Verification (UIV) Data Is Available" in handling differences between UIV and family-provided income data. The guidelines depend on whether a difference is substantial or not. HUD defines *substantial difference* as a difference of \$200 or more per month.

No Substantial Difference. If UIV information for a particular income source differs from the information provided by a family by less than \$200 per month, the PHA will follow these guidelines:

If the UIV figure is less than the family's figure, the PHA will use the family's information.

If the UIV figure is more than the family's figure, the PHA will use the UIV data unless the family provides documentation of a change in circumstances to explain the discrepancy (e.g., a reduction in work hours). Upon receipt of acceptable family-provided documentation of a change in circumstances, the PHA will use the family-provided information.

Substantial Difference. If UIV information for a particular income source differs from the information provided by a family by \$200 or more per month, the PHA will follow these guidelines:

The PHA will request written third-party verification from the discrepant income source in accordance with 24 CFR 5.236(b)(3)(i).

When the PHA cannot readily anticipate income (e.g., in cases of seasonal employment, unstable working hours, or suspected fraud), the PHA will review historical income data for patterns of employment, paid benefits, and receipt of other income.

The PHA will analyze all UIV, third-party, and family-provided data and attempt to resolve the income discrepancy.

The PHA will use the most current verified income data and, if appropriate, historical income data to calculate anticipated annual income.

6-I.D. EARNED INCOME

Types of Earned Income Included in Annual Income

Wages and Related Compensation. The full amount, before any payroll deductions, of wages and salaries, overtime pay, commissions, fees, tips and bonuses, and other compensation for personal services is included in annual income [24 CFR 5.609(b)(1)].

PHA Policy

For persons who regularly receive bonuses or commissions, the PHA will verify and then average amounts received for the two years preceding admission or reexamination. If only a one-year history is available, the PHA will use the prior year amounts. In either case the family may provide, and the PHA will consider, a credible justification for not using this history to anticipate future bonuses or commissions. If a new employee has not yet received any bonuses or commissions, the PHA will count only the amount estimated by the employer.

Some Types of Military Pay. All regular pay, special pay and allowances of a member of the Armed Forces are counted [24 CFR 5.609(b)(8)] except for the special pay to a family member serving in the Armed Forces who is exposed to hostile fire [24 CFR 5.609(c)(7)].

Types of Earned Income Not Counted in Annual Income

Temporary, Nonrecurring, or Sporadic Income [24 CFR 5.609(c)(9)]. Sporadic income is income that is not received periodically and cannot be reliably predicted. For example, the income of an individual who works occasionally as a handyman would be considered sporadic if future work could not be anticipated and no historic, stable pattern of income existed. Such income is not counted.

Children's Earnings. Employment income earned by children (including foster children) under the age of 18 years is not included in annual income [24 CFR 5.609(c)(1)]. (See Eligibility chapter for a definition of *foster children*.)

Certain Earned Income of Full-Time Students. Earnings in excess of \$480 for each full-time student 18 years old or older (except for the head, spouse, or cohead) are not counted [24 CFR 5.609(c)(11)]. To be considered "full-time," a student must be considered "full-time" by an educational institution with a degree or certificate program [HCV GB, p. 5-29].

Income of a Live-in Aide. Income earned by a live-in aide, as defined in [24 CFR 5.403], is not included in annual income [24 CFR 5.609(c)(5)]. (See Eligibility chapter for a full discussion of live-in aides.)

Income Earned under Certain Federal Programs. Income from some federal programs is specifically excluded from consideration as income [24 CFR 5.609(c)(17)], including:

- Payments to volunteers under the Domestic Volunteer Services Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5044(g), 5058)
- Payments received under programs funded in whole or in part under the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1552(b))
- Awards under the federal work-study program (20 U.S.C. 1087 uu)
- Payments received from programs funded under Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1985 (42 U.S.C. 3056(f))
- Allowances, earnings, and payments to AmeriCorps participants under the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12637(d))
- Allowances, earnings, and payments to participants in programs funded under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2931)

Resident Service Stipend. Amounts received under a resident service stipend are not included in annual income. A resident service stipend is a modest amount (not to exceed \$200 per individual per month) received by a resident for performing a service for the PHA or owner, on a part-time basis, that enhances the quality of life in the development. Such services may include, but are not limited to, fire patrol, hall monitoring, lawn maintenance, resident initiatives coordination, and serving as a member of the PHA's governing board. No resident may receive more than one such stipend during the same period of time [24 CFR 5.600(c)(8)(iv)].

State and Local Employment Training Programs. Incremental earnings and benefits to any family member resulting from participation in qualifying state or local employment training programs (including training programs not affiliated with a local government) and training of a family member as resident

management staff are excluded from annual income. Amounts excluded by this provision must be received under employment training programs with clearly defined goals and objectives and are excluded only for the period during which the family member participates in the training program [24 CFR 5.609(c)(8)(v)].

PHA Policy

The PHA defines *training program* as “a learning process with goals and objectives, generally having a variety of components, and taking place in a series of sessions over a period to time. It is designed to lead to a higher level of proficiency, and it enhances the individual’s ability to obtain employment. It may have performance standards to measure proficiency. Training may include, but is not limited to: (1) classroom training in a specific occupational skill, (2) on-the-job training with wages subsidized by the program, or (3) basic education” [expired Notice PIH 98-2, p. 3].

The PHA defines *incremental earnings and benefits* as the difference between (1) the total amount of welfare assistance and earnings of a family member prior to enrollment in a training program and (2) the total amount of welfare assistance and earnings of the family member after enrollment in the program [expired Notice PIH 98-2, pp. 3–4].

In calculating the incremental difference, the PHA will use as the pre-enrollment income the total annualized amount of the family member’s welfare assistance and earnings reported on the family’s most recently completed HUD-50058.

End of participation in a training program must be reported in accordance with the PHA's interim reporting requirements (see chapter on reexaminations).

HUD-Funded Training Programs. Amounts received under training programs funded in whole or in part by HUD [24 CFR 5.609(c)(8)(i)] are excluded from annual income. Eligible sources of funding for the training include operating subsidy, Section 8 administrative fees, and modernization, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME program, and other grant funds received from HUD.

PHA Policy

To qualify as a training program, the program must meet the definition of *training program* provided above for state and local employment training programs.

Earned Income Tax Credit. Earned income tax credit (EITC) refund payments received on or after January 1, 1991 (26 U.S.C. 32(j)), are excluded from annual income [24 CFR 5.609(c)(17)]. Although many families receive the EITC annually when they file taxes, an EITC can also be received throughout the year. The prorated share of the annual EITC is included in the employee’s payroll check.

Earned Income Disallowance. The earned income disallowance is discussed in section 6-I.E below.

6-I.E. EARNED INCOME DISALLOWANCE [24 CFR 960.255]

The earned income disallowance (EID) encourages people to enter the work force by not including the full value of increases in earned income for a period of time. The full text of 24 CFR 960.255 is included as Exhibit 6-4 at the end of this chapter. Eligibility criteria and limitations on the disallowance are summarized below.

Eligibility

This disallowance applies only to individuals in families already participating in the public housing program (not at initial examination). To qualify, the family must experience an increase in annual income that is the result of one of the following events:

- Employment of a family member who was previously unemployed for one or more years prior to employment. *Previously unemployed* includes a person who annually has earned not more than the minimum wage applicable to the community multiplied by 500 hours. The applicable minimum wage is the federal minimum wage unless there is a higher state or local minimum wage.

- Increased earnings by a family member whose earnings increase during participation in an economic self-sufficiency or job-training program. A self-sufficiency program includes a program designed to encourage, assist, train, or facilitate the economic independence of HUD-assisted families or to provide work to such families [24 CFR 5.603(b)].
- New employment or increased earnings by a family member who has received benefits or services under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or any other state program funded under Part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act within the past six months. If the benefits are received in the form of monthly maintenance, there is no minimum amount. If the benefits or services are received in a form other than monthly maintenance, such as one-time payments, wage subsidies, or transportation assistance, the total amount received over the six-month period must be at least \$500.

Calculation of the Disallowance

Calculation of the earned income disallowance for an eligible member of a qualified family begins with a comparison of the member's current income with his or her "prior income."

PHA Policy

The PHA defines *prior income*, or *prequalifying income*, as the family member's last certified income prior to qualifying for the EID.

The family member's prior, or prequalifying, income remains constant throughout the period that he or she is receiving the EID.

Initial 12-Month Exclusion. During the initial 12-month exclusion period, the full amount (100 percent) of any increase in income attributable to new employment or increased earnings is excluded. The 12 months are cumulative and need not be consecutive.

PHA Policy

The initial EID exclusion period will begin on the first of the month following the date an eligible member of a qualified family is first employed or first experiences an increase in earnings.

Second 12-Month Exclusion and Phase-In. During the second 12-month exclusion period, the exclusion is reduced to half (50 percent) of any increase in income attributable to employment or increased earnings. The 12 months are cumulative and need not be consecutive.

Lifetime Limitation. The EID has a four-year (48-month) lifetime maximum. The four-year eligibility period begins at the same time that the initial exclusion period begins and ends 48 months later. The one-time eligibility for the EID applies even if the eligible individual begins to receive assistance from another housing agency, if the individual moves between public housing and Section 8 assistance, or if there are breaks in assistance.

PHA Policy

During the 48-month eligibility period, the PHA will schedule and conduct an interim reexamination each time there is a change in the family member's annual income that affects or is affected by the EID (e.g., when the family member's income falls to a level at or below his/her prequalifying income, when one of the exclusion periods ends, and at the end of the lifetime maximum eligibility period).

Individual Savings Accounts [24 CFR 960.255(d)]

PHA Policy

The PHA chooses not to establish a system of individual savings accounts (ISAs) for families who qualify for the EID.

The following rules pertaining to ISAs do not apply to this public housing program.

A qualified family paying income-based rent may choose an ISA instead of being given the EID. The PHA must advise the family that the ISA option is available. Families who choose the ISA will pay the

higher rent and the PHA will deposit the difference between the higher rent and the EID rent in the savings account.

Amounts deposited to ISAs may only be withdrawn for the following reasons:

- Because the family is purchasing a home
- To pay education costs of family members
- Because the family is moving out of public or assisted housing
- To pay any other expenses the PHA authorizes to promote economic self-sufficiency

The PHA is required to maintain ISAs in interest bearing accounts, for which the family is credited with interest earned. The PHA may not charge the family a fee for maintaining the account.

At least once each year the PHA must provide the family with a statement of the balance in their account, including any interest earned, if required by state law.

PHA Policy

The PHA will provide the family with a statement of the balance in their account, including any interest earned, annually and upon request when the family makes withdrawals from the account.

If the family moves out of public housing, the PHA must return the balance in the family's ISA, less any amounts the family owes the PHA.

6-I.F. BUSINESS INCOME [24 CFR 5.609(b)(2)]

Annual income includes "the net income from the operation of a business or profession. Expenditures for business expansion or amortization of capital indebtedness shall not be used as deductions in determining net income. An allowance for depreciation of assets used in a business or profession may be deducted, based on straight line depreciation, as provided in Internal Revenue Service regulations. Any withdrawal of cash or assets from the operation of a business or profession will be included in income, except to the extent the withdrawal is reimbursement of cash or assets invested in the operation by the family" [24 CFR 5.609(b)(2)].

Business Expenses

Net income is "gross income less business expense" [HCV GB, p. 5-19].

PHA Policy

To determine business expenses that may be deducted from gross income, the PHA will use current applicable Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules for determining allowable business expenses [see IRS Publication 535], unless a topic is addressed by HUD regulations or guidance as described below.

Business Expansion

HUD regulations do not permit the PHA to deduct from gross income expenses for business expansion.

PHA Policy

Business expansion is defined as any capital expenditures made to add new business activities, to expand current facilities, or to operate the business in additional locations. For example, purchase of a street sweeper by a construction business for the purpose of adding street cleaning to the services offered by the business would be considered a business expansion. Similarly, the purchase of a property by a hair care business to open at a second location would be considered a business expansion.

Capital Indebtedness

HUD regulations do not permit the PHA to deduct from gross income the amortization of capital indebtedness.

PHA Policy

Capital indebtedness is defined as the principal portion of the payment on a capital asset such as land, buildings, and machinery. This means the PHA will allow as a business expense interest, but not principal, paid on capital indebtedness.

Negative Business Income

If the net income from a business is negative, no business income will be included in annual income; a negative amount will not be used to offset other family income.

Withdrawal of Cash or Assets from a Business

HUD regulations require the PHA to include in annual income the withdrawal of cash or assets from the operation of a business or profession unless the withdrawal reimburses a family member for cash or assets invested in the business by the family.

