RESOLUTION #18-107

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING CHANGES TO THE WAITING LIST PREFERENCE

FOR APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER DECEMBER 1, 2018

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County (HAGC) has been selected

to receive funding to support approximately 40 Mainstream housing choice vouchers from the 2017

Mainstream Voucher Program; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Mainstream Vouchers is to serve clients who are non-

elderly persons (defined as a person 18 years of age or older and less than 62 years of age) with

disabilities (defined as a person who (i) Has a disability, as defined in 42 U.S.C. 423; (ii) Is determined,

pursuant to HUD Regulations, to have a physical or mental, or emotional impairment that: (A) Is

expected to be of long-continued and definite duration; (B) Substantially impeded his or her ability to

live independently, and (C) Is of such a nature that the ability to live independently could be improved

by more suitable housing conditions; or (iii) Has a developmental disability as defined in 42 U.S.C.

6001.) who are transitioning out of institutional or other segregated settings, at serious risk of

institutionalization, homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; and

WHEREAS, the HAGC will amend its Section 8 Administrative Plan language to

include a waitlist preference for non-elderly person with disabilities who are transitioning out of

institutional or other segregated settings, at serious risk of institutionalization, homeless or at risk of

becoming homeless for applications received after December 1, 2018, as attached; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the

Housing Authority of Gloucester County that the waitlist preference for the Section 8 Mainstream

Voucher waitlist for non-elderly persons with disabilities who are transitioning out of institutional or

other segregated settings, at serious risk of institutionalization, homeless or at risk of becoming

homeless be hereby authorized.

ADOPTED at a Regular Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester

County, held on the 19th of December, 2018.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

BY:

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATE: DECEMBER 19, 2018



Section 8 Administrative Plan

• REVISED: August 2018 Resolution #18-70

• REVISED: December 19, 2018 Resolution #18-107

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Article I. General Provisions

Section 1.01 Program Objectives

The Objectives of the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, Moderate Rehabilitation Program, and Project-Based Voucher Program are to house income eligible families in safe, sanitary, and affordable housing within the operating jurisdiction of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County ("The Authority"). Such housing shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the Programs, the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Section 8 Regulations, as well as all Federal, State and Local Fair Housing Laws and Regulations.

Section 1.02 Administrative Authority

This document serves as the Authority's operational handbook for the implementation of the Housing Choice Voucher Program, Moderate Rehabilitation Program and Project Based Voucher Program. It also functions as the Authority's *Administrative Plan* and complies with all of the requirements of 24 C.F.R. §982.54, *Administrative Plan*. Its purpose is to provide guidance for the consistent application of the policies and procedures adopted by the Authority in its administration of the programs.

Section 1.03 Extenuating Circumstances

The following conditions are recognized by the Authority as extenuating circumstances that may affect the Authority's administration of the program: Domestic violence; a serious housing quality standards violation; a catastrophe such as a fire, flood or other act of nature; or a risk of violence against a household member as a reprisal for providing information to a law enforcement agency, or because of his or her race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, or familial status. Further, on a case-by-case basis, the Authority may consider an exception to one of its standard policies if there is evidence of a sufficient extenuating circumstance.

Section 1.04 File Maintenance

In order to demonstrate compliance with HUD and other pertinent regulations, the Authority will maintain records, reports, and other documentation for a time that is in accordance with HUD requirements and in a manner that will allow an auditor, housing professional, or other interested party to follow, monitor, and or assess the Authority operational procedures objectively and with accuracy and in accordance with Section 8 Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) requirements with internal supervisory audits. The Authority maintains an electronic file for each applicant, participant and owner. The electronic file shall be considered the official file. The Authority also maintains a paper file, the purpose of which is to support the electronic file.

Section 1.05 Privacy Rights

Applicants and participants, including all adults in their households, are required to sign the HUD 9886 Authorization for Release of Information annually. This document incorporates the Federal Privacy Act Statement and describes the conditions under which HUD/the Authority will release family information. The Authority shall require additional authorizations not covered by the HUD 9886 form as required for verifications. The Authority policy regarding release of information is in accordance with State and local laws that may restrict the release of family information.

