## Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan Revisions

#### **Foster Youth to Independence**

Based on PIH Notice 2020-28 and AAHRA's Recommended Language

Per the HUD Birmingham Field Office

#### Section IX Selection Process

- A. Housing Voucher Selection and Participation Process:
  - 1. Types of Selection:

The HA may admit an applicant for participation in the program either:

- a. As a special admission (see definition below), or
- b. As a waiting list admission.

A HCV Participant is responsible for finding an existing housing unit suitable to the holder's needs and desires that meets HQS and rent reasonableness standards.

#### 2. Special Admissions:

If HUD awards the HA program funding that is targeted for families living in specified units or for other specified families:

- a. The HA must use the assistance for the targeted families.
- b. The HA may admit a family that is not on the HA waiting list, or without considering the family's waiting list position. The HA must maintain records showing that the family was admitted with HUD-targeted assistance.
- c. For housing covered by the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Home ownership Act of 1990 (41 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.):
- d. A family residing in a project covered by a project-based HCV HAP contract at or near the end of the HAP contract term.
- e. Tenant protection vouchers for foster youth to independence initiative (FYI)

## Section XXXV Special Housing Types (added a Part H)

H. Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative

Tenant Protection-Vouchers-(TPVs) -provided by HUD for youth eligible under the Family Unification Program (FUP), subject to availability.

# 1. Funding:

- a. The HA may request a minimum of one voucher and a maximum of 25 vouchers per Federal Fiscal Year. <u>Additional vouchers may be requested with 90 percent or greater utilization.</u>
- b. Voucher(s) will be requested for a specific person(s) qualifying for a FYI voucher.

## 2. Youth Eligibility:

- a. The population eligible to be assisted are youth certified by Alabama Department of Human Resources as meeting the following conditions:
  - 1) Has attained at least 18 years and not more than 24 years of age;

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- 1) Left foster care, or will leave foster care within 90 days, in accordance with a transition plan described in section 475(5)(H) of the Social Security Act at age 16 or older; and
- 2) Is homeless or is at risk of becoming homeless at age 16 or older. (\*\*Homeless refers to the population included in the definition of this term at 24 CRF 578.3. At Risk of Becoming Homeless means the population defined as "At Risk of Homelessness" at 24 CFR 576.2\*\*)

**NOTE:** Eligibility is not limited to single persons. For example, pregnant and/or parenting youth are eligible to receive assistance.

#### 3. Youth Referral:

- a. Youth must be certified by the Alabama Department of Human Resources as eligible for assistance under this notice and referred to the HA for assistance.
- b. The HA must determine eligibility for the HCV program.

#### 4. Additional Program Requirements:

- a. Turnover: These vouchers "sunset" when the youth leaves the program. This means that the PHA cannot reissue the HCV assistance issued under this notice when the youth exits the HCV program. When the youth exits the HCV program, HUD will reduce the PHA's HCV assistance to account for the removal of the FYI voucher assistance from the PHA's HCV baseline inventory. Vouchers awarded under this notice for eligible youth will continue to be used for other eligible youth upon turnover. If another eligible youth is not available, the PHA must notify HUD, and HUD will reduce the PHA's HCV assistance to account for the removal of the FYI assistance from the PHA's HCV baseline. HUD will monitor the utilization of vouchers awarded through this notice on an annual basis and any unutilized voucher assistance that is no longer needed will be recaptured and reallocated as authorized under the 2020 Act.
- b. Youth Failure to Use Voucher: Should a youth fail to use the voucher, the PHA must notify HUD, and HUD will reduce the PHA's HCV assistance to account for the removal of the FYI voucher assistance from the PHA's HCV baseline inventory. Should a youth fail to use the voucher, the PHA may issue the voucher to another eligible youth if one has been identified. If another eligible youth is not available, the PHA must notify HUD, and HUD will reduce the PHA's HCV assistance to account for the removal of the FYI assistance from the PHA's HCV baseline.
- e. Waiting List Administration: The funding is targeted to a specific person. As a result, the PHA must use the assistance for that person. The PHA may admit the youth that is not on the PHA waiting list, or without considering the family's waiting list position. The PHA must maintain records showing the family was admitted with HUD targeted assistance Upon receipt of a referral(s) from the

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Alabama Department of Human Resources of an eligible youth, compare the name(s) with youth already on the PHA's HCV waiting list. Any youth on the PHA's HCV waiting list that matches with the Alabama Department of Human Resources' referral must be assisted in order of their position on the waiting list in accordance with PHA admission policies. Any youth certified by the Alabama Department of Human Resources as eligible and not on the HCV waiting list must be placed on the waiting list (pending HCV eligibility determination). Due to the nature of FYI vouchers, the waiting list will always remain open for FYI referrals.

d. <u>Length of Assistance</u>: As required by statute, a FYI voucher may only be used to provide housing assistance for youth for a maximum of 36 months.