PHA Policy

Acceptable investments in a business include cash loans and contributions of assets or equipment. For example, if a member of a tenant family provided an up-front loan of \$2,000 to help a business get started, the PHA will not count as income any withdrawals from the business up to the amount of this loan until the loan has been repaid. Investments do not include the value of labor contributed to the business without compensation.

Co-owned Businesses

PHA Policy

If a business is co-owned with someone outside the family, the family must document the share of the business it owns. If the family's share of the income is lower than its share of ownership, the family must document the reasons for the difference.

6-I.G. ASSETS [24 CFR 5.609(b)(3) and 24 CFR 5.603(b)]

Overview

There is no asset limitation for participation in the public housing program. However, HUD requires that the PHA include in annual income the "interest, dividends, and other net income of any kind from real or personal property" [24 CFR 5.609(b)(3)]. This section discusses how the income from various types of assets is determined. For most types of assets, the PHA must determine the value of the asset in order to compute income from the asset. Therefore, for each asset type, this section discusses:

- How the value of the asset will be determined
- How income from the asset will be calculated

Exhibit 6-1 provides the regulatory requirements for calculating income from assets [24 CFR 5.609(b)(3)], and Exhibit 6-4 provides the regulatory definition of *net family assets* as well as a chart from the *HCV Guidebook* that summarizes asset inclusions and exclusions. This section begins with a discussion of general policies related to assets and then provides HUD rules and PHA policies related to each type of asset.

General Policies

Income from Assets

The PHA generally will use current circumstances to determine both the value of an asset and the anticipated income from the asset. As is true for all sources of income, HUD authorizes the PHA to use other than current circumstances to anticipate income when (1) an imminent change in circumstances is expected (2) it is not feasible to anticipate a level of income over 12 months or (3) the PHA believes that past income is the best indicator of anticipated income. For example, if a family member owns real

property that typically receives rental income but the property is currently vacant, the PHA can take into consideration past rental income along with the prospects of obtaining a new tenant.

PHA Policy

Any time current circumstances are not used to determine asset income, a clear rationale for the decision will be documented in the file. In such cases the family may present information and documentation to the PHA to show why the asset income determination does not represent the family's anticipated asset income.

Valuing Assets

The calculation of asset income sometimes requires the PHA to make a distinction between an asset's market value and its cash value.

- The market value of an asset is its worth (e.g., the amount a buyer would pay for real estate or the balance in an investment account).
- The cash value of an asset is its market value less all reasonable amounts that would be incurred when converting the asset to cash. Examples of acceptable costs include penalties for premature withdrawal, broker and legal fees, and settlement costs incurred in real estate transactions [HCV GB, p. 5-28 and PH, p. 121].

Lump-Sum Receipts

Payments that are received in a single lump sum, such as inheritances, capital gains, lottery winnings, insurance settlements, and proceeds from the sale of property, are generally considered assets, not income. However, such lump-sum receipts are counted as assets only if they are retained by a family in a form recognizable as an asset (e.g., deposited in a savings or checking account) [RHIP FAQs]. (For a discussion of lump-sum payments that represent the delayed start of a periodic payment, most of which are counted as income, see sections 6-I.H and 6-I.I.)

Imputing Income from Assets [24 CFR 5.609(b)(3)]

When net family assets are \$5,000 or less, the PHA will include in annual income the actual income anticipated to be derived from the assets. When the family has net family assets in excess of \$5,000, the PHA will include in annual income the greater of (1) the actual income derived from the assets or (2) the imputed income. Imputed income from assets is calculated by multiplying the total cash value of all family assets by the current HUD-established passbook savings rate.

Determining Actual Anticipated Income from Assets

It may or may not be necessary for the PHA to use the value of an asset to compute the actual anticipated income from the asset. When the value is required to compute the anticipated income from an asset, the market value of the asset is used. For example, if the asset is a property for which a family receives rental income, the anticipated income is determined by annualizing the actual monthly rental amount received for the property; it is not based on the property's market value. However, if the asset is a savings account, the anticipated income is determined by multiplying the market value of the account by the interest rate on the account.

Withdrawal of Cash or Liquidation of Investments

Any withdrawal of cash or assets from an investment will be included in income except to the extent that the withdrawal reimburses amounts invested by the family. For example, when a family member retires, the amount received by the family from a retirement plan is not counted as income until the family has received payments equal to the amount the family member deposited into the retirement fund.

Jointly Owned Assets

The regulation at 24 CFR 5.609(a)(4) specifies that annual income includes "amounts derived (during the 12-month period) from assets to which any member of the family has access."

PHA Policy

If an asset is owned by more than one person and any family member has unrestricted access to the asset, the PHA will count the full value of the asset. A family member has unrestricted access to an asset when he or she can legally dispose of the asset without the consent of any of the other owners.

If an asset is owned by more than one person, including a family member, but the family member does not have unrestricted access to the asset, the PHA will prorate the asset according to the percentage of ownership. If no percentage is specified or provided for by state or local law, the PHA will prorate the asset evenly among all owners.

Assets Disposed Of for Less than Fair Market Value [24 CFR 5.603(b)]

HUD regulations require the PHA to count as a current asset any business or family asset that was disposed of for less than fair market value during the two years prior to the effective date of the examination/reexamination, except as noted below.

Minimum Threshold

The PHA may set a threshold below which assets disposed of for less than fair market value will not be counted [HCV GB, p. 5-27].

PHA Policy

The PHA will not include the value of assets disposed of for less than fair market value unless the cumulative fair market value of all assets disposed of during the past two years exceeds the gross amount received for the assets by more than \$1,000.

When the two-year period expires, the income assigned to the disposed asset(s) also expires. If the two-year period ends between annual recertifications, the family may request an interim recertification to eliminate consideration of the asset(s).

Assets placed by the family in nonrevocable trusts are considered assets disposed of for less than fair market value except when the assets placed in trust were received through settlements or judgments.

Separation or Divorce

The regulation also specifies that assets are not considered disposed of for less than fair market value if they are disposed of as part of a separation or divorce settlement and the applicant or tenant receives important consideration not measurable in dollar terms.

PHA Policy

All assets disposed of as part of a separation or divorce settlement will be considered assets for which important consideration not measurable in monetary terms has been received. In order to qualify for this exemption, a family member must be subject to a formal separation or divorce settlement agreement established through arbitration, mediation, or court order.

Foreclosure or Bankruptcy

Assets are not considered disposed of for less than fair market value when the disposition is the result of a foreclosure or bankruptcy sale.

Family Declaration

PHA Policy

Families must sign a declaration form at initial certification and each annual recertification identifying all assets that have been disposed of for less than fair market value or declaring that no assets have been disposed of for less than fair market value. The PHA may verify the value of the assets disposed of if other information available to the PHA does not appear to agree with the information reported by the family.

Types of Assets

Checking and Savings Accounts

For regular checking accounts and savings accounts, *cash value* has the same meaning as *market value*. If a checking account does not bear interest, the anticipated income from the account is zero.

PHA Policy

In determining the value of a checking account, the PHA will use the average monthly balance for the last six months.

In determining the value of a savings account, the PHA will use the current balance.

In determining the anticipated income from an interest-bearing checking or savings account, the PHA will multiply the value of the account by the current rate of interest paid on the account.

Investment Accounts Such as Stocks, Bonds, Saving Certificates, and Money Market Funds

Interest or dividends earned by investment accounts are counted as actual income from assets even when the earnings are reinvested. The cash value of such an asset is determined by deducting from the market value any broker fees, penalties for early withdrawal, or other costs of converting the asset to cash.

PHA Policy

In determining the market value of an investment account, the PHA will use the value of the account on the most recent investment report.

How anticipated income from an investment account will be calculated depends on whether the rate of return is known. For assets that are held in an investment account with a known rate of return (e.g., savings certificates), asset income will be calculated based on that known rate (market value multiplied by rate of earnings). When the anticipated rate of return is not known (e.g., stocks), the PHA will calculate asset income based on the earnings for the most recent reporting period.

Equity in Real Property or Other Capital Investments

Equity (cash value) in a property or other capital asset is the estimated current market value of the asset less the unpaid balance on all loans secured by the asset and reasonable costs (such as broker fees) that would be incurred in selling the asset [HCV GB, p. 5-25 and PH, p. 121].

Equity in real property and other capital investments is considered in the calculation of asset income except for the following types of assets:

- Equity accounts in HUD homeownership programs [24 CFR 5.603(b)]
- Equity in real property when a family member's main occupation is real estate [HCV GB, p. 5-25]. This real estate is considered a business asset, and income related to this asset will be calculated as described in section 6-I.F.
- Interests in Indian Trust lands [24 CFR 5.603(b)]
- Real property and capital assets that are part of an active business or farming operation [HCV GB, p. 5-25]

A family may have real property as an asset in two ways: (1) owning the property itself and (2) holding a mortgage or deed of trust on the property. In the case of a property owned by a family member, the anticipated asset income generally will be in the form of rent or other payment for the use of the property. If the property generates no income, actual anticipated income from the asset will be zero.

In the case of a mortgage or deed of trust held by a family member, the outstanding balance (unpaid principal) is the cash value of the asset. The interest portion only of payments made to the family in accordance with the terms of the mortgage or deed of trust is counted as anticipated asset income.

PHA Policy

In the case of capital investments owned jointly with others not living in a family's unit, a prorated share of the property's cash value will be counted as an asset unless the PHA determines that the family receives no income from the property and is unable to sell or otherwise convert the asset to cash.

Trusts

A *trust* is a legal arrangement generally regulated by state law in which one party (the creator or grantor) transfers property to a second party (the trustee) who holds the property for the benefit of one or more third parties (the beneficiaries).

Revocable Trusts

If any member of a family has the right to withdraw the funds in a trust, the value of the trust is considered an asset [HCV GB, p. 5-25]. Any income earned as a result of investment of trust funds is counted as actual asset income, whether the income is paid to the family or deposited in the trust.

Nonrevocable Trusts

In cases where a trust is not revocable by, or under the control of, any member of a family, the value of the trust fund is not considered an asset. However, any income distributed to the family from such a trust is counted as a periodic payment or a lump-sum receipt, as appropriate [24 CFR 5.603(b)]. (Periodic payments are covered in section 6-I.H. Lump-sum receipts are discussed earlier in this section.)

Retirement Accounts

Company Retirement/Pension Accounts

In order to correctly include or exclude as an asset any amount held in a company retirement or pension account by an employed person, the PHA must know whether the money is accessible before retirement [HCV GB, p. 5-26].

While a family member is employed, only the amount the family member can withdraw without retiring or terminating employment is counted as an asset [HCV GB, p. 5-26].

After a family member retires or terminates employment, any amount distributed to the family member is counted as a periodic payment or a lump-sum receipt, as appropriate [HCV GB, p. 5-26], except to the extent that it represents funds invested in the account by the family member. (For more on periodic payments, see section 6-I.H.) The balance in the account is counted as an asset only if it remains accessible to the family member.

IRA, Keogh, and Similar Retirement Savings Accounts

IRA, Keogh, and similar retirement savings accounts are counted as assets even though early withdrawal would result in a penalty [HCV GB, p. 5-25].

Personal Property

Personal property held as an investment, such as gems, jewelry, coin collections, antique cars, etc., is considered an asset [HCV GB, p. 5-25].

PHA Policy

In determining the value of personal property held as an investment, the PHA will use the family's estimate of the value. However, the PHA also may obtain an appraisal if appropriate to confirm the value of the asset. The family must cooperate with the appraiser but cannot be charged any costs related to the appraisal.

Generally, personal property held as an investment generates no income until it is disposed of. If regular income is generated (e.g., income from renting the personal property), the amount that is expected to be earned in the coming year is counted as actual income from the asset.

Necessary items of personal property are not considered assets [24 CFR 5.603(b)].

PHA Policy

Necessary personal property consists of items such as clothing, furniture, household furnishings, jewelry that is not held as an investment, and vehicles, including those specially equipped for persons with disabilities.

Life Insurance

The cash value of a life insurance policy available to a family member before death, such as a whole life or universal life policy, is included in the calculation of the value of the family's assets [HCV GB 5-25]. The cash value is the surrender value. If such a policy earns dividends or interest that the family could elect to receive, the anticipated amount of dividends or interest is counted as income from the asset whether or not the family actually receives it.

6-I.H. PERIODIC PAYMENTS

Periodic payments are forms of income received on a regular basis. HUD regulations specify periodic payments that are and are not included in annual income.

Periodic Payments Included in Annual Income

- Periodic payments from sources such as social security, unemployment and welfare assistance, annuities, insurance policies, retirement funds, and pensions. However, periodic payments from retirement accounts, annuities, and similar forms of investments are counted only after they exceed the amount contributed by the family [24 CFR 5.609(b)(4) and (b)(3)].
- Disability or death benefits and lottery receipts paid periodically, rather than in a single lump sum [24 CFR 5.609(b)(4) and HCV, p. 5-14]

Lump-Sum Payments for the Delayed Start of a Periodic Payment

Most lump sums received as a result of delays in processing periodic payments, such as unemployment or welfare assistance, are counted as income. However, lump-sum receipts for the delayed start of periodic social security or supplemental security income (SSI) payments are not counted as income [CFR 5.609(b)(4)].