Article II. Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity

Section 2.01 Non-Discrimination

The Authority is committed to administering the programs to ensure that individuals and households are not discriminated against because of their race, color, sex, age, ethnic origin, religion, disability, familial status, actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or marital status. The Authority will not use any of these factors to: Deny any family the opportunity to apply for housing, or deny to any qualified applicant the opportunity to participate in housing; provide housing that is different from the provided to others; Subject anyone to segregation or disparate treatment; Restrict anyone's access to any benefit enjoyed by others in connection with the housing program; Treat a person differently in determining eligibility or other requirements for admissions; Steer an applicant or participant towards or away from a particular area; Denying anyone the opportunity to participate in a planning or advisory group that is an integral part of the housing program; Discriminate in the provision of residential real estate transactions; Discriminate against someone because they are related to or associated with a member of a protected class; Public or cause to be published an advertisement or notice indicating the availability of housing that prefers or excludes persons who are members of a protected class.

Furthermore, it is the intention of the Authority to administer the Programs to affirmatively further fair housing in accordance with the Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (as amended by the Community Development Act of 1974 and the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988), Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA), and The Age Discrimination Act of 1975.

Section 2.02 Assistance for Families Claiming Unlawful Discrimination

If an applicant or participant believes that any family member has been discriminated against by the Authority or an owner, the family should advise the Authority. HUD requires the Authority to make every reasonable attempt to determine whether the applicant's or participant's assertions have merit and take any warranted corrective action. In addition, the Authority is required to provide the applicant or participant with information about how to file a discrimination complaint. Persons who have alleged discrimination on the basis of Fair Housing Amendment Act of 1988, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or Executive Order 11063, will have their case administered by the Intake Supervisor (if it is a new admission) or the Section 8 Supervisor (if it is a move) to personally assist the family in finding a suitable unit and to prevent any repeated discrimination against the family. The Intake Supervisor or Section 8 Supervisor, as appropriate, shall provide personal referrals to units with vacancies and call the apartment managers of said units to arrange for an appointment for the family to see the unit. Assistance will also be provided in the exercise of the person's rights including providing information on how to fill out and file a housing discrimination complaint. The Authority will keep a record of all complaints, investigations, notices, and corrective actions.

Section 2.03 Policies Related to Persons with Disabilities

The Authority is committed to ensuring that the policies and procedures of its programs do not deny individuals with disabilities the opportunity to participate in, or benefit from, those programs. The Authority is also committed to ensuring that its policies and procedures do not otherwise discriminate, on the basis of disability, in connection with the operation of those programs, services and activities. A reasonable accommodation is a change, modification, alteration or adaptation in policy, procedure, practice or program that provides a qualified individual with a disability the opportunity to participate in or benefit from one of the Authority's programs. The Policy, as contained in this *Administrative Plan* will be provided during the tenant briefing program.

a. Definitions

A person with a disability, as defined by the Federal Fair Housing Act, is an individual who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment or is regarded as having such an impairment. As used in this definition, the phrase "physical or mental impairment" includes:

- (1) Any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems: Neurological; musculoskeletal; special sense organs; respiratory, including speech organs; cardiovascular; reproductive; digestive; genito-urinary; hemic and lymphatic; skin; and endocrine; or
- (2) Any mental or psychological disorder, such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities. The term physical or mental impairment includes, but is not limited to, such diseases and conditions as orthopedic, visual, speech and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, autism, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection, mental retardation, emotional illness, drug addiction (other than addiction caused by current, illegal use of a controlled substance) and alcoholism. 24 C.F.R. § 100.201.

"Major life activities" means functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing and learning. 24 C.F.R. § 100.201.

The definition of disability does not include: current drug users, people whose alcohol use interferes with the rights of other, a person with any disability whose tenancy poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others unless that threat can be controlled with a reasonable accommodation, Juvenile offenders and sex offenders by virtue of that status are not persons with disabilities protected by the Fair Housing Act.

b. Requesting a Reasonable Accommodation

A person with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation at any time. The individual, The Authority, or another person identified by the individual, must reduce all requests for reasonable accommodation(s) to writing. The person must explain what type of accommodation is needed to provide the person with the disability full access to the Authority's programs and services. Reasonable accommodation methods or actions that may be appropriate for a particular program and individual may be found to be inappropriate for another program or individual. The decision to approve or deny a

request for a reasonable accommodation is made on a case-by-case basis and takes into consideration the needs of the individual.

c. <u>Verification of Reasonable Accommodation Request</u>

Before providing an accommodation, the Authority must determine that the person meets the definition of a person with a disability, and that the person needs the specific accommodation due to their disability and the change is required for them to have equal access to the housing program,.

