

CREATING OPPORTUNITY: PUBLIC HOUSING
PROGRAMS AND THEIR ROLE IN ENDING
HOMELESSNESS

WESTERN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUDIT FORUM (WIAF)
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DEVELOPMENT

OVERVIEW

- Updates
 - Goals of *Home Together*
 - Tracking progress in the Public Housing and HCV programs
- Brief Description of PIH's programs
- Overview of Notice PIH 2013-15
- Partnerships to support efforts to end homelessness

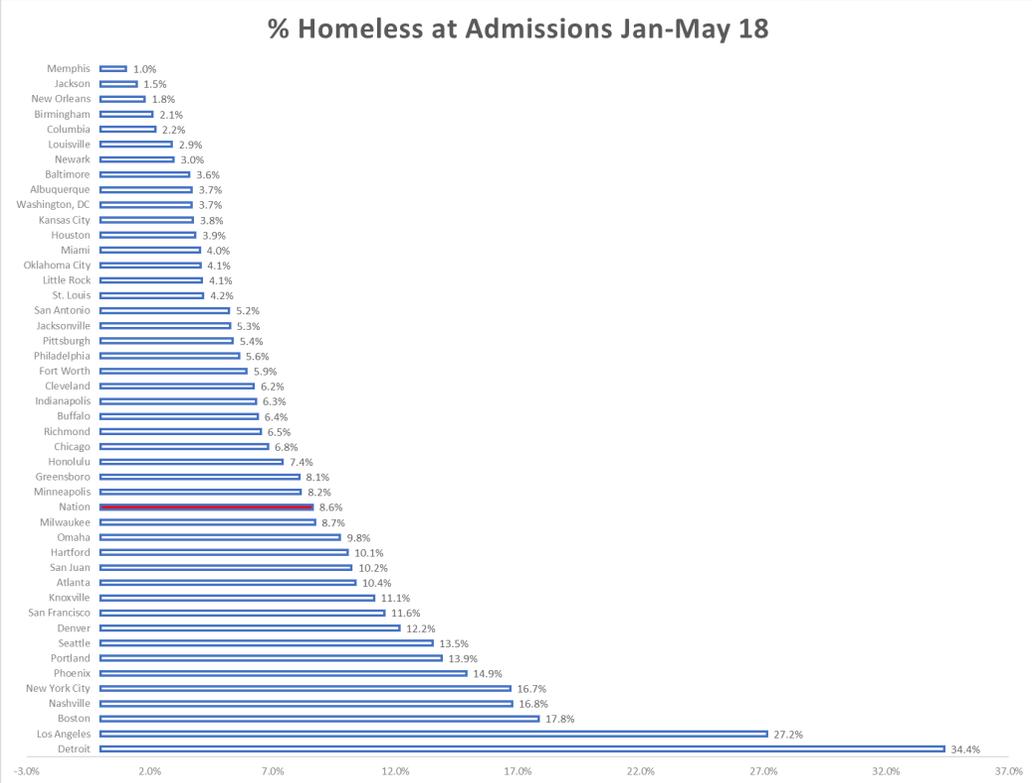
UPDATE: *HOME, TOGETHER*

- United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) recently launched its updated strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness, replacing the former *Opening Doors* strategic plan.
 - Unlike *Opening Doors*, the updated strategic plan does not set uniform timeframes
 - Differentiation among different homeless population groups:
 - To end homelessness among Veterans
 - To end chronic homelessness among people with disabilities
 - Separate goal for families with children, unaccompanied youth and all other individuals
- <https://www.usich.gov/>

TRACKING PROGRESS

Network	Sum of Total # of New HOH Admissions ; Not Vash	Sum of Total # HOH New Admissions Homeless; Not Vash	% homeless at admissions Jan-May 18
Midwest	11,131	771	6.9%
Northeast	33,598	3,175	9.4%
Southeast	36,384	2,275	6.3%
Southwest	19,534	865	4.4%
Upper Midwest	25,046	2,679	10.7%
Western U.S. and beyond	16,233	2,484	15.3%
Grand Total	141,926	12,249	8.6%

Program	Sum of Total # of New HOH Admissions ; Not Vash	Sum of Total # HOH New Admissions Homeless; Not Vash	% homeless at admissions Jan-May 18
P	55,521	4,474	8.1%
VO	86,405	7,775	9.0%
Grand Total	141,926	12,249	8.6%



PIH'S PROGRAMS

The Office of Public and Indian Housing offers two primary rental assistance programs

Public Housing

Section 8 Housing
Choice Voucher

Each program is administered by local public housing authorities (PHAs)

ROLE OF A PHA

- Role of a PHA is to assist low-income families afford decent, safe and sanitary homes.
- How do PHAs fulfill this role?
 - Provide subsidy on behalf of a family to the landlord (i.e., Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program);
 - Own and operate subsidized housing developments (i.e., Public Housing Program);
 - Develop subsidized housing developments or rehabilitate units to be used as subsidized housing (i.e., Project Based Voucher Program);
 - Administer other State or local housing or rental assistance programs

MOVING TO WORK (MTW) PHAS

- MTW is a demonstration program for PHAs that provides the opportunity to design and test innovative, locally-designed strategies that use Federal dollars more efficiently, help residents find employment and become self-sufficient, and increase housing choices for low-income families.
- PHAs designated as MTW (such as San Diego Housing Commission) are allowed certain regulatory and fiscal flexibilities in how they administer their programs.
- Find out more at: <http://portal.hud.gov>

OVERVIEW OF NOTICE PIH 2013-15



- Notice PIH 2013-15: *Guidance on housing individuals and families experiencing homelessness through the Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Programs*
- Published on June 10, 2013
- Encourages PHAs to:
 - **Review discretionary admissions and termination/eviction policies** to determine if any changes can be made to remove barriers for serving the homeless population.
 - **Manage the waiting list** to provide homeless populations increased access to the PHA's programs.
 - **Partner** with homeless service providers, Continuums of Care, and other organizations to serve the homeless population.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

- PHAs cannot establish separate admissions policies for households experiencing homelessness.
- PHAs may consider mitigating circumstances
- Statutorily mandated prohibitions for admission:
 - Lifetime sex offender registrant
 - Methamphetamine production in federally assisted housing
 - Eviction from federally assisted housing for drug-related crime, within three years
 - Currently engaged in illegal drug use or threatening activity

ADMISSIONS PREFERENCES



- PHAs may use various data sources to make informed decisions on designing admissions preferences for homeless populations, such as:
 - The Community Plan to End Homelessness
 - Consolidated Plans
 - Data from their jurisdiction's CoC Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) and Point in Time (PIT) Counts
- Successful implementation of an effective Homeless Admissions Preference relies upon partnerships with local homeless service agencies and service providers.

PARTNERSHIPS ARE KEY

PHAs and their local partners can use each other's expertise to help families experiencing homelessness find and retain housing

Partnerships can help PHAs to leverage existing resources to provide wrap-around case management for the family from intake to move-in

HUD is here to help PHAs understand their role in the fight to end homelessness and to help form partnerships as well as navigate the regulations.

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