PHA Policy

When a delayed-start payment is received and reported during the period in which the PHA is processing an annual reexamination, the PHA will adjust the tenant rent retroactively for the period the payment was intended to cover. The family may pay in full any amount due or request to enter into a repayment agreement with the PHA.

See the chapter on reexaminations for information about a family's obligation to report lump-sum receipts between annual reexaminations.

Periodic Payments Excluded from Annual Income

- Payments received for the care of foster children or foster adults (usually persons with disabilities, unrelated to the tenant family, who are unable to live alone) [24 CFR 5.609(c)(2)]

PHA Policy

The PHA will exclude payments for the care of foster children and foster adults only if the care is provided through an official arrangement with a local welfare agency [HCV GB, p. 5-18].

- Amounts paid by a state agency to a family with a member who has a developmental disability and is living at home to offset the cost of services and equipment needed to keep the developmentally disabled family member at home [24 CFR 5.609(c)(16)]
- Amounts received under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (42 U.S.C. 1626(c)) [24 CFR 5.609(c)(17)]
- Amounts received under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858q) [24 CFR 5.609(c)(17)]
- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) refund payments (26 U.S.C. 32(j)) [24 CFR 5.609(c)(17)]. *Note:* EITC may be paid periodically if the family elects to receive the amount due as part of payroll payments from an employer.
- Lump sums received as a result of delays in processing Social Security and SSI payments (see section 6-I.J.) [24 CFR 5.609(b)(4)].

6-I.I. PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF EARNINGS

Payments in lieu of earnings, such as unemployment and disability compensation, worker's compensation, and severance pay, are counted as income [24 CFR 5.609(b)(5)] if they are received

either in the form of periodic payments or in the form of a lump-sum amount or prospective monthly amounts for the delayed start of a periodic payment. If they are received in a one-time lump sum (as a settlement, for instance), they are treated as lump-sum receipts [24 CFR 5.609(c)(3)]. (See also the discussion of periodic payments in section 6-I.H and the discussion of lump-sum receipts in section 6-I.G.)

6-I.J. WELFARE ASSISTANCE

Overview

Welfare assistance is counted in annual income. Welfare assistance includes Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and any payments to individuals or families based on need that are made under programs funded separately or jointly by federal, state, or local governments [24 CFR 5.603(b)].

Sanctions Resulting in the Reduction of Welfare Benefits [24 CFR 5.615]

The PHA must make a special calculation of annual income when the welfare agency imposes certain sanctions on certain families. The full text of the regulation at 24 CFR 5.615 is provided as Exhibit 6-5. The requirements are summarized below. This rule applies only if a family was a public housing resident at the time the sanction was imposed.

Covered Families

The families covered by 24 CFR 5.615 are those “who receive welfare assistance or other public assistance benefits (‘welfare benefits’) from a State or other public agency (‘welfare agency’) under a program for which Federal, State or local law requires that a member of the family must participate in an economic self-sufficiency program as a condition for such assistance” [24 CFR 5.615(b)]

Imputed Income

When a welfare agency imposes a sanction that reduces a family’s welfare income because the family commits fraud or fails to comply with the agency’s economic self-sufficiency program or work activities requirement, the PHA must include in annual income “imputed” welfare income. The PHA must request that the welfare agency inform the PHA when the benefits of a public housing resident are reduced. The imputed income is the amount the family would have received if the family had not been sanctioned.

This requirement does not apply to reductions in welfare benefits: (1) at the expiration of the lifetime or other time limit on the payment of welfare benefits, (2) if a family member is unable to find employment even though the family member has complied with the welfare agency economic self-sufficiency or work activities requirements, or (3) because a family member has not complied with other welfare agency requirements [24 CFR 5.615(b)(2)].

For special procedures related to grievance hearings based upon the PHA’s denial of a family’s request to lower rent when the family experiences a welfare benefit reduction, see Chapter 14, Complaints, Grievances and Appeals.

Offsets

The amount of the imputed income is offset by the amount of additional income the family begins to receive after the sanction is imposed. When the additional income equals or exceeds the imputed welfare income, the imputed income is reduced to zero [24 CFR 5.615(c)(4)].

6-I.K. PERIODIC AND DETERMINABLE ALLOWANCES [24 CFR 5.609(b)(7)]

Annual income includes periodic and determinable allowances, such as alimony and child support payments, and regular contributions or gifts received from organizations or from persons not residing with a tenant family.

Alimony and Child Support

The PHA must count alimony or child support amounts awarded as part of a divorce or separation agreement.

PHA Policy

The PHA will count court-awarded amounts for alimony and child support unless the PHA verifies that (1) the payments are not being made and (2) the family has made reasonable efforts to collect amounts due, including filing with courts or agencies responsible for enforcing payments [HCV GB, pp. 5-23 and 5-47].

Families who do not have court-awarded alimony and child support awards are not required to seek a court award and are not required to take independent legal action to obtain collection.

Regular Contributions or Gifts

The PHA must count as income regular monetary and nonmonetary contributions or gifts from persons not residing with a tenant family [24 CFR 5.609(b)(7)]. Temporary, nonrecurring, or sporadic income and gifts are not counted [24 CFR 5.609(c)(9)].

PHA Policy

Examples of regular contributions include: (1) regular payment of a family's bills (e.g., utilities, telephone, rent, credit cards, and car payments), (2) cash or other liquid assets provided to any family member on a regular basis, and (3) "in-kind" contributions such as groceries and clothing provided to a family on a regular basis.

Nonmonetary contributions will be valued at the cost of purchasing the items, as determined by the PHA. For contributions that may vary from month to month (e.g., utility payments), the PHA will include an average amount based upon past history.

6-I.L. ADDITIONAL EXCLUSIONS FROM ANNUAL INCOME

Other exclusions contained in 24 CFR 5.609(c) that have not been discussed earlier in this chapter include the following:

- Reimbursement of medical expenses [24 CFR 5.609(c)(4)]
- The full amount of student financial assistance paid directly to the student or to the educational institution [24 CFR 5.609(c)(6)]
- Amounts received by participants in other publicly assisted programs which are specifically for or in reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred and which are made solely to allow participation in a specific program [24 CFR 5.609(c)(8)(iii)]
- Amounts received by a person with a disability that are disregarded for a limited time for purposes of Supplemental Security Income eligibility and benefits because they are set aside for use under a Plan to Attain Self-Sufficiency (PASS) [(24 CFR 5.609(c)(8)(ii)]
- Reparation payments paid by a foreign government pursuant to claims filed under the laws of that government by persons who were persecuted during the Nazi era [24 CFR 5.609(c)(10)]
- Adoption assistance payments in excess of \$480 per adopted child [24 CFR 5.609(c)(12)]
- Refunds or rebates on property taxes paid on the dwelling unit [24 CFR 5.609(c)(15)]
- Amounts paid by a state agency to a family with a member who has a developmental disability and is living at home to offset the cost of services and equipment needed to keep the developmentally disabled family member at home [24 CFR 5.609(c)(16)]
- Amounts specifically excluded by any other federal statute [24 CFR 5.609(c)(17)]. HUD publishes an updated list of these exclusions periodically. It includes:
 - (a) The value of the allotment provided to an eligible household under the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2017 (b))
 - (b) Payments to Volunteers under the Domestic Volunteer Services Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5044(g), 5058)

- (c) Payments received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1626(c))
- (d) Income derived from certain submarginal land of the United States that is held in trust for certain Indian tribes (25 U.S.C. 459e)
- (e) Payments or allowances made under the Department of Health and Human Services' Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (42 U.S.C. 8624(f))
- (f) Payments received under programs funded in whole or in part under the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1552(b)) (Effective July 1, 2000, references to Job Training Partnership Act shall be deemed to refer to the corresponding provision of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2931).)
- (g) Income derived from the disposition of funds to the Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians (Pub. L. 94-540, 90 Stat. 2503-04)
- (h) The first \$2,000 of per capita shares received from judgment funds awarded by the Indian Claims Commission or the U. S. Claims Court, the interests of individual Indians in trust or restricted lands, including the first \$2,000 per year of income received by individual Indians from funds derived from interests held in such trust or restricted lands (25 U.S.C. 1407-1408)
- (i) Amounts of scholarships funded under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, including awards under the federal work-study program or under the Bureau of Indian Affairs student assistance programs (20 U.S.C. 1087uu)
- (j) Payments received from programs funded under Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1985 (42 U.S.C. 3056(f))
- (k) Payments received on or after January 1, 1989, from the Agent Orange Settlement Fund or any other fund established pursuant to the settlement in *In Re Agent* product liability litigation, M.D.L. No. 381 (E.D.N.Y.)
- (l) Payments received under the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 (25 U.S.C. 1721)
- (m) The value of any child care provided or arranged (or any amount received as payment for such care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care) under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858q)
- (n) Earned income tax credit (EITC) refund payments received on or after January 1, 1991 (26 U.S.C. 32(j))
- (o) Payments by the Indian Claims Commission to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakima Indian Nation or the Apache Tribe of Mescalero Reservation (Pub. L. 95-433)
- (p) Allowances, earnings and payments to AmeriCorps participants under the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12637(d))
- (q) Any allowance paid under the provisions of 38 U.S.C. 1805 to a child suffering from spina bifida who is the child of a Vietnam veteran (38 U.S.C. 1805)
- (r) Any amount of crime victim compensation (under the Victims of Crime Act) received through crime victim assistance (or payment or reimbursement of the cost of such assistance) as determined under the Victims of Crime Act because of the commission of a crime against the applicant under the Victims of Crime Act (42 U.S.C. 10602)
- (s) Allowances, earnings and payments to individuals participating in programs under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2931)

PART II: ADJUSTED INCOME

6-II.A. INTRODUCTION

Overview

HUD regulations require PHAs to deduct from annual income any of five mandatory deductions for which a family qualifies. The resulting amount is the family's adjusted income. Mandatory deductions are found in 24 CFR 5.611.

5.611(a) Mandatory deductions. In determining adjusted income, the responsible entity (PHA) must deduct the following amounts from annual income:

- (1) \$480 for each dependent;
- (2) \$400 for any elderly family or disabled family;
- (3) The sum of the following, to the extent the sum exceeds three percent of annual income:
 - (i) Unreimbursed medical expenses of any elderly family or disabled family;
 - (ii) Unreimbursed reasonable attendant care and auxiliary apparatus expenses for each member of the family who is a person with disabilities, to the extent necessary to enable any member of the family (including the member who is a person with disabilities) to be employed. This deduction may not exceed the earned income received by family members who are 18 years of age or older and who are able to work because of such attendant care or auxiliary apparatus; and
- (4) Any reasonable child care expenses necessary to enable a member of the family to be employed or to further his or her education.

This part covers policies related to these mandatory deductions. Verification requirements related to these deductions are found in Chapter 7, Verifications.

Anticipating Expenses

PHA Policy

Generally, the PHA will use current circumstances to anticipate expenses. When possible, for costs that are expected to fluctuate during the year (e.g., child care during school and nonschool periods and cyclical medical expenses), the PHA will estimate costs based on historic data and known future costs.

If a family has an accumulated debt for medical or disability assistance expenses, the PHA will include as an eligible expense the portion of the debt that the family expects to pay during the period for which the income determination is being made. However, amounts previously deducted will not be allowed even if the amounts were not paid as expected in a preceding period. The PHA may require the family to provide documentation of payments made in the preceding year.

6-II.B. DEPENDENT DEDUCTION

A deduction of \$480 is taken for each dependent [24 CFR 5.611(a)(1)]. *Dependent* is defined as any family member other than the head, spouse, or cohead who is under the age of 18 or who is 18 or older and is a person with disabilities or a full-time student. Foster children, foster adults, and live-in aides are never considered dependents [24 CFR 5.603(b)].

6-II.C. ELDERLY OR DISABLED FAMILY DEDUCTION

A single deduction of \$400 is taken for any elderly or disabled family [24 CFR 5.611(a)(2)]. An *elderly family* is a family whose head, spouse, cohead, or sole member is 62 years of age or older, and a *disabled family* is a family whose head, spouse, cohead, or sole member is a person with disabilities [24 CFR 5.403].

6-II.D. MEDICAL EXPENSES DEDUCTION [24 CFR 5.611(a)(3)(i)]

Unreimbursed medical expenses may be deducted to the extent that, in combination with any disability assistance expenses, they exceed three percent of annual income.

The medical expense deduction is permitted only for families in which the head, spouse, or cohead is at least 62 or is a person with disabilities. If a family is eligible for a medical expense deduction, the medical expenses of all family members are counted [VG, p. 28].