The Authority will request third-party verification to support the need for a reasonable accommodation. Third-party verification must be obtained from a Qualified Individual. A Qualified Individual can be a doctor or other medical professional, a peer support group, a non-medical service agency, a caseworker, a vocational/rehab specialist, counselor, or a reliable third party who is in a position to know about the individual's disability. The Authority must request only information that is necessary to evaluate the disability-related need for the accommodation. The Authority will not inquire about the nature or extent of any disability. In the event that the Authority does receive confidential information about a person's specific diagnosis, treatment, or the nature or severity of the disability, the Authority will dispose of it. In place of the information, the Authority will note in the file that the disability and other requested information have been verified, the date the verification was received, and the name and address of the knowledgeable professional who sent the information.

In addition, the Authority may request that the individual, or the individual's health care provider, provide suggested reasonable accommodations. If a person's disability is obvious, or otherwise known to the Authority, and if the need for the requested accommodation is also readily apparent or known, no further verification will be required.

d. Denial of Request for Reasonable Accommodation

The authority can deny a request for reasonable accommodation if the request was not made by or on behalf of a person with a disability or if there is no disability-related need for the accommodation. Further, a requested accommodation can be denied if one of the following would occur as a result: A violation of state and/or federal law; A fundamental alteration in the nature of the Authority's housing program; An undue financial and administrative burden on the Authority. All denials will be reduced in writing and will identify the reason for the denial. In the event the accommodation is denied, the Authority will discuss with the requester whether there is an alternative accommodation that would effectively address the requester's disability-related need without a fundamental alteration of the Authority's operation and without imposing an undue burden.

Section 2.04 Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency

The Authority will take affirmative steps to communicate with people who need services or information in languages other than English. These persons are referred to as persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). LEP is defined as a person who does not speak English as their primary language and who have limited ability to read, write or understand English. The

Authority's goal is to ensure meaningful access to the LEP person to critical services while not imposing undue burdens on the Authority. In order to determine the level of access needed by LEP persons, the Authority will balance the following four factors: (1) the number or proportion of LEP persons eligible to be served or likely to be encountered by the Housing Choice Voucher program; (2) the frequency with which LEP persons come into contact with the program; (3) the nature and importance of the program, activity, or service provided by the program to people's lives; and (4) the resources available to the PHA and costs. Balancing these four factors will ensure meaningful access by LEP persons to critical services while not imposing undue burdens on the Authority.

Article III. <u>Program Eligibility</u>

The Authority will take the necessary steps to ensure that every individual and family admitted to the programs meets all program eligibility requirements. This includes any individual approved to join the family after the family has been admitted to the program. The family must provide any information needed by the Authority to confirm eligibility and determine the level of the family's assistance. To be eligible for the HCV program the applicant family must:

- Qualify as a family as defined by HUD and the Authority;
- Have income at or below HUD-specified income limits;
- Qualify on the basis of citizenship or the eligible immigrant status of family members;
- Contain at least one family member who is either a U.S. citizen or has eligible immigration status;
- Provide social security numbers for all family members in compliance with HUD's Rent Reform Notice effective January 2010, unless the family member is 62 or older as of January 2010 and already under the program;
- The Authority shall require social security numbers for all family members regardless of age in compliance with the federally mandated criminal record requirements for all adult family members;
- Consent to the Authority's collection and use of family information as provided for in the Authority -provided consent forms.
- Be represented by a head of household who is 18 or older or an emancipated youth at the time of application submission.
- Be eligible for assistance in accordance with the restrictions on assistance to students enrolled in an institution of higher education (24 CFR 5.612).
- The Authority must determine that the current or past behavior of household members does not include activities that are prohibited by HUD or The Authority. Reasons for denial of admission are addressed in this Policy. These reasons for denial constitute additional admission criteria.
- Evidence of Citizenship/Eligible Immigrant Status will not be verified until the family is selected from the waiting list for eligibility processing for issuance of a Voucher

