

# CHAPTER 18

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

### A. Family Unification Program (FUP):

NBHA will provide rental assistance to families eligible under the Family Unification Program (FUP). FUP is a program under which vouchers are provided to 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; or the delay in the discharge of the child, or children, to the family from out-of-home care. Youths at least 18 years old and not more than 21 years old, who left foster care at age 16 or older and who do not have adequate housing, are also eligible to receive housing assistance under FUP. A FUP voucher issued to such a youth may only be used to provide housing assistance for the youth for a maximum of 18 months. NBHA shall administer the funding awarded for the FUP in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding between the NBHA and DCF.

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) will identify and ensure certification of FUP eligible families and youth that may be on the waiting list, ensuring that they maintain their original position on the waiting list after certification. If the FUP applicant is on the NBHA's waiting list, that applicant will be assisted in accordance with the NBHA's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) admission policies otherwise; FUP applicants will be placed on the NBHA's CV waiting list regardless of the NBHA's HCV waiting list closure, and processed according to plan.

The NBHA may also refer any families or youth 18 through 21 that are on the NBHA's HCV waiting list living in temporary shelters or on the street and may qualify for FUP to DCF.

### B. HCV -FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM

#### 1. PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program is to promote the development of local strategies to coordinate the use of Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher, Family Self-Sufficiency Program public and private resources to enable families eligible to receive assistance under these programs to achieve economic independence and self-sufficiency.

#### 2. PROGRAM OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the Family Self-Sufficiency Program is to reduce the dependency of low-income families on welfare assistance, Section 8 Housing Assistance, and other Federal, State and Local subsidies.

The FSS Program links participants to high-quality, comprehensive supportive services including education, job training, counseling, and other forms of social service assistance necessary to achieve self-sufficiency. A successful FSS Program in New Britain will enhance the standard of living and self-esteem of the participants as they become more productive members of the community and are no longer dependent on governmental assistance.

C. **PROJECT-BASE VOUCHER PROGRAM:**

**General Requirements: [24 CFR 983.5]:**

The Project-Based Voucher (PBV) program allows PHAs that already administer a tenant-based voucher program under an annual contributions contract (ACC) with HUD to take up to 20 percent of its voucher program budget authority and attach the funding to specific units rather than using it for tenant-based assistance [4 CFR 983.6]. PHAs may only operate a PBV program if doing so is consistent with the PHAs Annual Plan, and the goal of deconcentrating poverty and expanding housing and economic opportunities [42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)].

The NBHA will operate a project-based voucher program using up to 20 percent of its budget authority for project-based assistance. PBV assistance may be attached to existing housing, or for project-based assistance either under an agreement to enter into HAP Contract (Agreement) or a HAP contract, the NBHA is not required to reduce the number of these units if the amount of budget authority is subsequently reduced. However, the NBHA is responsible for determining the amount of budget authority that is available for project-based vouchers and ensuring that the amount of assistance that is attached to units is within the amounts available under the ACC [24 CFR 983.6].

D. **Non-Elderly Disabled (NED) Vouchers**

**Program Information**

NED HCVs enable non-elderly disabled families to lease affordable private housing of their choice. NED vouchers also assist persons with disabilities who often face difficulties in locating suitable and accessible housing on the private market.

When an eligible NED family comes to the top of the PHA's HCV waiting list and a voucher becomes available, the PHA issues a voucher to the family.

NED vouchers are considered part of the HCV program and are governed by the same federal rules and regulations, with the only difference being the target population. NED vouchers must be used by people with disabilities in households that qualify as "disabled households" according to HUD regulations. HUD has specific definitions for a person with a disability and for disabled households.

NBHA has been awarded 75 NED Vouchers to house non-elderly disabled families in New Britain, CT

### **Who is Eligible**

- Must meet Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program eligibility requirements.
- Only income eligible families whose head of household, spouse or co-head is non-elderly (under age 62) and disabled may receive a NED voucher. Families with only a minor child with a disability are not eligible.
- Applicants are drawn from the current NBHA HCV Waitlist.

### **How it works:**

- The NED programs provide Section 8 tenant-based vouchers to non-elderly disabled families and individuals.
- NED vouchers are issued to eligible households selected from the standard HCV waiting list. All conventional Section 8 HCV program requirements apply.