Definition of *Medical Expenses*

HUD regulations define *medical expenses* at 24 CFR 5.603(b) to mean “medical expenses, including medical insurance premiums, that are anticipated during the period for which annual income is computed, and that are not covered by insurance.”

PHA Policy

The most current IRS Publication 502, *Medical and Dental Expenses*, will be used to determine the costs that qualify as medical expenses.

Summary of Allowable Medical Expenses from IRS Publication 502	
Services of medical professionals	Substance abuse treatment programs
Surgery and medical procedures that are necessary, legal, noncosmetic	Psychiatric treatment
Services of medical facilities	Ambulance services and some costs of transportation related to medical expenses
Hospitalization, long-term care, and in-home nursing services	The cost and care of necessary equipment related to a medical condition (e.g., eyeglasses/lenses, hearing aids, crutches, and artificial teeth)
Prescription medicines and insulin, but <u>not</u> nonprescription medicines even if recommended by a doctor	Cost and continuing care of necessary service animals
Improvements to housing directly related to medical needs (e.g., ramps for a wheel chair, handrails)	Medical insurance premiums or the cost of a health maintenance organization (HMO)
Note: This chart provides a summary of eligible medical expenses only. Detailed information is provided in IRS Publication 502. Medical expenses are considered only to the extent they are not reimbursed by insurance or some other source.	

Families That Qualify for Both Medical and Disability Assistance Expenses

PHA Policy

This policy applies only to families in which the head, spouse, or cohead is 62 or older or is a person with disabilities.

When expenses anticipated by a family could be defined as either medical or disability assistance expenses, the PHA will consider them medical expenses unless it is clear that the expenses are incurred exclusively to enable a person with disabilities to work.

6-II.E. DISABILITY ASSISTANCE EXPENSES DEDUCTION [24 CFR 5.603(b) and 24 CFR 5.611(a)(3)(ii)]

Reasonable expenses for attendant care and auxiliary apparatus for a disabled family member may be deducted if they: (1) are necessary to enable a family member 18 years or older to work, (2) are not paid to a family member or reimbursed by an outside source, (3) in combination with any medical expenses, exceed three percent of annual income, and (4) do not exceed the earned income received by the family member who is enabled to work.

Earned Income Limit on the Disability Assistance Expense Deduction

A family can qualify for the disability assistance expense deduction only if at least one family member (who may be the person with disabilities) is enabled to work [24 CFR 5.603(b)].

The disability expense deduction is capped by the amount of “earned income received by family members who are 18 years of age or older and who are able to work” because of the expense [24 CFR 5.611(a)(3)(ii)]. The earned income used for this purpose is the amount verified before any earned income disallowances or income exclusions are applied.

PHA Policy

The family must identify the family members enabled to work as a result of the disability assistance expenses. In evaluating the family’s request, the PHA will consider factors such as how the work schedule of the relevant family members relates to the hours of care provided, the time required for transportation, the relationship of the family members to the person with disabilities, and any special needs of the person with disabilities that might determine which family members are enabled to work.

When the PHA determines that the disability assistance expenses enable more than one family member to work, the disability assistance expenses will be capped by the sum of the family members’ incomes [PH Occ GB, p. 124].

Eligible Disability Expenses

Examples of auxiliary apparatus are provided in the *PH Occupancy Guidebook* as follows: “Auxiliary apparatus: Including wheelchairs, walkers, scooters, reading devices for persons with visual disabilities, equipment added to cars and vans to permit their use by the family member with a disability, or service animals” [PH Occ GB, p. 124], but only if these items are directly related to permitting the disabled person or other family member to work [HCV GB, p. 5-30].

HUD advises PHAs to further define and describe auxiliary apparatus [VG, p. 30].

Eligible Auxiliary Apparatus

PHA Policy

Expenses incurred for maintaining or repairing an auxiliary apparatus are eligible. In the case of an apparatus that is specially adapted to accommodate a person with disabilities (e.g., a vehicle or computer), the cost to maintain the special adaptations (but not maintenance of the apparatus itself) is an eligible expense. The cost of service animals trained to give assistance to persons with disabilities, including the cost of acquiring the animal, veterinary care, food, grooming, and other continuing costs of care, will be included.

Eligible Attendant Care

The family determines the type of attendant care that is appropriate for the person with disabilities.

PHA Policy

Attendant care includes, but is not limited to, reasonable costs for home medical care, nursing services, in-home or center-based care services, interpreters for persons with hearing impairments, and readers for persons with visual disabilities.

Attendant care expenses will be included for the period that the person enabled to work is employed plus reasonable transportation time. The cost of general housekeeping and personal services is not an eligible attendant care expense. However, if the person enabled to work is the person with disabilities, personal services necessary to enable the person with disabilities to work are eligible.

If the care attendant also provides other services to the family, the PHA will prorate the cost and allow only that portion of the expenses attributable to attendant care that enables a family

member to work. For example, if the care provider also cares for a child who is not the person with disabilities, the cost of care must be prorated. Unless otherwise specified by the care provider, the calculation will be based upon the number of hours spent in each activity and/or the number of persons under care.

Payments to Family Members

No disability expenses may be deducted for payments to a member of a tenant family [23 CFR 5.603(b)]. However, expenses paid to a relative who is not a member of the tenant family may be deducted if they are reimbursed by an outside source.

Necessary and Reasonable Expenses

The family determines the type of care or auxiliary apparatus to be provided and must describe how the expenses enable a family member to work. The family must certify that the disability assistance expenses are necessary and are not paid or reimbursed by any other source.

PHA Policy

The PHA determines the reasonableness of the expenses based on typical costs of care or apparatus in the locality. To establish typical costs, the PHA will collect information from organizations that provide services and support to persons with disabilities. A family may present, and the PHA will consider, the family's justification for costs that exceed typical costs in the area.

Families That Qualify for Both Medical and Disability Assistance Expenses

PHA Policy

This policy applies only to families in which the head, spouse, or cohead is 62 or older or is a person with disabilities.

When expenses anticipated by a family could be defined as either medical or disability assistance expenses, the PHA will consider them medical expenses unless it is clear that the expenses are incurred exclusively to enable a person with disabilities to work.

6-II.F. CHILD CARE EXPENSE DEDUCTION

HUD defines *child care expenses* at 24 CFR 5.603(b) as "amounts anticipated to be paid by the family for the care of children under 13 years of age during the period for which annual income is computed, but only where such care is necessary to enable a family member to actively seek employment, be gainfully employed, or to further his or her education and only to the extent such amounts are not reimbursed. The amount deducted shall reflect reasonable charges for child care. In the case of child care necessary to permit employment, the amount deducted shall not exceed the amount of employment income that is included in annual income."

Clarifying the Meaning of *Child* for This Deduction

Child care expenses do not include child support payments made to another on behalf of a minor who is not living in a tenant family's household [VG, p. 26].

PHA Policy

Qualifying for the Deduction

Determining Who Is Enabled to Pursue an Eligible Activity

PHA Policy

The family must identify the family member(s) enabled to pursue an eligible activity. The term *eligible activity* in this section means any of the activities that may make the family eligible for a child care deduction (seeking work, pursuing an education, or being gainfully employed).

In evaluating the family's request, the PHA will consider factors such as how the schedule for the claimed activity relates to the hours of care provided, the time required for transportation, the

relationship of the family member(s) to the child, and any special needs of the child that might help determine which family member is enabled to pursue an eligible activity.

Seeking Work

PHA Policy

If the child care expense being claimed is to enable a family member to seek employment, the family must provide evidence of the family member's efforts to obtain employment at each reexamination. The deduction may be reduced or denied if the family member's job search efforts are not commensurate with the child care expense being allowed by the PHA.

Furthering Education

PHA Policy

If the child care expense being claimed is to enable a family member to further his or her education, the member must be enrolled in school (academic or vocational) or participating in a formal training program. The family member is not required to be a full-time student, but the time spent in educational activities must be commensurate with the child care claimed.

Being Gainfully Employed

PHA Policy

If the child care expense being claimed is to enable a family member to be gainfully employed, the family must provide evidence of the family member's employment during the time that child care is being provided. Gainful employment is any legal work activity (full- or part-time) for which a family member is compensated.

Earned Income Limit on Child Care Expense Deduction

When a family member looks for work or furthers his or her education, there is no cap on the amount that may be deducted for child care – although the care must still be necessary and reasonable. However, when child care enables a family member to work, the deduction is capped by “the amount of employment income that is included in annual income” [24 CFR 5.603(b)].

The earned income used for this purpose is the amount of earned income verified after any earned income disallowances or income exclusions are applied.

When the person who is enabled to work is a person who receives the earned income disallowance (EID) or a full-time student whose earned income above \$480 is excluded, child care costs related to enabling a family member to work may not exceed the portion of the person's earned income that actually is included in annual income. For example, if a family member who qualifies for the EID makes \$15,000 but because of the EID only \$5,000 is included in annual income, child care expenses are limited to \$5,000.

The PHA must not limit the deduction to the least expensive type of child care. If the care allows the family to pursue more than one eligible activity, including work, the cap is calculated in proportion to the amount of time spent working [HCV GB, p. 5-30].

PHA Policy

When the child care expense being claimed is to enable a family member to work, only one family member's income will be considered for a given period of time. When more than one family member works during a given period, the PHA generally will limit allowable child care expenses to the earned income of the lowest-paid member. The family may provide information that supports a request to designate another family member as the person enabled to work.

Eligible Child Care Expenses

The type of care to be provided is determined by the tenant family. The PHA may not refuse to give a family the child care expense deduction because there is an adult family member in the household that may be available to provide child care [VG, p. 26].

Allowable Child Care Activities

PHA Policy

For school-age children, costs attributable to public or private school activities during standard school hours are not considered. Expenses incurred for supervised activities after school or during school holidays (e.g., summer day camp, after-school sports league) are allowable forms of child care.

The costs of general housekeeping and personal services are not eligible. Likewise, child care expenses paid to a family member who lives in the family's unit are not eligible; however, payments for child care to relatives who do not live in the unit are eligible.

If a child care provider also renders other services to a family or child care is used to enable a family member to conduct activities that are not eligible for consideration, the PHA will prorate the costs and allow only that portion of the expenses that is attributable to child care for eligible activities. For example, if the care provider also cares for a child with disabilities who is 13 or older, the cost of care will be prorated. Unless otherwise specified by the child care provider, the calculation will be based upon the number of hours spent in each activity and/or the number of persons under care.

Necessary and Reasonable Costs

Child care expenses will be considered necessary if: (1) a family adequately explains how the care enables a family member to work, actively seek employment, or further his or her education, and (2) the family certifies, and the child care provider verifies, that the expenses are not paid or reimbursed by any other source.

PHA Policy

Child care expenses will be considered for the time required for the eligible activity plus reasonable transportation time. For child care that enables a family member to go to school, the time allowed may include not more than one study hour for each hour spent in class.

To establish the reasonableness of child care costs, the PHA will use the schedule of child care costs from the local welfare agency. Families may present, and the PHA will consider, justification for costs that exceed typical costs in the area.

6-II.G. PERMISSIVE DEDUCTIONS [24 CFR 5.611(b)(1)]

Permissive deductions are additional, optional deductions that may be applied to annual income. As with mandatory deductions, permissive deductions must be based on need or family circumstance and deductions must be designed to encourage self-sufficiency or other economic purpose. If the PHA offers permissive deductions, they must be granted to all families that qualify for them and should complement existing income exclusions and deductions [PH Occ GB, p. 128].

The *Form HUD-50058 Instruction Booklet* states that the maximum allowable amount for total permissive deductions is less than \$90,000 per year.

PHA Policy

The PHA has opted not to use permissive deductions.

PART III: CALCULATING RENT

6-III.A. OVERVIEW OF INCOME-BASED RENT CALCULATIONS

The first step in calculating income-based rent is to determine each family's total tenant payment (TTP). Then, if the family is occupying a unit that has tenant-paid utilities, the utility allowance is subtracted from the TTP. The result of this calculation, if a positive number, is the tenant rent. If the TTP is less than the utility allowance, the result of this calculation is a negative number, and is called the utility reimbursement, which may be paid to the family or directly to the utility company by the PHA.

TTP Formula [24 CFR 5.628]

HUD regulations specify the formula for calculating the total tenant payment (TTP) for a tenant family. TTP is the highest of the following amounts, rounded to the nearest dollar:

- 30 percent of the family's monthly adjusted income (adjusted income is defined in Part II)
- 10 percent of the family's monthly gross income (annual income, as defined in Part I, divided by 12)
- The welfare rent (in as-paid states only)
- A minimum rent between \$0 and \$50 that is established by the PHA

The PHA has authority to suspend and exempt families from minimum rent when a financial hardship exists, as defined in section 6-III.B.