Section 3.01 Definitions

- <u>Family</u>: A Family may consist of any single person or a group of persons that are related by blood, marriage, operation of law, or have evidenced a stable family relationship over a period of time to the satisfaction of the Authority by sharing expenses, family responsibilities, and a residency; and whose incomes and resources are jointly available to meet the needs of the family.
- <u>Elderly Family:</u> An elderly family is a family whose head, co-head, spouse, or sole member is at least sixty-two years of age.
- <u>Disabled Family</u>: A disabled family is a family whose head, co-head, spouse of sole member is a person with disabilities who is physically, mentally, or developmentally disabled in accordance with Section 223 of the Social Security Act or Section 102b(5) of the Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Amendments of 1970. A disabled person is considered an elderly family for the purpose of qualifying as a household type.
- <u>Household</u>: Household is the broader term that includes additional people, who with the permission of the Authority live in the assisted unit, such as live-in aides, foster children and foster adults.
- <u>Family Share</u>: Family Share shall mean the portion of rent and utilities paid by the family. The family share is calculated by subtracting the amount of the housing assistance payment from the gross rent. The Authority may not use the housing assistance payment or other program funds (including the administrative fee reserve funds) to pay any part of the family share. Payment of the family share is the responsibility of the family.
- <u>Head of Household</u>: Head of Household means the adult member of the family who is considered the head for the purposes of determining income eligibility and rent. The head of household is responsible for ensuring that the family fulfills all of its responsibilities under the program, alone or in conjunction with the co-head or spouse. The Head of Household must have the legal capacity to enter into a lease under state and local law. The family may designate any qualified family member as the Head of Household.
- Spouse, Co-head, and Other Adult: a family may have a spouse or co-head but not both. Spouse means the marriage partner of the Head of Household. A Co-head is an individual in the household who is equally responsible with the head of household for ensuring that the family fulfill all of its responsibilities under the program, but who is not a spouse. A family can have only one co-head.
- Other Adult: Other Adult means a family member, other than the head, spouse or co-head who is 18 years of age or older. Foster adults and live-in aides are not considered other adults.
- Dependent: A dependent is a family member who is under 18 years of age or a person of any age who is a person with a disability or a full-time student, except that the following persons can never be dependents: the head of household, spouse, co-head, foster children/adults and live-in aides. Identifying each dependent in the family is important because each dependent qualifies the family for a deduction from annual income. Dependents that are subject to a joint custody arrangement will be considered a member of the family, if they live with the applicant or participant family 51 percent or more of the time. When more than one applicant or assisted family (regardless of program) are claiming the same dependents as family members, the family with primary custody at the time of the initial examination or reexamination will be able to claim the dependents. If

- there is a dispute about which family should claim them, the Authority will make the determination based on available documents such as court orders, or an IRS return showing which family has claimed the child for income tax purposes.
- <u>Full-Time Student</u> (FTS): A FTS is a person who is attending school or vocational training on a full-time basis. The time commitment or subject load that is needed to be deemed a full time is defined by the educational institution.

Section 3.02 Pre-Applications

The Authority will receive and process applications in a way that treats all applicants fairly and consistently. At the discretion of the Executive Director, the Authority will accept preapplications for assistance on an as needed basis. The Executive Director will review the waiting lists and determine whether pre-applications will be accepted and the length of time to accept pre-applications. Pre-applications will be accepted by mail at:

The Housing Authority of Gloucester County -Tenant Processing Center-Main Office 100 Pop Moylan Blvd, Deptford
New Jersey 08096
OR
Online at http://www.hagc.org

Pre-applications must contain sufficient information for the Authority to make preliminary determinations of eligibility and local preference status. If the pre-application does not contain sufficient information to make a preliminary determination of eligibility, the applicant will be notified to submit the needed information. The head of the applicant family on the pre-application will be assigned a confirmation number and placed on the appropriate waiting list(s), if eligible. All applicants will have the opportunity to apply for any applicable programs administered by the Authority. If the information on the pre-application shows the applicant to be obviously ineligible, the letter will state the reasons for the determination of ineligibility and, the family's right to an informal review and how to arrange for the review.

The Authority will take steps to ensure that the application process is accessible to those people who might have difficult complying with the normal, standard application process. This may include people with disabilities or persons with LEP. The Authority will consider requests for Reasonable Accommodations to the needs of individuals with disabilities and reasonable steps to ensure equal access for persons with LEP.

Section 3.03 Organization of Wait List

All eligible applicants will be placed on the waiting lists based on the date and time the application was received. There will be one (1) waiting list maintained for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, one (1) for the Moderate Rehabilitation Program and one (1) for the Project-Based Voucher Program. The waiting lists will be assembled in sequential order with the applicant's name, family unit size, date and time of application receipt, annual income, qualifications for any local preference, and racial or ethnic designation of the head of household noted. The Moderate Rehabilitation waiting list represents different bedroom sizes, as the program is unit based.

Section 3.04 Opening and Closing of Waiting Lists

The waiting lists will be opened or closed at the discretion of the Executive Director considering the available funding, length of the wait lists, and whether the waiting list includes a sufficient number of extremely low-income families. See attached Equal Housing Opportunity Policy Affirmative Marketing/Outreach to Families for the Authority's practice on encouraging full participation of the public when the wait lists are opened. When the Executive Director determines that the wait lists contain an adequate pool for use of available program funding, the Authority may stop accepting new applications and close the wait lists.

