

Opening the RAD Project-Based Voucher Waitlist

CCFAC Meeting June 12, 2018

What are RAD Project-Based Vouchers?

- RAD Project-Based Vouchers (PBV) is the new name for former Public Housing units
- FCRHA currently has 1,060 RAD-PBV units it owns, maintains, and manages, using federal funding
 - Such as Kinglsey in Falls Church; Westford in Alexandria;
 Ragan Oaks in Fairfax; Barros in Centreville
- Project-Based Vouchers are each tied to a specific one of those 1,060 housing units
 - Unlike Housing Choice Vouchers which are tenant-based, and can be used at any facility, public or private, that accepts them

What is the Waitlist?

- Qualified individuals and families who would like to lease a RAD-PBV unit:
 - Have chosen to be added to a database;
 - Are eligible to receive a RAD-PBV for placement into a specific housing unit when that particular unit becomes available
- The upcoming Waitlist opening is only for the RAD-PBV units

The Decision to Open the Waitlist

- The existing Waitlist for FCRHA's RAD-PBV units is nearly depleted due to those on the Waitlist becoming ineligible, choosing to drop off the Waitlist, or having been placed in a RAD-PBV unit
- The RAD-PBV Waitlist (at the time, Public Housing) was last opened in 2007
 - It has taken more than 10 years to go through the Waitlist, placing eligible individuals and families when RAD-PBV units become available

Waitlist Selection

- Before the RAD-PBV Waitlist was closed in 2007, enough people were added to constitute a more than 10-year supply
 - This is a long period to ask families to wait for potential housing
- Therefore, the current opening of the Waitlist will be limited to roughly 2,000 people, an amount projected to be able to be served in roughly 2 to 3 years
 - HCD staff reviewed historical turnover in RAD-PBV units;
 - And the Waitlist uptake percentage (the number of people on the Waitlist who remain qualified and interested in a particular unit when it becomes available.)

Waitlist Selection

- Because the amount of people to be added to the Waitlist will be limited to the projected 2-3 year supply, once the 2week application period has ended, HCD will run a computer-generated, random selection to determine which applicants are placed on the Waitlist
- This is not a first-come, first-serve basis, and ensures individuals and families can apply at any time during the 2week window and have an equal chance of obtaining placement on the Waitlist

Timing

- The Waitlist will open for applications from July 10th through July 23rd
- The randomized selection will be run shortly after the application period closing
- Notices of results will be sent out after the randomized selection occurs

How to Apply

- Individuals / Families apply Online to the Waitlist
 - Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from any Internet-connected device
- The process is free and takes roughly 5 minutes, and only requires that the applicant have an email address
- Applicants will be able to identify special needs, such as mobility and sight, on their application
 - These do not affect the random selection to the Waitlist, but enable individuals with identified special needs on the Waitlist to be prioritized when a special needs RAD-PBV unit becomes available

Getting the Word Out

- HCD is working with the Office of Public Affairs on a Public Kickoff for the opening of the application period
- Outreach to news media
- Social media
- Flyers at all online registration locations and FCRHA communities
 - As well as other community sites such as grocery stores, faith-based organizations, libraries, and partner agencies

Getting the Word Out

- HCD is working with partners on informing and educating potential customers:
 - County agencies: the Department of Family
 Services, the Community Services Board, the
 Disability Services Board, the Office to Prevent
 and End Homelessness, Neighborhood and
 Community Services, and the Fairfax County
 Public Schools; and
 - Non-profit stakeholders

Application Access

- HCD will have application sites at a number of locations where there is free, public access to Internet-enabled computers
 - -HCD will ensure certain, specific times where trained staff will be available at those sites to assist as needed

Questions?