Welfare Rent [24 CFR 5.628]

PHA Policy

Welfare rent [does/does not] apply in this locality.

Minimum Rent [24 CFR 5.630]

PHA Policy

The minimum rent for this locality is \$50.

Optional Changes to Income-Based Rents [24 CFR 960.253(c)(2) and PH, pp. 131-134]

PHAs have been given very broad flexibility to establish their own, unique rent calculation systems as long as the rent produced is not higher than that calculated using the TTP and mandatory deductions. At the discretion of the PHA, rent policies may structure a system that uses combinations of permissive deductions, escrow accounts, income-based rents, and the required flat and minimum rents.

The PHA's minimum rent and rent choice policies still apply to affected families. Utility allowances are applied to PHA designed income-based rents in the same manner as they are applied to the regulatory income-based rents.

The choices are limited only by the requirement that the method used not produce a TTP or tenant rent greater than the TTP or tenant rent produced under the regulatory formula.

PHA Policy

The PHA chooses not to adopt optional changes to income-based rents.

Ceiling Rents [24 CFR 960.253(d)]

PHAs can only have ceiling rents if ceiling rents were in effect for their PHA as of October 1, 1999, and only for those units which had ceiling rents as of that date. Ceiling rents could be assigned by property or agency-wide for units of certain bedroom sizes.

The continued use of ceiling rents is optional. PHAs with ceiling rents may discontinue them at any time after providing notice to tenants.

Ceiling rents are used to cap income-based rents. They are part of the income-based formula. If the calculated TTP exceeds the ceiling rent for the unit, the ceiling rent is used to calculate tenant rent (ceiling rent/TTP minus utility allowance). Increases in income do not affect the family since the rent is capped. The use of ceiling rents fosters upward mobility and income mixing.

Because of the mandatory use of flat rents, the primary function of ceiling rents now is to assist families who cannot switch back to flat rent between annual reexaminations and would otherwise be paying an income-based tenant rent that is higher than the flat rent.

Ceiling rents must be set to the level required for flat rents (which will require the addition of the utility allowance to the flat rent for properties with tenant-paid utilities) [PH Occ GB, p. 135].

PHA Policy

The PHA chooses not to use ceiling rents.

Utility Reimbursement [24 CFR 960.253(c)(3)]

Utility reimbursement occurs when any applicable utility allowance for tenant-paid utilities exceeds the TTP. HUD permits the PHA to pay the reimbursement to the family or directly to the utility provider.

PHA Policy

The PHA will make utility reimbursements to the family.

6-III.B. FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS AFFECTING MINIMUM RENT [24 CFR 5.630]

PHA Policy

The financial hardship rules described below do not apply in this jurisdiction because the PHA has established a minimum rent of \$50.

Overview

If the PHA establishes a minimum rent greater than zero, the PHA must grant an exemption from the minimum rent if a family is unable to pay the minimum rent because of financial hardship.

The financial hardship exemption applies only to families required to pay the minimum rent. If a family's TTP is higher than the minimum rent, the family is not eligible for a hardship exemption. If the PHA determines that a hardship exists, the TTP is the highest of the remaining components of the family's calculated TTP.

HUD-Defined Financial Hardship

Financial hardship includes the following situations:

- (1) The family has lost eligibility for or is awaiting an eligibility determination for a federal, state, or local assistance program. This includes a family member who is a noncitizen lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act who would be entitled to public benefits but for Title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996.

PHA Policy

A hardship will be considered to exist only if the loss of eligibility has an impact on the family's ability to pay the minimum rent.

For a family waiting for a determination of eligibility, the hardship period will end as of the first of the month following (1) implementation of assistance, if approved, or (2) the decision to deny assistance. A family whose request for assistance is denied may request a hardship exemption based upon one of the other allowable hardship circumstances.

- (2) The family would be evicted because it is unable to pay the minimum rent.

PHA Policy

For a family to qualify under this provision, the cause of the potential eviction must be the family's failure to pay rent or tenant-paid utilities.

- (3) Family income has decreased because of changed family circumstances, including the loss of employment.
- (4) A death has occurred in the family.

PHA Policy

In order to qualify under this provision, a family must describe how the death has created a financial hardship (e.g., because of funeral-related expenses or the loss of the family member's income).

- (5) The family has experienced other circumstances determined by the PHA.

PHA Policy

The PHA has not established any additional hardship criteria.

Implementation of Hardship Exemption

Determination of Hardship

When a family requests a financial hardship exemption, the PHA must suspend the minimum rent requirement beginning the first of the month following the family's request.

The PHA then determines whether the financial hardship exists and whether the hardship is temporary or long-term.

PHA Policy

The PHA defines temporary hardship as a hardship expected to last 90 days or less. Long term hardship is defined as a hardship expected to last more than 90 days.

The PHA may not evict the family for nonpayment of minimum rent during the 90-day period beginning the month following the family's request for a hardship exemption.

When the minimum rent is suspended, the TTP reverts to the highest of the remaining components of the calculated TTP. The example below demonstrates the effect of the minimum rent exemption.

Example: Impact of Minimum Rent Exemption			
Assume the PHA has established a minimum rent of \$35.			
TTP – No Hardship		TTP – With Hardship	
\$0	30% of monthly adjusted income	\$0	30% of monthly adjusted income
\$15	10% of monthly gross income	\$15	10% of monthly gross income
N/A	Welfare rent	N/A	Welfare rent
\$35	Minimum rent	\$35	Minimum rent
Minimum rent applies. TTP = \$35		Hardship exemption granted. TTP = \$15	

PHA Policy

To qualify for a hardship exemption, a family must submit a request for a hardship exemption in writing. The request must explain the nature of the hardship and how the hardship has affected the family's ability to pay the minimum rent.

The PHA will make the determination of hardship within 30 calendar days.

No Financial Hardship

If the PHA determines there is no financial hardship, the PHA will reinstate the minimum rent and require the family to repay the amounts suspended.

For procedures pertaining to grievance hearing requests based upon the PHA's denial of a hardship exemption, see Chapter 14, Complaints, Grievances and Appeals.

PHA Policy

The PHA will require the family to repay the suspended amount within 30 calendar days of the PHA's notice that a hardship exemption has not been granted.

Temporary Hardship

If the PHA determines that a qualifying financial hardship is temporary, the PHA must reinstate the minimum rent from the beginning of the first of the month following the date of the family's request for a hardship exemption.

The family must resume payment of the minimum rent and must repay the PHA the amounts suspended. HUD requires the PHA to offer a reasonable repayment agreement, on terms and conditions established by the PHA. The PHA also may determine that circumstances have changed and the hardship is now a long-term hardship.

For procedures pertaining to grievance hearing requests based upon the PHA's denial of a hardship exemption, see Chapter 14, Complaints, Grievances and Appeals.

PHA Policy

The PHA will enter into a repayment agreement in accordance with the PHA's repayment agreement policy.

Long-Term Hardship

If the PHA determines that the financial hardship is long-term, the PHA must exempt the family from the minimum rent requirement for so long as the hardship continues. The exemption will apply from the first of the month following the family's request until the end of the qualifying hardship. When the financial hardship has been determined to be long-term, the family is not required to repay the minimum rent.

PHA Policy

The hardship period ends when any of the following circumstances apply:

- (1) At an interim or annual reexamination, the family's calculated TTP is greater than the minimum rent.
- (2) For hardship conditions based on loss of income, the hardship condition will continue to be recognized until new sources of income are received that are at least equal to the amount lost. For example, if a hardship is approved because a family no longer receives a \$60/month child support payment, the hardship will continue to exist until the family receives at least \$60/month in income from another source or once again begins to receive the child support.
- (3) For hardship conditions based upon hardship-related expenses, the minimum rent exemption will continue to be recognized until the cumulative amount exempted is equal to the expense incurred.
- (4) Families that are determined to be eligible for "hardship" must have their continued eligibility status for such determination reviewed every 90 days.**

6-III.C. UTILITY ALLOWANCES [24 CFR 965, Subpart E]

Overview

Utility allowances are provided to families paying income-based rents when the cost of utilities is not included in the rent.

The objective of a PHA in establishing utility allowances for each dwelling unit category and unit size shall be to approximate a reasonable consumption of utilities by an energy-conservative household of modest circumstances consistent with the requirements of a safe, sanitary, and healthful living environment.

Utilities include gas, electricity, fuel for heating, water, sewerage, and solid waste disposal for a dwelling unit. In addition, if the PHA does not furnish a range and refrigerator, the family must be granted a utility allowance for the range and refrigerator they provide [PH Occ GB, p. 138].

Costs for telephone, cable/satellite TV, and Internet services are not considered utilities [PH Occ GB, p. 138].

Utility allowance amounts will vary by the rates in effect, size and type of unit, climatic location and siting of the unit, type of construction, energy efficiency of the dwelling unit, and other factors related to the physical condition of the unit. Utility allowance amounts will also vary by residential demographic characteristics affecting home energy usage [PH Occ GB, p. 138].

Chapter 14 of the *PH Occupancy Guidebook* provides detailed guidance to the PHA about establishing utility allowances.

The PHA must use the appropriate utility allowance for the dwelling unit actually leased by a family.

Air-Conditioning

"If a PHA installs air conditioning, it shall provide, to the maximum extent economically feasible, systems that give residents the option of choosing to use air conditioning in their units. The design of systems that offer each resident the option to choose air conditioning shall include retail meters or checkmeters, and residents shall pay for the energy used in its operation. For systems that offer residents the option to choose air conditioning but cannot be checkmetered, residents are to be surcharged in accordance with 965.506. If an air conditioning system does not provide for resident option, residents are not to be charged, and these systems should be avoided whenever possible." [24 CFR 965.505(e)]

PHA Policy

The PHA has installed air-conditioning in Linwood Terrace only.

Reasonable Accommodation [24 CFR 965.508]

On request from a family that includes a disabled or elderly person, the PHA must approve a utility allowance that is higher than the applicable amount for the dwelling unit if a higher utility allowance is needed as a reasonable accommodation to make the program accessible to and usable by the family [PH Occ GB, p. 172].

Residents with disabilities may not be charged for the use of certain resident-supplied appliances if there is a verified need for special equipment because of the disability [PH Occ GB, p. 172].

Utility Allowance Revisions

The PHA must review its schedule of utility allowances each year, and must revise the schedule if there has been a change of 10 percent or more from the rate on which the allowance was based.

Upon revision, the PHA must readjust the resident payment retroactive to the first day of the month following the month in which the last rate change taken into account became effective [PH Occ GB, p. 171].

6-III.D. PRORATED RENT FOR MIXED FAMILIES [24 CFR 5.520]

HUD regulations prohibit assistance to ineligible family members. A *mixed family* is one that includes at least one U.S. citizen or eligible immigrant and any number of ineligible family members. The PHA must prorate the assistance provided to a mixed family. The PHA will first determine TTP as if all family members were eligible and then prorate the rent based upon the number of family members that actually are eligible. To do this, the PHA must:

1. Subtract the TTP from a maximum rent applicable to the unit. The result is the maximum subsidy for which the family could qualify if all members were eligible.
2. Divide the family maximum subsidy by the number of persons in the family to determine the maximum subsidy per each family member who is eligible (member maximum subsidy).

3. Multiply the member maximum subsidy by the number of eligible family members.
4. Subtract the subsidy calculated in the last step from the maximum rent. This is the prorated TTP.
5. Subtract the utility allowance for the unit from the prorated TTP. This is the prorated rent for the mixed family.

6-III.E. FLAT RENTS AND FAMILY CHOICE IN RENTS [24 CFR 960.253]

Flat Rents [24 CFR 960.253(b)]

The flat rent is designed to encourage self-sufficiency and to avoid creating disincentives for continued residency by families who are attempting to become economically self-sufficient.

Flat rents for public housing units are based on the market rent charged for comparable units in the private unassisted rental market. The flat rent would be equivalent to the unsubsidized amount any property owner could charge and lease the unit promptly after preparation for occupancy.

To calculate a flat rent, PHAs must consider the following for each property:

- Location
- Quality
- Unit size
- Unit type
- Age of property
- Amenities at the property and in immediate neighborhood
- Housing services provided
- Maintenance provided by the PHA
- Utilities provided by the PHA

There is no utility allowance or reimbursement with flat rents. When the family elects to pay the flat rent, the flat rent amount quoted to the family by the PHA is the amount the family pays. Changes in family income, expenses, or composition will not affect the flat rent amount because it is outside the income-based formula.

Family Choice in Rents [24 CFR 960.253(a) and (e)]

Once each year, the PHA must offer families the choice between a flat rent and an income-based rent. The family may not be offered this choice more than once a year. The PHA must document that flat rents were offered to families under the methods used to determine flat rents for the PHA.

