

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REAUTHORIZATION
ACT OF 2005
(VAWA)**

The Town of Saugerties PHA (NY529) goals, objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are as follows:

The Town of Saugerties Public Housing Agency has taken steps to inform Housing Choice Voucher participants, families and owners about this Act and how it effects their participation in the HCV program through our annual recertification interviews and initial interviews.

Any activities, services or programs are in partnership with the Ulster County Department of Social Services in Kingston New York, (Ulster County). When an incident occurs that is reported to the Town of Saugerties PHA they will in turn make phone calls to Adult Protective Services and/or Child Protective Services with permission of said family, in reference to the said family. If the non violent person is on the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program, we will work to protect this client to

the fullest and work with them to see that they are not evicted from their unit.

1. Notify all Section 8 tenants of their specific rights under VAWA, to include their right to confidentiality and the limits thereof under Section 06 of the Act.
2. Update the HAP Contract through our programmer Happy Software, to include VAWA provisions.
3. Provide essential information on specific rights under VAWA in the interview packet given to all new tenants of Section 8.
4. Notify owners of Section 8 rental units, when applicable, of their specific rights and obligations under Section 606 of the Act.
5. Section 8 selection / admission will not be denied based on an applicant being a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking if they are otherwise qualified as an applicant.
6. Provide a waiting list preference to victims of domestic violence, dating violence or staking.
7. The Town of Saugerties PHA will request that an individual certify via a HUD-approved certification form that the individual is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, and the incident or incidents in question are bona fide incidents of such actual or threatened abuse.

8. Information provided by the victim pursuant to the certification shall be retained in confidence and not

entered into any shared database nor provided to any related entity except when the disclosure is: consented to by the individual in writing, required for use in eviction proceedings or otherwise required by law.