



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

First Name Last Name
Address
City, State Zip

Dear First Name Last Name:

HUD has identified you as being potentially eligible to receive tenant-based rental assistance through the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program, also known as Section 8.

On June 24, 2009, Congress enacted a special appropriation of HCV program funding. The funding was provided for PHAs in the areas impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita—Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Alabama and Florida—and that agreed to establish a local preference (Katrina/Rita preference) for admission to the HCV program for families displaced by the storms. This preference will provide displaced families who may still need a permanent housing solution an opportunity to apply for the HCV program. For your convenience, HUD has enclosed a list of PHAs that have received this funding and who have established the Katrina/Rita preference. This listing, as well as other information regarding these special vouchers, can also be found on HUD's website, www.hud.gov/offices/pih/publications.dvp.cfm.

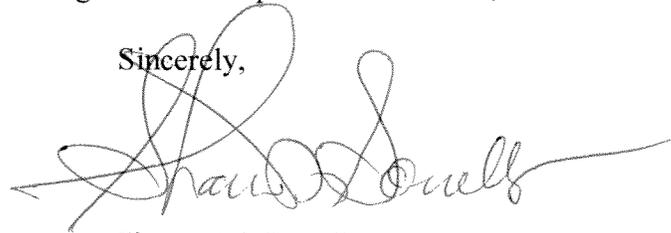
To be considered for this preference, families must meet the income and other eligibility requirements for the HCV program and have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina or Rita. Families receiving temporary rental assistance through the Disaster Voucher Program (DVP) or Disaster Housing Assistance Program (DHAP) are eligible for the preference because they were displaced by the storms. Families must still meet all HCV program income and eligibility requirements. If you wish to return home, you may contact any PHA on the list to apply for a voucher and be placed on the PHA's waiting list. However, if you wish to remain in your area, please notify your current PHA so it may work with one of the PHAs on the list to obtain a voucher on your behalf.

The Housing Choice Voucher Program

The HCV program is HUD's principal housing assistance program that makes it possible for low-income families to obtain decent, safe and sanitary affordable housing in the private market including single-family homes, townhouses and apartments. A family that is issued a voucher is responsible for locating suitable housing where the owner agrees to rent under the program, which may include the family's current residence. The HCV program is administered locally by PHAs that receive federal funding from HUD to assist families in need of housing assistance. Under the HCV program, a PHA establishes a waiting list for prospective participants. As housing vouchers become available, the PHA processes applicants in accordance with its admissions policies in the PHA's HCV Administrative Plan and HUD regulations 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 982.201 and 982.202. A PHA may give preference to certain applicants in accordance with its admission policies based on local housing needs and priorities. For example, PHAs sometimes establish preferences for applicants who are homeless, live or work in their jurisdiction, or who have been involuntarily displaced. Applicants who qualify for any preference may move ahead of other applicants on the PHA's waiting list. Additional information about the HCV program can be found at http://www.hud.gov/offices/pih/programs/hcv/about/fact_sheet.cfm.

If you have questions about the HCV program, you may contact your current PHA or Tressa Sidney, Housing Voucher Management and Operations Division, at 202-708-0477.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shauna M. Sorrells", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Shauna M. Sorrells
Deputy Director
Disaster Housing Assistance Programs

Enclosure