PHA Policy

The annual PHA offer to a family of the choice between flat and income-based rent will be conducted upon admission and upon each subsequent annual reexamination.

The PHA will require families to submit their choice of flat or income-based rent in writing and will maintain such requests in the tenant file as part of the admission or annual reexamination process.

The PHA must provide sufficient information for families to make an informed choice. This information must include the PHA's policy on switching from flat rent to income-based rent due to financial hardship and the dollar amount of the rent under each option. However, if the family chose the flat rent for the previous year the PHA is required to provide an income-based rent amount only in the year that a reexamination of income is conducted or if the family specifically requests it and submits updated income information.

For a family that chooses a flat rent, the PHA is required to conduct a reexamination of income at least once every three years.

PHA Policy

For families who choose flat rent, the PHA will conduct a reexamination of income once every three years unless the family specifically requests a reexamination of income sooner.

PHAs must conduct annual reexaminations of family composition, community service, self-sufficiency, and other criteria related to continued occupancy [24 CFR 960.257(a)].

Switching from Flat Rent to Income-Based Rent Due to Hardship [24 CFR 960.253(f)]

A family can opt to switch from flat rent to income-based rent at any time if they are unable to pay the flat rent due to financial hardship. If the PHA determines that a financial hardship exists, the PHA must immediately allow the family to switch from flat rent to the income-based rent.

PHA Policy

Upon determination by the PHA that a financial hardship exists, the PHA will allow a family to switch from flat rent to income-based rent effective the first of the month following the family's request.

Reasons for financial hardship include:

- The family has experienced a decrease in income because of changed circumstances, including loss or reduction of employment, death in the family, or reduction in or loss of earnings or other assistance
- The family has experienced an increase in expenses, because of changed circumstances, for medical costs, child care, transportation, education, or similar items
- Such other situations determined by the PHA to be appropriate

PHA Policy

The PHA considers payment of flat rent to be a financial hardship whenever the switch to income-based rent would be lower than the flat rent [PH Occ GB, p. 137].

Review of Flat Rents

The PHA must ensure that flat rents continue to mirror market rent values [24 CFR 960.253(b)].

PHA Policy

The PHA will review flat rents annually. Resulting changes, up or down, in flat rents will not affect families paying flat rent until their next annual flat rent offer, at which time the family will be given the choice of switching back to income-based rent or of remaining on flat rent at the current (most recently adjusted) flat rent for their unit [PH Occ GB, pp. 137-138].

Flat Rents and Earned Income Disallowance [A&O FAQs]

Because the EID is a function of income-based rents, a family paying flat rent cannot qualify for the EID even if a family member experiences an event that would qualify the family for the EID. If the family later chooses to pay income-based rent, they would only qualify for the EID if a new qualifying event occurred.

A family currently paying flat rent that previously qualified for the EID while paying income-based rent and is currently within their 48 month period would have the 12 cumulative months of full (100 percent) and phase-in (50 percent) exclusion continue while paying flat rent as long as the employment that is the subject of the exclusion continues, and the 48-month lifetime limit would continue uninterrupted. A family paying flat rent could therefore see a family member's 48-month lifetime limit expire while the family is paying flat rent.

Flat Rents and Mixed Families [A&O FAQs]

Mixed families electing to pay flat rent must first have a flat rent worksheet completed to see if the flat rent must be prorated. The worksheet is located in Appendix III of the *Form HUD-50058 Instruction Booklet*.

If the flat rent is greater than or equal to the public housing maximum rent, there is no proration of flat rent and the family pays the flat rent for the unit.

If the flat rent is less than the maximum rent, the worksheet will calculate a prorated flat rent. The mixed family will pay the prorated flat rent.

EXHIBIT 6-1: ANNUAL INCOME INCLUSIONS

24 CFR 5.609

(a) Annual income means all amounts, monetary or not, which:

- (1) Go to, or on behalf of, the family head or spouse (even if temporarily absent) or to any other family member; or
- (2) Are anticipated to be received from a source outside the family during the 12-month period following admission or annual reexamination effective date; and
- (3) Which are not specifically excluded in paragraph (c) of this section.
- (4) Annual income also means amounts derived (during the 12-month period) from assets to which any member of the family has access.

(b) Annual income includes, but is not limited to:

- (1) The full amount, before any payroll deductions, of wages and salaries, overtime pay, commissions, fees, tips and bonuses, and other compensation for personal services;
- (2) The net income from the operation of a business or profession. Expenditures for business expansion or amortization of capital indebtedness shall not be used as deductions in determining net income. An allowance for depreciation of assets used in a business or profession may be deducted, based on straight line depreciation, as provided in

Internal Revenue Service regulations. Any withdrawal of cash or assets from the operation of a business or profession will be included in income, except to the extent the withdrawal is reimbursement of cash or assets invested in the operation by the family;

(3) Interest, dividends, and other net income of any kind from real or personal property. Expenditures for amortization of capital indebtedness shall not be used as deductions in determining net income. An allowance for depreciation is permitted only as authorized in paragraph (b)(2) of this section. Any withdrawal of cash or assets from an investment will be included in income, except to the extent the withdrawal is reimbursement of cash or assets invested by the family. Where the family has net family assets in excess of \$5,000, annual income shall include the greater of the actual income derived from all net family assets or a percentage of the value of such assets based on the current passbook savings rate, as determined by HUD;

(4) The full amount of periodic amounts received from Social Security, annuities, insurance policies, retirement funds, pensions, disability or death benefits, and other similar types of periodic receipts, including a lump-sum amount or prospective monthly amounts for the delayed start of a periodic amount (except as provided in paragraph (c)(14) of this section);

(5) Payments in lieu of earnings, such as unemployment and disability compensation, worker's compensation and severance pay (except as provided in paragraph (c)(3) of this section);

(6) Welfare assistance payments.

(i) Welfare assistance payments made under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program are included in annual income only to the extent such payments:

(A) Qualify as assistance under the TANF program definition at 45 CFR 260.31¹; and

(B) Are not otherwise excluded under paragraph (c) of this section.

(ii) If the welfare assistance payment includes an amount specifically designated for shelter and utilities that is subject to adjustment by the welfare assistance agency in accordance with the actual cost of shelter and utilities, the amount of welfare assistance income to be included as income shall consist of:

(A) The amount of the allowance or grant exclusive of the amount specifically designated for shelter or utilities; plus

(B) The maximum amount that the welfare assistance agency could in fact allow the family for shelter and utilities. If the family's welfare assistance is ratably reduced from the standard of need by applying a percentage, the amount calculated under this paragraph shall be the amount resulting from one application of the percentage.

(7) Periodic and determinable allowances, such as alimony and child support payments, and regular contributions or gifts received from organizations or from persons not residing in the dwelling;

(8) All regular pay, special pay and allowances of a member of the Armed Forces (except as provided in paragraph (c)(7) of this section)

HHS DEFINITION OF "ASSISTANCE"

45 CFR: GENERAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

260.31 What does the term "assistance" mean?

¹ Text of 45 CFR 260.31 follows (next page).

(a)(1) The term "assistance" includes cash, payments, vouchers, and other forms of benefits designed to meet a family's ongoing basic needs (i.e., for food, clothing, shelter, utilities, household goods, personal care items, and general incidental expenses).

(2) It includes such benefits even when they are:

(i) Provided in the form of payments by a TANF agency, or other agency on its behalf, to individual recipients; and

(ii) Conditioned on participation in work experience or community service (or any other work activity under 261.30 of this chapter).

(3) Except where excluded under paragraph (b) of this section, it also includes supportive services such as transportation and child care provided to families who are not employed.

(b) [The definition of "assistance"] excludes: (1) Nonrecurrent, short-term benefits that:

(i) Are designed to deal with a specific crisis situation or episode of need;

(ii) Are not intended to meet recurrent or ongoing needs; and

(iii) Will not extend beyond four months.

(2) Work subsidies (i.e., payments to employers or third parties to help cover the costs of employee wages, benefits, supervision, and training);

(3) Supportive services such as child care and transportation provided to families who are employed;

(4) Refundable earned income tax credits;

(5) Contributions to, and distributions from, Individual Development Accounts;

(6) Services such as counseling, case management, peer support, child care information and referral, transitional services, job retention, job advancement, and other employment-related services that do not provide basic income support; and

(7) Transportation benefits provided under a Job Access or Reverse Commute project, pursuant to section 404(k) of [the Social Security] Act, to an individual who is not otherwise receiving assistance.

EXHIBIT 6-2: ANNUAL INCOME EXCLUSIONS

24 CFR 5.609

(c) Annual income does not include the following:

- (1) Income from employment of children (including foster children) under the age of 18 years;
- (2) Payments received for the care of foster children or foster adults (usually persons with disabilities, unrelated to the tenant family, who are unable to live alone);
- (3) Lump-sum additions to family assets, such as inheritances, insurance payments (including payments under health and accident insurance and worker's compensation), capital gains and settlement for personal or property losses (except as provided in paragraph (b)(5) of this section);
- (4) Amounts received by the family that are specifically for, or in reimbursement of, the cost of medical expenses for any family member;
- (5) Income of a live-in aide, as defined in Sec. 5.403;
- (6) The full amount of student financial assistance paid directly to the student or to the educational institution;
- (7) The special pay to a family member serving in the Armed Forces who is exposed to hostile fire;
- (8) (i) Amounts received under training programs funded by HUD;
- (ii) Amounts received by a person with a disability that are disregarded for a limited time for purposes of Supplemental Security Income eligibility and benefits because they are set aside for use under a Plan to Attain Self-Sufficiency (PASS);
- (iii) Amounts received by a participant in other publicly assisted programs which are specifically for or in reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses incurred (special equipment, clothing, transportation, child care, etc.) and which are made solely to allow participation in a specific program;

- (iv) Amounts received under a resident service stipend. A resident service stipend is a modest amount (not to exceed \$200 per month) received by a resident for performing a service for the PHA or owner, on a part-time basis, that enhances the quality of life in the development. Such services may include, but are not limited to, fire patrol, hall monitoring, lawn maintenance, resident initiatives coordination, and serving as a member of the PHA's governing board. No resident may receive more than one such stipend during the same period of time;
- (v) Incremental earnings and benefits resulting to any family member from participation in qualifying State or local employment training programs (including training programs not affiliated with a local government) and training of a family member as resident management staff. Amounts excluded by this provision must be received under employment training programs with clearly defined goals and objectives, and are excluded only for the period during which the family member participates in the employment training program;
- (9) Temporary, nonrecurring or sporadic income (including gifts);
- (10) Reparation payments paid by a foreign government pursuant to claims filed under the laws of that government by persons who were persecuted during the Nazi era;
- (11) Earnings in excess of \$480 for each full-time student 18 years old or older (excluding the head of household and spouse);
- (12) Adoption assistance payments in excess of \$480 per adopted child;
- (13) [Reserved]
- (14) Deferred periodic amounts from supplemental security income and social security benefits that are received in a lump sum amount or in prospective monthly amounts.
- (15) Amounts received by the family in the form of refunds or rebates under State or local law for property taxes paid on the dwelling unit;

(16) Amounts paid by a State agency to a family with a member who has a developmental disability and is living at home to offset the cost of services and equipment needed to keep the developmentally disabled family member at home; or

(17) Amounts specifically excluded by any other Federal statute from consideration as income for purposes of determining eligibility or benefits under a category of assistance programs that includes assistance under any program to which the exclusions set forth in 24 CFR 5.609(c) apply. A notice will be published in the Federal Register and distributed to PHAs and housing owners identifying the benefits that qualify for this exclusion. Updates will be published and distributed when necessary. [See the following chart for a list of benefits that qualify for this exclusion.]

