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## Smoke-Free Affordable Housing Meeting

Before this year’s National Conference on Tobacco or Health, being held in Kansas City, August 15-17 (<http://www.tobaccocontrolconference.org/>), the American Lung Association is hosting a one-day ancillary meeting on August 14th smoke-free multi-unit housing, with an emphasis on affordable housing. HUD’s Offices of Public Housing Programs and Healthy Homes, and the Center for Disease Control’s Office on Smoking and Health will participate.

The meeting on August 14th will provide PHAs with information on approaches to curtailing tobacco use in multi-unit housing that have proven successful. The meeting will also offer opportunities to exchange experiences and lessons, learn about helpful resources, and network with peers.

The meeting on August 14th is free, and PHAs don’t need to be attending the National Conference on Tobacco or Health to attend. Registration and a preliminary agenda is available at the following link: <http://1.usa.gov/IB6zTW>.

Note: HUD has recently updated its non-smoking policy guidance to PHAs in [Notice PIH 2012-25](#) and posted a [Smoke-free Toolkit](#) to guide property owners and PHAs who want to create healthier homes for residents.

## HUD’s Survey on PHAs’ Engagement with Homeless Households

*Please complete HUD’s survey on PHAs’ Engagement with Homeless Households.* The week of June 18th HUD launched a web-based survey of all public housing agencies (PHAs) nation-wide. This survey supports research that will explore and document how PHAs currently serve and interact with homeless households, to achieve the following:

- Establish a baseline level of PHAs’ current commitment in serving homeless households;
- Document the policies of PHAs that have an explicit preference for homeless households;
- Explore PHA perceived roadblocks to increasing the number of homeless households served or targeting homeless households for priority housing assistance; and
- Identify methods to address or eliminate barriers to serving homeless households in mainstream housing assistance, with a focus on the housing choice voucher (HCV) program and public housing.

Findings of this study will allow HUD to develop strategies to expand mainstream housing opportunities for homeless households that are based in evidence and informed by the PHAs themselves. **HUD wants your input!** Each housing authority has received an e-mail from Abt Associates Inc. that provides the PHA with a unique link to the web-based survey. It is important that all PHAs complete and submit the survey. It is estimated that the survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Questions about the survey can be directed to [PHASURVEY@srbi.com](mailto:PHASURVEY@srbi.com).



# Assistant Secretary Henriquez Requests Best Practices from PHAs on Homeless Household Engagement

Dear Executive Director:



We are writing to let you know about an important research project the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is undertaking and to enlist your support and assistance.

HUD is interested in learning how public housing agencies (PHAs) engage with homeless households. While we have some information about innovative and interesting practices of PHAs in assisting homeless households, we do not have a comprehensive picture. In order to understand this topic better and educate others about these PHA practices, HUD is conducting a census of PHAs to explore and document how PHAs currently serve and interact with homeless households to achieve the following: (1) establish a baseline level of PHAs' current engagement in serving homeless households, and (2) document the practices of PHAs that have an explicit preference for homeless households, with a focus on the housing choice voucher (HCV) program and public housing. Findings of this study will enable HUD to develop strategies to expand access to mainstream housing opportunities for homeless households that are rooted in evidence and informed by PHAs themselves.

A central feature of the information gathering for this study will be a census survey sent to all PHAs and other entities that administer housing choice vouchers and/or public housing. In order to be as sensitive as possible to respondents' workload burden, the survey will be in a web-based format, and completion is expected to take approximately twenty minutes. Questions on the census survey will focus primarily on the preferences the PHA uses in placement of applicant households from the waiting list, and on whether the PHA administers set-asides or other programs targeted to homeless households.

You will soon receive an email from our subcontractor partner conducting the survey, Abt Associates Inc., providing you with a link to a web-based survey form. If someone else within your agency should be the respondent please forward the link on to that person. You may find that several staff within your agency will need to contribute to the responses, based on the range of programs covered. The email will also contain a toll free number and email address for you to send any questions or concerns about the survey.