Section 3.05 Notification of Selection from Waiting Lists

Families selected from the waiting lists will be notified of their selection by a written communication, the method of which is selected by the family in the application. This communication is deemed "The Interview Letter". The interview letter will inform the family of the following: the date, time and location of the scheduled interview including any procedures for rescheduling the interview and all documents that must be provided at the interview. In accordance with the Interview Letter, families must respond to the Authority within 10 (ten) calendar days of the date of the letter to schedule an interview appointment at the client's convenience. If the Interview letter is returned to the Authority with no forwarding address, the family will be removed from the waiting lists. A notice of denial will be sent to the family's address of record.

Section 3.06 Reporting Changes in Family Circumstance While on a Waiting List

While the family is on the waiting list, the family must report to the Authority changes in family size or composition, preference status, contact information, including current residence, mailing address, income and phone number. All changes must be reported in writing within 14 days. Failure to keep the Authority informed of all changes of address will prevent The Authority from contacting an applicant, and leaves the Authority no alternative but to remove the applicant from the waiting list. In the event this happens, the client has 30 days to request an Informal Hearing, failure to do so makes it necessary for the applicant to file a new application.

Section 3.07 Local Preference

The Authority has established a system of local preference for the section of families admitted to the Housing Choice Voucher Program. The preference affects the order of applicants on the waiting list but does not make anyone eligible who was not otherwise eligible.

Eligibility for Local Residency Preference: A local preference will be given to applicants whose head, co-head, or spouse are residents or, working in, or hired to work in the operating jurisdiction of the authority. An applicant who is a resident of or works in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority on the day their application is received by the Authority will be eligible for the local preference. If the applicant does not live or work in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority at the time of eligibility determination, they retain the local preference effective the date the application was received by the Authority. An applicant who is homeless will receive a local preference if they can document to the satisfaction of the Authority that they lived or worked in the operating jurisdiction immediately prior to becoming homeless. Applicants who have been notified that they are hired to work in a residency preference area are treated as residents of the residency preference area. An applicant, who lives and works outside the operating jurisdiction of the Authority on the day their application is received, will be entitled

to the local preference if they notify the Authority in writing they moved into or began working in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority. The applicant must, at the time of eligibility determination, live or work within the operating jurisdiction of the Authority.

Participating Communities of the Authority include: Clayton, Glassboro, Deptford Township, East Greenwich, Elk Township, Greenwich Township, Harrison Township, Logan Township, Mantua Township, Monroe Township, National Park, Paulsboro, Swedesboro, Washington Township, West Deptford Township, Westville, Woodbury, Woodbury Heights, Woolwich Township and Franklin Township.

Verification of Local Preference

To be entitled to a local preference, applicants must submit at the time of application objective, third party documentation of the residence or employment. All documents received to verify a local preference must be dated and current. To be considered "current" a document must not be dated more than sixty (60) days before the date of the application. All certifications from a third party (including facsimile transmissions) must be on the agency's letterhead, dated and signed by the appropriate representative of the agency. See Section on "Proof of Residence" for documents which are acceptable forms of proof.

Glassboro Residents/Woolwich Township/Franklin Township

Pre-Applications received for Glassboro residents registered prior to 3/25/09, Woolwich Twp residents registered prior to 12/21/10, and Franklin Township residents registered prior to 8/1/16 will obtain a local preference if the client re-registers. A letter indicating that the Authority is updating information with the new date and time with a local preference will be mailed to the client. The new application date and time with a local preference will be used in order to benefit the client. Clients updating information that are still residing in Glassboro or Woolwich Township and are working in Glassboro or Woolwich Twp. will not obtain the local preference as these clients are residents of the Borough of Glassboro prior to 3/25/09, Woolwich twp prior to 12/21/10, and Franklin Township prior to 8/1/16 their preference status has not changed. Clients updating information that are still residing in Glassboro, Franklin Twp, or Woolwich Twp and report they are working in the operation jurisdiction of the Authority other than Glassboro, Franklin Twp, or Woolwich Twp will obtain a local preference, regardless of their application date. Clients updating information that do not live in Glassboro, Franklin Twp, or Woolwich Twp and do not have a local preference may notify the Authority that they are now living and/or working in Glassboro, Franklin Twp , Woolwich Twp or any other area in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority will obtain a local preference.