Sources of Income Excluded by Federal Statute from Consideration as Income for Purposes of Determining Eligibility or Benefits
--

a) The value of the allotment provided to an eligible household under the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2017 (b));

b) Payments to Volunteers under the Domestic Volunteer Services Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 5044(g), 5058);

c) Payments received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1626(c));

d) Income derived from certain submarginal land of the United States that is held in trust for certain Indian tribes (25 U.S.C. 459e);

e) Payments or allowances made under the Department of Health and Human Services' Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (42 U.S.C. 8624(f));

f) Payments received under programs funded in whole or in part under the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1552(b)); (effective July 1, 2000, references to Job Training Partnership Act shall be deemed to refer to the corresponding provision of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2931);

g) Income derived from the disposition of funds to the Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians (Pub.L- 94-540, 90 Stat. 2503-04);

h) The first \$2000 of per capita shares received from judgment funds awarded by the Indian Claims Commission or the U. S. Claims Court, the interests of individual Indians in trust or restricted lands, including the first \$2000 per year of income received by individual Indians from funds derived from interests held in such trust or restricted lands (25 U.S.C. 1407-1408);

i) Amounts of scholarships funded under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, including awards under federal work-study program or under the Bureau of Indian Affairs student assistance programs (20 U.S.C. 1087uu);

j) Payments received from programs funded under Title V of the Older Americans Act of 1985 (42 U.S.C. 3056(f));

k) Payments received on or after January 1, 1989, from the Agent Orange Settlement Fund or any other fund established pursuant to the settlement in In Re Agent-product liability litigation, M.D.L. No. 381 (E.D.N.Y.);

l) Payments received under the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 (25 U.S.C. 1721);

m) The value of any child care provided or arranged (or any amount received as payment for such care or reimbursement for costs incurred for such care) under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858q);

n) Earned income tax credit (EITC) refund payments received on or after January 1, 1991 (26 U.S.C. 32(j));

o) Payments by the Indian Claims Commission to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakima Indian Nation or the Apache Tribe of Mescalero Reservation (Pub. L. 95-433);

p) Allowances, earnings and payments to AmeriCorps participants under the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12637(d));

q) Any allowance paid under the provisions of 38 U.S.C. 1805 to a child suffering from spina bifida who is the child of a Vietnam veteran (38 U.S.C. 1805);

r) Any amount of crime victim compensation (under the Victims of Crime Act) received through crime victim assistance (or payment or reimbursement of the cost of such assistance) as determined under the Victims of Crime Act because of the commission of a

crime against the applicant under the Victims of Crime Act (42 U.S.C. 10602); and

s) Allowances, earnings and payments to individuals participating in programs under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2931)

EXHIBIT 6-3: TREATMENT OF FAMILY ASSETS

24 CFR 5.603(b) Net Family Assets

(1) Net cash value after deducting reasonable costs that would be incurred in disposing of real property, savings, stocks, bonds, and other forms of capital investment, excluding interests in Indian trust land and excluding equity accounts in HUD homeownership programs. The value of necessary items of personal property such as furniture and automobiles shall be excluded.

(2) In cases where a trust fund has been established and the trust is not revocable by, or under the control of, any member of the family or household, the value of the trust fund will not be considered an asset so long as the fund continues to be held in trust. Any income distributed from the trust fund shall be counted when determining annual income under Sec. 5.609.

(3) In determining net family assets, PHAs or owners, as applicable, shall include the value of any business or family assets disposed of by an applicant or tenant for less than fair market value (including a disposition in trust, but not in a foreclosure or bankruptcy sale) during the two years preceding the date of application for the program or reexamination, as applicable, in excess of the consideration received therefor. In the case of a disposition as part of a separation or divorce settlement, the disposition will not be considered to be for less than fair market value if the applicant or tenant receives important consideration not measurable in dollar terms.

(4) For purposes of determining annual income under Sec. 5.609, the term "net family assets" does not include the value of a home currently being purchased with assistance under part 982, subpart M of this title. This exclusion is limited to the first 10 years after the purchase date of the home.

EXHIBIT 6-4: EARNED INCOME DISALLOWANCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

24 CFR 5.617 Self-sufficiency incentives for persons with disabilities—Disallowance of increase in annual income.

(a) Applicable programs. The disallowance of increase in annual income provided by this section is applicable only to the following programs: HOME Investment Partnerships Program (24 CFR part 92); Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (24 CFR part 574); Supportive Housing Program (24 CFR part 583); and the Housing Choice Voucher Program (24 CFR part 982).

(b) Definitions. The following definitions apply for purposes of this section.

Disallowance. Exclusion from annual income.

Previously unemployed includes a person with disabilities who has earned, in the twelve months

previous to employment, no more than would be received for 10 hours of work per week for 50 weeks at the established minimum wage.

Qualified family. A family residing in housing assisted under one of the programs listed in paragraph (a) of this section or receiving tenant-based rental assistance under one of the programs listed in paragraph (a) of this section.

(1) Whose annual income increases as a result of employment of a family member who is a person with disabilities and who was previously unemployed for one or more years prior to employment;

(2) Whose annual income increases as a result of increased earnings by a family member who is a person with disabilities during participation in any economic self-sufficiency or other job training program; or

(3) Whose annual income increases, as a result of new employment or increased earnings of a family member who is a person with disabilities, during or within six months after receiving assistance, benefits or services under any state program for temporary assistance for needy families funded under Part A of Title IV of the Social Security Act, as determined by the responsible entity in consultation with the local agencies administering temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) and Welfare-to-Work (WTW) programs. The TANF program is not limited to monthly income maintenance, but also includes such benefits and services as one-time payments, wage subsidies and transportation assistance-- provided that the total amount over a six-month period is at least \$500.

(c) Disallowance of increase in annual income—

(1) Initial twelve month exclusion. During the cumulative twelve month period beginning on the date a member who is a person with disabilities of a qualified family is first employed or the family first experiences an increase in annual income attributable to employment, the responsible entity must exclude from annual income (as defined in the regulations governing the applicable program listed in paragraph (a) of this section) of a qualified family any increase in income of the family member who is a person with disabilities as a result of employment over prior income of that family member.

(2) Second twelve month exclusion and phase-in. During the second cumulative twelve month period after the date a member who is a person with disabilities of a qualified family is first employed or the family first experiences an increase in annual income attributable to employment, the responsible entity must exclude from annual income of a qualified family fifty percent of any increase in income of such family member as a result of employment over income of that family member prior to the beginning of such employment.

(3) Maximum four year disallowance. The disallowance of increased income of an individual family member who is a person with disabilities as provided in paragraph (c)(1) or (c)(2) is limited to a lifetime 48 month period. The disallowance only applies for a maximum of twelve months for disallowance under paragraph (c)(1) and a maximum of twelve months for disallowance under paragraph (c)(2), during the 48 month period starting from the initial exclusion under paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

(d) Inapplicability to admission. The disallowance of increases in income as a result of employment of persons with disabilities under this section does not apply for purposes of admission to the program (including the determination of income eligibility or any income targeting that may be applicable).

EXHIBIT 6-5: THE EFFECT OF WELFARE BENEFIT REDUCTION

24 CFR 5.615

Public housing program and Section 8 tenant-based assistance program: How welfare benefit reduction affects family income.

(a) Applicability. This section applies to covered families who reside in public housing (part 960 of this title) or receive Section 8 tenant-based assistance (part 982 of this title).

(b) Definitions. The following definitions apply for purposes of this section:

Covered families. Families who receive welfare assistance or other public assistance benefits ("welfare benefits") from a State or other public agency ("welfare agency") under a program for which Federal, State, or local law requires that a member of the family must participate in an economic self-sufficiency program as a condition for such assistance.

Economic self-sufficiency program. See definition at Sec. 5.603.

Imputed welfare income. The amount of annual income not actually received by a family, as a result of a specified welfare benefit reduction, that is nonetheless included in the family's annual income for purposes of determining rent.

Specified welfare benefit reduction.

(1) A reduction of welfare benefits by the welfare agency, in whole or in part, for a family member, as determined by the welfare agency, because of fraud by a family member in connection with the welfare program; or because of welfare agency sanction against a family member for noncompliance with a welfare agency requirement to participate in an economic self-sufficiency program.

(2) "Specified welfare benefit reduction" does not include a reduction or termination of welfare benefits by the welfare agency:

- (i) at expiration of a lifetime or other time limit on the payment of welfare benefits;
- (ii) because a family member is not able to obtain employment, even though the family member has complied with welfare agency economic self-sufficiency or work activities requirements; or
- (iii) because a family member has not complied with other welfare agency requirements.

(c) Imputed welfare income.

(1) A family's annual income includes the amount of imputed welfare income (because of a specified welfare benefits reduction, as specified in notice to the PHA by the welfare agency), plus the total amount of other annual income as determined in accordance with Sec. 5.609.

(2) At the request of the PHA, the welfare agency will inform the PHA in writing of the amount and term of any specified welfare benefit reduction for a family member, and the reason for such reduction, and will also inform the PHA of any subsequent changes in the term or amount of such specified welfare benefit reduction. The PHA will use this information to determine the amount of imputed welfare income for a family.

(3) A family's annual income includes imputed welfare income in family annual income, as determined at the PHA's interim or regular reexamination of family income and composition, during the term of the welfare benefits reduction (as specified in information provided to the PHA by the welfare agency).

(4) The amount of the imputed welfare income is offset by the amount of additional income a family receives that commences after the time the sanction was imposed. When such additional income from other sources is at least equal to the imputed

(5) The PHA may not include imputed welfare income in annual income if the family was not an assisted resident at the time of sanction.

(d) Review of PHA decision.

(1) Public housing. If a public housing tenant claims that the PHA has not correctly calculated the amount of imputed welfare income in accordance with HUD requirements, and if the PHA denies the family's request to modify such amount, the PHA shall give the tenant written notice of such denial, with a brief explanation of the basis for the PHA determination of the amount of imputed welfare income. The PHA notice shall also state that if the tenant does not agree with the PHA determination, the tenant may request a grievance hearing in accordance with part 966, subpart B of this title to review the PHA determination. The tenant is not required to pay an escrow deposit pursuant to Sec. 966.55(e) for the portion of tenant rent attributable to the imputed

welfare income in order to obtain a grievance hearing on the PHA determination.

(2) Section 8 participant. A participant in the Section 8 tenant-based assistance program may request an informal hearing, in accordance with Sec. 982.555 of this title, to review the PHA determination of the amount of imputed welfare income that must be included in the family's annual income in accordance with this section. If the family claims that such amount is not correctly calculated in accordance with HUD requirements, and if the PHA denies the family's request to modify such amount, the PHA shall give the family written notice of such denial, with a brief explanation of the basis for the PHA determination of the amount of imputed welfare income. Such notice shall also state that if the family does not agree with the PHA determination, the family may request an informal hearing on the determination under the PHA hearing procedure.

(e) PHA relation with welfare agency.

(1) The PHA must ask welfare agencies to inform the PHA of any specified welfare benefits reduction for a family member, the reason for such reduction, the term of any such reduction, and any subsequent welfare agency determination affecting the amount or term of a specified welfare benefits

reduction. If the welfare agency determines a specified welfare benefits reduction for a family member, and gives the PHA written notice of such reduction, the family's annual incomes shall include the imputed welfare income because of the specified welfare benefits reduction.

(2) The PHA is responsible for determining the amount of imputed welfare income that is included in the family's annual income as a result of a specified welfare benefits reduction as determined by the welfare agency, and specified in the notice by the welfare agency to the PHA. However, the PHA is not responsible for determining whether a reduction of welfare benefits by the welfare agency was correctly determined by the welfare agency in accordance with welfare program requirements and procedures, nor for providing the opportunity for review or hearing on such welfare agency determinations.

(3) Such welfare agency determinations are the responsibility of the welfare agency, and the family may seek appeal of such determinations through the welfare agency's normal due process procedures. The PHA shall be entitled to rely on the welfare agency notice to the PHA of the welfare agency's determination of a specified welfare benefits reduction.

2005 Demolition and Disposition – No Activity

Section 8 Homeownership Capacity Statement

The Gastonia Housing Authority has completed its Section 8 Homeownership Program documents in partnership with the City of Gastonia Community Development Department, Fannie Mae North Carolina Partnership Office and Wachovia Bank. The plan envisions a two-mortgage model whereby Wachovia will make first mortgage loans and the City of Gastonia will make subordinated second mortgage loans to qualified applicants (currently receiving a Section 8 HCV). FNMA has agreed to purchase the loans originated by Wachovia and other banks.

There have been three GHA staff members that have received their certification as Homeownership Counselors and the Authority has successfully placed three Section 8 participants as homeowners during the past year.

The Executive Director served on a Section 8 Homeownership Task Force comprised of representatives from HUD, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, North Carolina Housing Finance Agency, NC Division of Community Assistance, city and county representatives, lenders, public housing authorities, etc. A consultant was hired to prepare a report based on the input and outcome of this task force. The result was the report Section 8 Homeownership Program, A Model for North Carolina Communities. The Gastonia Housing Authority has used this report in conjunction with City of Gastonia program information, Wachovia criteria and FNMA underwriting criteria in establishing its Section 8 Homeownership Program.

The Executive Director has completed the professional certification program from the National Development Council (NDC) Housing Development Finance Program. This certification program focused on the financing of affordable housing projects in real communities. The three-part series consisted of HD-410, Single Family Home Ownership Finance, HD-420, Multi-family Housing Development Finance and HD-430, Housing Development Finance, Problem Solving and Deal Structuring. The Executive Director will pursue the National Development Council (NDC) Housing Economic Development Program in 2003.

The Executive Director has participated in meetings with Wachovia and FNMA that have defined lender and servicer commitments that will utilize the FNMA MyCommunityMortgage pilot program underwriting criteria.

