PIC Essentials for PHA Employees

Your Fundamental Responsibilities in the Public and Indian Housing Information Center (PIC)

October 2003
Perform the Vital Tasks

It is important to perform the PIC tasks that affect your PHA the most. Below is a list of tasks ranked in the recommended order of importance.

1) Maintain contact information in the **Housing Authority Submodule** (see next slide).
2) Update unit and building data in the **Development Submodule**.
3) Submit Form-50058 tenant data into HUD’s database from the **Submission Submodule**.
4) Submit certifications in the **Section 8 Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) Submodule**.
5) Complete, submit applications, and report completion in the **Demolition/Disposition (Demo/Dispo) Submodule** if applicable.
6) Submit PHDEP reports in the **Drug Elimination Reporting (DERS) Submodule**.

1. By performing the tasks outlined on here, your PHA will operate more smoothly and effectively. By not performing these tasks, you can encounter problems and confusion, causing issues with management and loss of time.
2. By prioritizing PIC tasks this way, you can maximize the effectiveness of the time you spend at the site.
Concentrate on Communication

- Update the Housing Authority Submodule\(^1\) consistently because it contains all of your PHA’s pertinent contact information.

- Be sure to input the following PHA information\(^2\) into the submodule and keep it consistently updated:
  - HA physical and mailing addresses
  - HA e-mail addresses
  - HA contact roles and their physical, mailing, and e-mail addresses
  - Phone and fax numbers for all

- Ask a PIC Coach for assistance if you do not know how to input or update this data (see slide 6).

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1. Check this submodule consistently because the information in it can change at a rapid pace.
2. Maintain this data accurately to ensure timely communication to and from the Office of Public and Indian Housing both at the local Field Office and Headquarters.
Ensure Data Accuracy

Data accuracy is necessary because:

- PIC is the **PRIMARY** information system for the Public Housing and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher programs.
- Information presented in PIC submodules directly impacts HUD's funding and fiscal planning decisions.
- Contact information in PIC is regularly used by the Office of Public and Indian Housing and the Real Estate Assessment Center for important communications.

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1. Examples of funding and fiscal planning decisions:

- Submitting **Form-50058** files on time and correctly contributes to favorable PHAS and SEMAP scores.
- Performing and submitting regular reports in the **Development, Drug Elimination Reporting**, and **Housing Authority Submodules** improves the likelihood of subsidies being awarded to the PHA on time.
- Applying for demolition or disposition applications in the **Demo/Dispo Submodule** enables HUD to give a prompt response (if applicable).
- Completing and submitting certifications in the **SEMAP Submodule** is a crucial part of the SEMAP program.
Get to the Source

Several PIC submodules draw information from other sources\(^1\). By correcting mistakes at these sources, you can:

- Save yourself from having to backtrack later and fix the problem.
- Learn where common mistakes are being made and prevent them in the future.
- Prevent one mistake from causing problems in multiple areas.

1. Examples of other sources:
   - Funding information in PIC is drawn from the Line of Credit Control System (LOCCS), and the HUD Central Accounting and Program System (HUDCAPS).
   - Tenant information is drawn from Form-50058 submissions.
   - HA information is drawn from the Housing Authority Submodule.
   - Building and unit information is drawn from the Development Submodule.
Contact Your PIC Coach for Help

PIC Coaches can help you perform all PIC-related tasks. Their roles include:

- Teaching\(^1\) you to perform all the site functions.
  - submitting files
  - maintaining contact information
  - correcting errors
- Monitoring and promoting\(^2\) PIC use.
- Answering questions\(^3\) concerning outages and updates.

1. PIC Coaches can teach how to use the Web site. They do not input data for you.
2. PIC Coaches have access to users’ log-on records so they know how frequently you are visiting the site.
3. PIC Coaches can share your feedback with developers so the site can be improved. If you have a question and your PIC Coach is unavailable, you can get an answer by calling PICHelp at 1-800-366-6827 or by sending an e-mail to pichelp@hud.gov. PICHelp staff forward any questions they cannot answer to HUD senior management and PIC developers. They also track the questions through closure to assure an adequate answer is provided.