Mainstream Vouchers

The Mainstream Voucher preference is for the "Mainstream" Vouchers to serve clients who are non-elderly persons with disabilities who are transitioning out of institutional or other segregated settings, at serious risk of institutionalization, homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

A non-elderly person with disabilities is a person 18 years of age or older and less than 62 years of age, and who:

(i) Has a disability, as defined in 42 U.S.C. 423;

- (ii) Is determined, pursuant to HUD Regulations, to have a physical or mental, or emotional impairment that:
 - a. Is expected to be of long-continued and definite duration;
 - b. Substantially impeded his or her ability to live independently, and
 - c. Is of such a nature that the ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions; or
- (iii) Has a developmental disability as defined in 42 U.S.C. 6001

The eligible household member does not need to be the head of household. HAGC will require documentation proving disability in accordance with the above definition and eligibility for the Mainstream Voucher at the time of application. Proof of preference eligibility must be by way of a certification from a third party agency with knowledge of the applicant's eligibility. Eligible applicants will be awarded two preference points.

Section 3.08 Targeted Housing Choice Vouchers

Certain families may qualify for "Targeted" Housing Choice Vouchers. The Authority will designate qualified families for targeted purposes as such. These targeted Housing Choice Vouchers shall not be based on the identity or location of the housing unless approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Housing Choice Vouchers so allocated shall include, but are not limited to, such targeted cases as:

- Applicants certified as living in transitional housing;
- Applicants certified as living in housing that is not affordable, according to the Gloucester County Division of Social services;
- Applicants certified as receiving temporary rental assistance or who are certified as eminently homeless by GCDSS;
- Applicants certified as having graduated from group residence;
- Applicants who are disabled and under the age of 62 years; Applicants who are disabled and under the age of 62 years and have been denied public housing due to the Authority's designated housing plan approved by HUD;
- Families displaced because of demolition or disposition of a public housing project;
- Families residing in HUD- owned multifamily rental housing project when HUD sells, forecloses or demolishes the project;
- Applicants certified as Veterans.
- Applicants certified as a Victim of domestic violence.

Section 3.09 Continuously Assisted Families

A family is considered "continuously assisted" under the 1937 Housing Act if the family is already receiving assistance under any 1937 Housing Act Program when the family is admitted to the Housing Choice Voucher Program. For purposes of income eligibility, a family will be considered "continuously assisted" upon admission into the Housing Choice Voucher Program only when there is a break of no more than 60 calendar days between participation in the assisted programs.

Section 3.10 Family Consent to Release of Information

HUD requires each adult family member and the head of household, spouse or co-head regardless of age, to sign HUD's consent form, Authorization for the Release of Information/Privacy Act Notice, and other consent form as needed to collect information relevant to the family's eligibility and level of assistance. The Authority must deny admissions to the program if any member of the applicant family fails to sign and submit required consent forms.

Section 3.11 Citizenship Status

Housing assistance is available only to individuals who are U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, or noncitizens that have eligible immigration status. At least one family member must be a citizen, national or noncitizen with eligible immigration status in order for the family to qualify for assistance. Applicants must meet the documentation requirements of citizenship or eligible immigration status. Persons claiming citizenship are required to provide verification of citizenship through United States passport; Resident alien card; Registration card; Social Security card; or other appropriate documentation. Persons claiming eligible immigration status must present appropriate immigration documents which are verified by the Authority through Immigrations and Naturalization Service. Non-citizens claiming eligible immigration status; one of the INS documents specified in the attached Non-Citizen Rule Summary of Documentation Requirements prepared by HUD; A signed verification consent form describing transmission and use of the information obtained. Providing housing assistance to noncitizens students is prohibited. All applicant families will be notified of the requirement to submit evidence of their citizenship status when they apply.

Section 3.12 Social Security Numbers

The applicant and all members of the applicant's household must disclose the complete and accurate social security number (SSN) assigned to each household member, and the documentation necessary to verify each SSN. However, if a child under the age of 6 years was added to the assistance applicant household within the 6-month period prior to the household's date of voucher issuance, the assistance applicant may become a participant, so long as the social security documentation is provided to the Authority within 90 calendar days from the date of the Housing Assistance Payment contract. The Authority will grant an extension of one additional 90-day period if it determines that, in its discretion, the assistance applicant's failure to comply was due to circumstances that could not reasonably have been foreseen and were outside the control of the applicant.

The Authority must deny assistance and/or terminate assistance for a family if the regulatory requirements for SSN disclosure and documentation are not met or if the family submits falsified SSN documentation.

