



## **Fact Sheet: HUD to Administer Rental Housing Assistance for Residents Affected by Hurricane Sandy in New York State**

**The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in coordination with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), will provide temporary rental assistance for eligible families displaced by Hurricane Sandy through the Disaster Housing Assistance Program-Sandy (DHAP-Sandy). DHAP-Sandy will provide no more than 12 months of short term rental assistance to families deemed eligible by FEMA.**

To administer the program, HUD will utilize the New York State Office of Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) to provide housing assistance payments to landlords on behalf of eligible families who are residents of the State of New York. The program will assist families who continue to have a temporary housing need as a result of Hurricane Sandy. FEMA will work with the families to determine eligibility for DHAP-Sandy. The families referred for participation in DHAP-Sandy, by FEMA, will be notified by HCR of all DHAP-Sandy program requirements. DHAP-Sandy will be implemented as follows:

- Upon completion of FEMA's eligibility determination process, eligible families will be assigned to HCR who will provide the family with rental assistance for up to 12 months.
- The HCR will make rent subsidy payments directly to landlords for families participating in DHAP-Sandy. The family and HCR will have 90-days to execute a DRSC. However, a 30-day extension may be granted if required.
- For families currently in a leased unit, HCR will contact the landlords and ensure the necessary documents are in place so those families will continue to receive uninterrupted rental assistance payments throughout their participation in DHAP-Sandy.
- Families in need of a unit will have the ability to work with HCR to utilize a Real Estate Broker to assist in finding an appropriate housing unit for the DHAP-Sandy program. The HCR may also provide search assistance to those families that need locate a rental resource.
- At program start, the level of subsidy will be based upon the family's income, which will gradually increase over the course of DHAP-Sandy. Program participants will pay a portion of the rental cost (Differential Rent), based on the family's adjusted post-disaster income. The Differential Rent will incrementally increase through the program, but will not exceed 40% of the family's adjusted post-disaster income.
- Families will be responsible for any utilities not included in the lease rent. Security and Utility Deposit assistance may be available upon request.
- Participants in the program will also receive disaster case management services through local social services entities to assist with identifying and achieving a Disaster Recovery Plan. Continued assistance in DHAP-Sandy will be dependent on participation in the disaster case management program and certification by the disaster case manager that the family is progressing with their permanent housing plan. Families and individuals in DHAP-Sandy will be given complete information, supportive services, resources and ample time to prepare themselves for the end of temporary, subsidized housing upon the completion of DHAP-Sandy at 12 months.