

Housing Authority of the County of Chester (HACC)

Amendment # 16 to the Administrative Plan

Revised Local Preferences for HACC Housing Choice Voucher Program

In order to ensure that the Housing Choice Voucher Program services clients with the most critical housing needs, a local preference system was created through a past amendment to the HACC Administrative Plan. The cumulative total of preference points determined the applicant position on the waiting list. Ties were broken by the chronological order of application.

In compliance with the requirements of HUD Notice PIH 2013-15 and with the intent of providing the greatest possible assistance to families experiencing homelessness, the HACC revised its preference system in 2013 (through Administrative Plan Amendment # 15) to include a category for homeless families that have been referred by designated partnering agencies. These agencies are the organizations providing housing services to Federal Category I, Literally Homeless Families. They are primarily the agencies contracted to provide temporary housing assistance through the Emergency Solutions Grant Program.

Through this amendment the HACC is again adjusting the current preference system's point allocation. This adjustment will affect eligible clients referred by the Mental Health Housing Options Team. This is being done based on an assessment of local need in Chester County.

The HACC has chosen to implement this preference through a limited opening of its waiting list. Such an opening will be strictly in compliance with all required federal statutes governing the Housing Choice Voucher Program and will be publically advertised on May 1, 2014 in a local paper with countywide distribution. Anyone currently on the existing waiting list will be given the opportunity to receive this new preference if they qualify under its definition and associated requirements. A maximum of 6 families (meeting the preference requirements) will be placed on the list. Once a total of 6 families have been placed on the list, the limited opening will be suspended and the list closed.

Definitions detailing the qualifications for a preference or multiple preferences are contained in the HCV Administrative Plan and are included under an explanatory section of the HACC website at www.haccnet.org.

The following revised preference categories and attached point ratings will be established by the Housing Authority of Chester County through this amendment:

| Preference Category | Rating Points |
|--|----------------------|
| Literally Homeless Families Referred by Partnering Agencies * | 150 |
| Eligible Referrals as Determined by Mental Health Housing Options Team* | 150 |
| Individuals Transitioning Out of Nursing Homes* | 75 |
| Disabled | 50 |
| Elderly | 50 |
| Imminent Danger of Homelessness | 40 |
| Chester County Residency | 25 |
| Families with Children under 18 yrs old | 20 |
| Victims of Domestic Violence | 20 |
| Veteran | 20 |
| Working | 20 |

*This preference may only be obtained through a referral