

Family Unification Program

Purpose and Summary:

The Family Unification Program (FUP) provides housing assistance through the Housing Choice Vouchers administered by the Housing Authority of Chester County (HACC). This is done in partnership with the Chester County Department of Human Services and the Chester County Department of Children, Youth and Families. One may only get on the waiting list for these vouchers with a referral from the Department of Human Services (in cooperation with the Department of Children, Youth and Families) and you must meet one of the following qualifications which are divided into two groups:

- 1. Families for whom the lack of adequate housing is a primary factor in the imminent placement of the family's child, or children, in out-of-home care; or the delay in the discharge of the child, or children, to the family from out-of-home care. Out-of-home care is commonly called "foster care"; or**
- 2. Youth at least 18 years and no more than 24 years of age (have not reached their 25th birthday), who 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, and are homeless or at risk of homelessness . As required by federal statute, a FUP Voucher issued to such a youth can only be used to provide housing assistance for a maximum of 36 months.**

To be eligible for these vouchers you must be working with staff from the Department of Human Services (in cooperation with the Department of Children, Youth and Families) and you must be referred by them to HACC. No direct applications will be accepted. Once referred, a staff member of HACC will contact the eligible family or youth for processing. Being referred does not guarantee that you will necessarily receive assistance as you still must meet all the required eligibility requirements for the Housing Choice Voucher Program (known as Section 8)