We ask for your assistance in completing this survey and providing the information requested. With your help, we will have better information about the practices of PHAs around the country that are serving homeless households. We plan to share this information with all PHAs, as well as to feature innovative and interesting practices.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

**Sandra B. Henriquez**  
Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing

## Big Changes Coming to the PIH Newsletters

*Public Housing Management*, *The Resident*, and *EcoWise* newsletters are going quarterly! This will be the last issue of this newsletter until the fall. When *Public Housing Management* returns, it will have a new look and a new format. One thing that will remain the same is HUD's commitment to bringing you the most relevant information on management in Public Housing. You can get in touch with HUD's newsletter team by writing [TheResident@HUD.gov](mailto:TheResident@HUD.gov). Please contact us with questions comments or story ideas. For now, happy reading and see you in the fall.



## PIH Notices

**PIH 2012-27, “Calendar Year 2012 \$20 Million Set-Aside for Financial Hardship due to Public Housing Operating Subsidy Allocation Adjustment”** issued June 8, 2012. This notice provides public housing agencies (PHAs) with information on the \$20 million set-aside pursuant to HUD’s Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 Appropriations, Public Law 112-55, to assist PHAs who encounter financial hardship as a direct result of the subsidy allocation adjustment applied to the Calendar Year (CY) 2012 operating subsidy calculations (the “set-aside”). Specifically, the Notice addresses eligibility for the set-aside, and the criteria HUD will use in awarding assistance.

**PIH 2012-26, “Extension: Administrative Guidance for Effective and Mandated Use of the Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) System”** issued June 1, 2012. This notice extends notice PIH-2010-19(HA), which was extended under notice PIH-2011-25, same subject, for another year until May 31, 2013. This notice provides PHAs with administrative guidance related to the mandated use of HUD’s EIV system, as required in accordance with the new HUD regulation, 24 CFR §5.233, as issued in the Final Rule: Refinement of Income and Rent Determinations in Public and Assisted Housing Programs: Implementation of the Enterprise Income Verification System-Amendments, effective January 31, 2010, as published in the Federal Register (FR) at 74 FR 68924, on December 29, 2009.

**PIH 2012-25, “Non-Smoking Policies in Public Housing”** issued May 29, 2012. This notice is a reissuance of PIH Notice 2009-21 which strongly encourages PHAs to implement smoke-free policies in some or all of their public housing units. According to the American Lung Association, cigarette smoking is the number one cause of preventable disease in the United States. The elderly and young populations, as well as people with chronic illnesses, are especially vulnerable to the adverse effects of smoking. This concern was addressed by the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, P.L. 111-31, signed by the President on June 22, 2009. It is possible for Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) to migrate between units in multifamily housing, causing respiratory illness, heart disease, cancer, and other adverse health effects for those living in neighboring residences. Therefore the Department is encouraging PHAs to adopt smoke-free policies. By reducing the public health risks associated with tobacco use, this notice will enhance the effectiveness of the Department’s efforts to provide increased public health protection for residents of public housing. The Department is currently developing additional guidance to assist PHAs with the consideration and adoption of smoke-free policies.

**PIH 2012-21, “Supplemental Information to Application for Assistance Regarding Identification of Family Member, Friend or Other Persons or Organization Supportive of a Tenant for Occupancy in HUD Assisted Housing”** issued May 9, 2012. This Notice reinstates and extends the 2009 joint Notice issued by the Office of Housing (H) and the Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH), identified as H 2009-13 or PIH 2009-36. That HUD Notice was issued to provide guidance to owners and management agents (O/As) and PHAs on the implementation of the requirements of Section 644 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Section 644). Under Section 644, O/As and PHAs must provide applicants as part of their application for housing, the option to include information on an individual or organization that may be contacted to assist in providing any delivery of services or special care to applicants who become tenants and to assist with resolving any tenancy issues arising during tenancy.

HUD’s PIH Notices can be viewed online at: <http://1.usa.gov/uBAGLE>.

### Contact us:

Public and Indian Housing Information  
Resource Center (PIH IRC)  
2614 Chapel Lake Drive  
Gambrills, MD 21054  
Toll free number: 1-800-955-2232  
Fax number: 1-443-302-2084  
E-mail: [pihirc@firstpic.org](mailto:pihirc@firstpic.org)  
(Put “HUD PHM Newsletter” in the subject line)

### Upcoming Conference

**Energy Performance Contracting:  
Use Performance Contracting to Green  
Your Housing Authority**

August 6 – 11, 2012

Chicago, IL

For more information regarding course registration, course agenda, or lodging, please visit:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/wcqp3p/1Q>.

