

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing in the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program

The PHA affirmatively furthers fair housing in its Family Self-Sufficiency Program (as well as its other housing programs). Reasonable steps the PHA will take to affirmatively further fair housing in the FSS Program include:

1. Advertising widely in the community for any FSS Coordinator positions that become available. Positions will be advertised on the PHA's website (CMHA.net) so that they are accessible to all segments of the population nationwide.
2. The FSS program will be marketed to all eligible persons, including persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency. The PHA utilizes periodic advertisements in its newsletter, announcements and program descriptions in movers sessions and lobby signs to market the program. The PHA has a published Limited English Proficiency Plan on its website. Translation services are available through an outside vendor and paid by the PHA. In addition, the PHA employs several bilingual staff. The PHA also provides sign language services to hearing impaired participants upon request.
3. Application intake, re-examination appointments, voucher/contract issuance, FSS appointments and informal hearings are conducted in accessible office spaces. In addition, the PHA provides home visits for appointments upon request as a reasonable accommodation.
4. Referrals to fair housing agencies are made upon a participant's request.
5. The HUD fair housing form is provided to applicants in the applicant briefing packet. In addition, the fair housing form is made available at movers sessions and upon request. Applicants/participants are provided assistance in filling out the form and are referred to HUD for additional information and assistance, including providing the toll-free number for the Housing Discrimination Hotline: 1-800-669-9777.
6. The PHA has a goal of homeownership and housing mobility. A Government Marketing Specialist is on staff to recruit landlords in opportunity neighborhoods and to provide advice and assistance to participants. A security deposit program is available to participants moving to opportunity neighborhoods. Record-keeping covers race, ethnicity, familial status and disability status of program participants.