As part of this program, the Gastonia Housing Authority Section 8 Homeownership Program will require a minimum contribution of 1 percent or \$500, whichever is less from the borrower's own funds. Fannie Mae underwriting criteria will be used to qualify the borrower based on housing expenses to income, monthly income to expenses and creditworthiness. Fannie Mae uses the ratio of 41 percent for both housing expenses to income and monthly income to expenses.

The issue of mortgage models was addressed in the Task Force. Two models were developed, the one-mortgage model and the two-mortgage model. The Gastonia Housing Authority and FNMA have discussed these models in detail and believe that a small number of loans can be made using the two-mortgage model assuming a subordinated second mortgage from the City of Gastonia. This second mortgage would be a low interest loan that can be repaid from the Housing Assistance Payment.

The Executive Director has developed the Administrative Plan revision for the program. This Plan is currently in review by both FNMA and Wachovia Bank. It is expected that the program will be introduced during May or June of 2003.

The Gastonia Housing Authority has held many discussions and meetings with the City of Gastonia's Community Development Division regarding housing counseling, finance and first time homebuyer down payment assistance. Gastonia Housing Authority will use the city's existing homeownership counseling program for its Section 8 Homeownership Program.

The Section 8 and Community Services staff will attend HUD-sponsored Section 8 Homeownership training when it is offered. If not offered before the program is established, staff will attend training from a national training provider.

The Gastonia Housing Authority will apply for funding of a Section 8 FSS Coordinator through the fiscal year 2002 SuperNOFA. A FSS Program for public housing has been active for the past year and a Section 8 FSS program has been established. The Section 8 FSS Coordinator will assume responsibilities for this program.

Given the above activities, the Gastonia Housing Authority is fully capable of developing and administering a Section 8 Homeownership Program.

EVALUATION OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PHA PLAN 2005

PUBLIC HOUSING

Reduce Public Housing Vacancies

The Gastonia Housing Authority had set a goal of attaining and maintaining a minimum occupancy rate of 96% and through an aggressive approach to eliminating the presence of illegal drugs and strict, equitable enforcement of lease provisions we continue to maintain a 96% occupancy rate.

Increase Customer Satisfaction

The continued emphasis to provide high quality maintenance, responsive management, ancillary resident services and equitable lease enforcement has given us confidence that we are meeting the mandate of the Board of Commissioners to insure our residents are satisfied. New HVAC systems has been installed in our senior citizen units this past Summer and the GHA is a member of a consortium of NC Housing Authorities that has created a Capital Fund Bond Pool to further address tenant needs.

Concentrate On Efforts to Improve Specific Management Functions

The GHA tradition, established by the Executive Director, of insuring that all staff members receive job related training to continuously enhance performance and stay abreast of changes in regulations, continues. The GHA has replaced its operating software in an effort to improve financial reporting, management analysis, and overall program efficiency.

Deconcentration/ Income Mixing

The GHA has completed its review of residents housed during the past year and has determined that, based upon the AMI, we continue to exceed the goals for housing Extremely Low Income families on an Authority wide basis. This conclusion is based upon a study of the AMI for the City of Gastonia, NC.

Implementing of Public Housing Security Improvements

As was reported last year, the GHA continues to focus upon enhancing resident security and reducing crime. The GHA continues its close collaboration with the City of Gastonia Police Department through the Weed and Seed Program administered by GHA. In addition, we have continued the practice of using off duty police officers to patrol all of our public housing sites.

Section 504 Compliance

The GHA has had a comprehensive 504 Compliance Review and Policy Update performed by a qualified consulting firm and we have retained the services of an A&E firm to prepare plans and specifications to bring us into compliance. It is our plan to incrementally implement improvements as funds permit so that we will also be able to maintain the physical plant with limited resources.

Section 8

Improvement of Section 8 Management

The Section 8 Lease-Up Rate is at 100% and all inspections have been completed in a timely manner.

The GHA 2004 SEMAP score is 8%.

Increase Customer Satisfaction

The GHA conducted an extensive survey of landlords to gauge its performance and the results showed overwhelmingly that, in their opinion, in all respects the Authority is doing an excellent job.

Efforts to Increase Assisted Housing Choices

The GHA continues to seek to increase its landlord base thereby increasing available housing options for our clients.

Promotion of Self-Sufficiency

The FSS Program Coordinator continuously works with FSS participants insuring that they have access to training opportunities and job preparedness skills. The Section 8 Program also has a homeownership program that has enabled three Section 8 clients to become homeowners in the past year.

FINANCE

Annual Independent Audit

The Independent Audit has been conducted and we are awaiting the formal report from the Audit Firm. By all initial indications the GHA does not anticipate any formal findings and will receive an unqualified opinion.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The GHA Community Services Dept. has continued its very successful programming and has, in addition to the Weed and Seed Program that has been identified as one of the top three such programs in the Country, has had its ROSS Grants renewed. The increased collaboration with a variety of community resources has greatly enhanced program performance.

MAINTENANCE

The GHA Maintenance Dept. continues to perform exceptionally well in spite of budget cuts resulting from subsidy reductions however it continues to be more difficult to maintain the standard of excellence that is its history.

RESIDENT MEMBERSHIP ON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ms. Phyllis R. Murriel, a resident of the Gastonia Housing Authority, is a member of the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Murriel was appointed by the Mayor of Gastonia on March 4, 2002 and her appointment expires on June 30, 2007.

SECTION-8					
NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP	PHONE NUMBER
VIRGINIA LEE	410 S. WELDON ST	GASTONIA	NC	28052	704-852-4398
MIKE WITHERS	914 H. DAVIS AVE	GASTONIA	NC	28052	704-864-8195
JANET GORDON	550 S. BOYD ST.	GASTONIA	NC	28052	704-862-0161
LILLIE GRAY	216 WELCH AVE., APT A	GASTONIA	NC	28052	704-867-3305
SERLINA MCLAUGHLIN	1802 ALPINE DR	KINGS MTN	NC	28086	704-730-9692

**PHA PLAN
RESIDENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

April 15, 2005

ATTENDANCE LIST

Perdencia Barrow	1320 Baugh St.
Gladys Burris	1537 Conrad Ave.
Mildred Barrett	1561 Conrad Ave.
Mary Mc Creight	City of Gastonia
Michael J. Raymond	Gastonia Housing Authority
Della Robinson	“ “ “
Renee Dockery	“ “ “
Rachel Patterson	“ “ “
Renee Blackmore	“ “ “
Sam Murphy	“ “ “

RESIDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
2005 PHA PLAN REVIEW
and
CITY OF GASTONIA CONSOLIDATED PLAN REVIEW

10:00 a.m., Friday, April 15, 2005
@ Linwood Terrace Community Room

AGENDA

- A. Presentation of City of Gastonia Consolidated Plan
- B. Presentation of GHA Annual Plan
 - 1. Introduction of Staff
 - 2. Distribution of PHA Plan
 - 3. Explanation of Process
 - 4. Explanation of Proposed Changes in Plan and the Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy
 - 5. Question and Answer Period.
 - 6. Comment Period Dates
 - 7. Adjournment

PHA PLAN

RESIDENT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

April 15, 2005

MINUTES

Meeting began at 10:05 a.m.

Michael J. Raymond, Assist. Exec. Dir. went over the content of the PHA Plan for 2005 with those in attendance describing the content and asking residents for their input and questions that they may have regarding any aspect of the Plan.

Mildred Barrett of 1561 Conrad Ave. commented that the current Laundry Facilities at Linwood Terrace are insufficient to meet the resident needs. It is too small and there are not enough washers or driers.

Mr. Raymond indicated that the GHA was aware of the problem and that we have tentative plans to enlarge the space by relocation of machines into an area that is currently being used by the Maintenance Dept. in an adjacent building and also to add more machines.

There being no other comments regarding the Housing Authority Plan the meeting was turned over to Mary McCreight of the City of Gastonia who then presented the City's Consolidated Plan to the residents.

Meeting ended at 10:50 a.m.

GASTONIA HOUSING AUTHORITY
Resident Survey Follow-Up Plan
FY2005

The Gastonia Housing Authority (GHA) has developed the following RASS Follow-Up Plan in response to the results of the Resident Assessment Survey for the Assessment Year 2004.

COMMUNICATION – Score 73.9%

1. Do you think management provides you information about: maintenance and repair (for example, water shut-off, boiler shut-down, modernization activities)?

GHA Response: The GHA does, without exception, notify residents that will be affected by necessary utility shut-downs and any maintenance/modernization activities that may affect them and we will continue to do so.

2. Do you think that management is responsive to your questions and concerns?

GHA Response: The GHA staff remains available to answer and questions that residents may have. We have even reverted to decentralizing Property Managers and positioned them “on-site” so that they are more readily accessible to residents. The GHA newsletter continues to evolve and with each issue provides more information.

3. Do you think that management is supportive of your resident/tenant organization?

GHA Response: The GHA does support and encourage the Resident Associations and we will continue to do so. GHA management staff is always available to meet with any of the Resident Organizations at their request.

NEIGHBORHOOD APPEARANCE – Score 72.9%

1. How satisfied are you with the upkeep of the following areas in your property: parking areas?

GHA Response: The GHA as a routine preventive maintenance practice has repaired sealed and striped parking areas and continuously “police” and remove trash from them.

2. How satisfied are you with the upkeep of the following areas in your property: recreation areas (for example, playgrounds and other outside facilities)?

GHA Response: The GHA endeavors to make every possible effort to maintain all of our outside facilities in a debris free status for the safety and well-being of our residents and will continue to do so. We assign an employee to do nothing but spend eight hours each day “policing” all of the GHA properties and will continue this practice for the benefit of the residents.

3. How often, if at all, are any of the following a problem in your property: broken glass?

GHA Response: The response to this question is the same as the response to number 2 above. The GHA is committed to providing a safe environment for our residents.

4. How often, if at all, are any of the following a problem in your property: noise?

GHA Response: Complaints from residents regarding excessive noise during work hours are responded to at once by site management. For those times, other than the normal work day, when staff is not available we are in the process of re-implementing the services of off-duty police officers to patrol all of our sites which will aide in reducing any excessive noise problems.

5. How often, if at all, are any of the following a problem in your property: rodents and insects?

GHA Response: The GHA is extremely diligent in its attention to rodent and insect control and has its pest contractors respond immediately to any complaint by a resident of infestation. This response is in addition to our routine preventive maintenance baiting and treatment of all units. We will continue to monitor the matter and if it is determined that additional treatments are necessary we will respond.

6. How often, if at all, are any of the following a problem in your property: trash/litter?

GHA Response: Please refer to number 2 above.

Gastonia Housing Authority
Section 8 Project-Based Assistance
Attachment to FY-2005 PHA Plan

The Gastonia Housing Authority (GHA) received an application for, and provided Section 8 PBA to the owners of the Dallas, (NC) High School Senior Citizens Apartments in accordance with 24 CFR 983.

GHA's current Housing Choice Voucher baseline is 1155 units and we have provided 33 Project-Based Vouchers to the Dallas High School project.

On December 4, 2001, GHA submitted its Policy and Procedure for Section 8 Project-Based Assistance (PBA). The GHA Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution on September 17, 2001 approving the PBA Selection Policy. HUD approved the policies and procedures in a letter to GHA dated January 16, 2002. The letter stipulated several conditions that GHA will meet in providing future PBA.

In accordance with HUD requirements for deconcentration, GHA will only execute HAP contracts for PBA units in census tracts with poverty rates of less than 20 percent unless specifically approved by HUD. This description complies with the location requirements to be "general" in nature. The GHA will consider both PBA or TBA assistance request from developers and will make the approval determination based upon the requirements of the program under which the development is being initiated as well as the parameters within which the GHA must operate.

In all cases, a competitive selection process will be used to provide PBA. This will consist of:

1. Advertising in a local newspaper of general circulation once a week for three consecutive weeks.
2. The advertisement will contain general information, rating criteria and the selection policies and procedures.
3. Number of units to be assisted will be specified.
4. Application deadline will be at least 30 days after the last ad is published.
5. Only applications received in response to the ad will be considered.

PBA is consistent with this PHA Plan in several regards:

1. GHA has entered into a contract to provide PBA for Dallas High School Apartments. This is an elderly property situated in a desirable area of Dallas, NC. This project meets two objectives of this plan: assisted housing for elderly and deconcentration.
2. GHA will partner with for-profit and not-for-profit developers when possible to provide PBA for tax credit developments. These developments will be developed based on market studies that reflect affordable housing needs in Gaston County. In all cases, the City of Gastonia's Consolidated Plan will be consulted when providing PBA to tax credit properties. This will meet the objectives of this plan by meeting affordable housing needs and, by the very nature of tax credit requirements, will expand housing opportunities and contribute to deconcentration.

3. GHA will also seek to provide PBA for special needs populations such as elderly and disabled. Both have been identified as having significant housing needs in this community. This will meet the objectives of this plan by expanding housing opportunities to a special class of low-income families.