College Students Enrolled in Institutions of Higher Education

If a student enrolled at an institution of higher education is under the age of 24, is not a veteran, is not married, does not have a dependent child, and is not a person with disabilities receiving HCV assistance as of November 30, 2005, the student's eligibility must be examined along with the income eligibility of the student's parents. In these cases, both the student and the student's

parents must be income eligible for the student to receive HCV assistance. If, however, a student in these circumstances is determined independent from his/her parents in accordance with Authority's policy, the income of the student's parents will not be considered in determining the student's eligibility. An Institution of Higher Education shall have the meaning as defined in the Higher Education Act of 1965 in 20 U.S.C. 1001 and 1002.

The Authority will consider a student "independent" from his or her parents and the parents' income will not be considered when determining the student's eligibility if the following four criteria are all met: The individual is of legal contract age under state law. The individual has established a household separate from his/her parents for at least one year prior to application for occupancy or the individual meets the U.S. Department of Education's definition of independent student. To be considered an independent student according to the Department of Education, a student must meet one or more of the following criteria: Be at least 24 years old by December 31 of the award year for which aid is sought; Be an orphan or a ward of the court through the age of 18; Be a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces; Have one or more legal dependents other than a spouse (for example, dependent children or an elderly dependent parent); Be a graduate or professional student; Be married. The individual was not claimed as a dependent by his/her parents pursuant to IRS regulations, as demonstrated on the parents' most recent tax forms. The individual provides a certification of the amount of financial assistance that will be provided by his/her parents. This certification must be signed by the individual providing the support and must be submitted even if no assistance is being provided.

Section 3.13 Screening for Drug Abuse and Other Criminal Activity

The Authority will obtain criminal conviction records from law enforcement agencies to screen applicants for program admissions. The Authority will request applicant families to submit a consent form signed by each adult household member for the release of criminal conviction records. The Authority must impose permanent bans, on two classes of applicants: (1) applicants who have been convicted of manufacturing methamphetamine on federally assisted property; and (2) applicants who are required to register as sex offenders for life in any state The Authority is required to perform criminal background checks necessary to determine whether any household member is subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a state sex offender programs in the state where the housing is located as well as any other state where the household member resided. The Authority will use Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender database to screen applicants. The Authority will also ask whether the applicant or ay member of the applicant's household is subject to a lifetime registration requirement in any state. If the Authority proposes to deny assistance based on a criminal records or on lifetime sex offender registration information, the Authority will notify the household of the proposed action and will provide the subject of the record, a copy of the record and an opportunity to dispute the accuracy and relevance of the information.

The Authority will also determine whether an applicant has ever been evicted from federally assisted housing for drug-related criminal activity. If such an eviction took place in the past three years, the applicant must be denied unless he can show either: (1) He/she has successfully completed drug rehabilitation, or (2) the circumstances that led to the prior eviction no longer exist (e.g., the death or incarceration of the person who committed the drug-related criminal activity). If, however, the eviction took place more than three years prior to the application, the Authority has the discretion to admit the applicant.

Applicants who currently use illegal drugs or abuse alcohol are also prohibited. The Authority must deny admission where they have reasonable cause to believe that a household member's (1) illegal use of a controlled substance, (2) abuse of alcohol, or (3) pattern of illegal use of controlled substance or alcohol may interfere with the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.

See attached "One Strike and You're Out" Policy for a complete list of all prohibited activity resulting in a denial of assistance or termination of household. The Authority will not consider arrests that result in dismissed charges, acquittals and other dispositions short of a finding of guilty.

Section 3.14 Proof of Residency

The Authority requires the following documents to prove residency: At least two of the following documents:

- Utility bill (electric, water, refuse, telephone, cable, or gas)
- Checking or savings account statement from a bank or credit union
- High school or college report card or transcript containing your address
- Lease or rental agreement
- Property tax bill, statement or receipt
- Letter or official correspondence from IRS or state tax office, or any federal or local government agency
- Deed/Title
- Mortgage
- Insurance Policy
- Voters registration Card
- Pay Stub
- Pension or retirement statement
- Court Order
- New Jersey Drivers License or ID Card
- Military Service Records
- Federal/State Tax Return
- Other documents deemed acceptable by a supervisor.

Mail addressed to P.O. boxes are not accepted as proof of address.

Article IV. Income Eligibility

Section 4.01 Income Criteria

HUD establishes income limits and publishes them annually. The limits are based upon estimates of median family income with adjustments for family size. The income limits are used to determine eligibility for the programs and for income targeting purposes.

• Income Definitions:

- Extremely Low Income Family: A family whose annual income does not exceed the higher of: (1) the poverty guidelines established by the Department of Health and Human Services applicable to the family of the size involved (except in the case of families living in Puerto Rico or any other territory or possession of the United States); or (2) 30 percent of the median income for the area, as determined by HUD, with adjustments for smaller and larger families, except that HUD may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 30 percent of the area median income for the area if HUD finds that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.
- Very Low Income Family: A family with an anticipated annual income that does not exceed 50% of median income.
 Low Income Family: A family with an anticipated annual income does not exceed 80% of median income

Section 4.02 Income Limit

<u>Housing Choice Voucher Program-</u> At least 75% of the families who are admitted to the Housing Choice Voucher Program during the Authority's fiscal year must be extremely low-income. Income limits are determined HUD.

Moderate Rehabilitation Program Not less than 40% of new families admitted into the Program must be extremely low income. In order to achieve the income targeting requirement of 40% of new admissions, families with incomes greater than 30% of the area median income will be temporarily skipped on the waiting list. Once at least 40% of the new admissions into each project have incomes at or below 30% of the area median income, the families that had been temporarily skipped may be admitted in accordance with the following limitations. Since all of the Authority's Moderate Rehabilitation projects were established after 1981, the anticipated annual income of not more than 15% of the new families admitted must not exceed 80% of the area median income (low income) other than very low income families. The number of families selected from the group that had been temporarily skipped will vary in order to be in compliance with the requirements that at least 40% of the new admissions must have incomes at or below 30% of the area median income, no more than 15% are at or below 80%, and the remaining new admissions have incomes at or below 50% of the area median income (very low income).

Section 4.03 Income Targeting

The annual gross income of the applicant family is used for income-targeting purposes. The Authority will regularly monitor the income levels of its waiting list applicants and new admissions in order to be sure that it will meet its income-targeting requirement by the end of its fiscal year. Certain families, including those that are "continuously assisted" and families admitted that were displaced as a result of the prepayment of the mortgage or voluntary termination of an insurance contract on eligible low income housing as defined by HUD, are not subject to income targeting requirements and shall not be included in the calculation of meeting the income targeting percentage. The Authority may skip non-extremely low-income families on the waiting list to ensure this requirement is met.

Section 4.04 Calculating Income

HUD regulations specify the sources of income to include and exclude to calculate a family's annual income. Annual income is determined by calculating a family's anticipated total gross income minus allowable exclusions

Definitions:

For the purpose of determining eligibility annual income means all amounts, monetary or not (1) Which go to or on behalf of the family head or spouse or any other family member; (2) That are anticipated to be received from a source outside the family during the 12 month period following admission or the annual reexamination effective date; and (3) Which are not specifically excluded by Federal Regulations. Annual income also includes amounts derived from assets to which any family member has access. In addition to this general definition, HUD regulations establish policies for treating specific types of income and assets. The Authority will comply with HUD regulations and policies in calculating income from various sources.

• Alimony and Child Support Alimony and child support payments are counted as income. If the amount of child support or alimony received is less than the amount awarded by the court, the Authority must use the amount awarded by the court unless the family can verify that they are not receiving the full amount or have not received it for 60 consecutive days. The Authority will accept as verification that the family is receiving an amount less than the award if: The Authority receives verification from the agency responsible for the enforcement of collection; The family furnishes documentation of child support or alimony collection action filed through a child support Enforcement/collection agency, or has filed an enforcement or collection action through an attorney. Direct pay child support arrangements must be verified and accompanied with proof of current address of the payer. The Authority and may require a court enforced Order if the Authority is not able to verify the direct pay arrangement.

• Verifying income

HUD's Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system will be used to verify employment and income. The Authority will also use third party verifications to confirm income and employment. When third party verifications are not received in time to establish eligibility or complete a recertification, the Authority shall document the reason why the third party verification was not used and compute annual income on a provisional basis based upon review of documents. The annual income computation should then be compared to that with the third party verification upon receipt. Adjustments to the amount of rental subsidy will be made based upon the discretion of the Section 8 Supervisor or Intake Supervisor, as appropriate.

• Zero Income

For those cases where the family reports Zero income, the Authority will require the family to periodically (usually every 3 months) report the current income and provide an explanation as to how the family is paying for this household needs by completing a Zero Income Checklist. The family must submit all proof of income and expenses as required by the Zero Income Checklist.

Section 4.05 Deductions

Dependent Deduction

A deduction of \$480 is taken for each dependent. Dependent is defined as any family member other than the head, spouse, or cohead who is under the age of 18 or who is 18 or older and is a person with disabilities or a full-time student. Foster children, foster adults, and live-in aides are never considered dependents

Elderly or Disabled Family Deduction

A single deduction of \$400 is taken for any elderly or disabled family. An elderly family is a family whose head, spouse, cohead, or sole member is 62 years of age or older, and a disabled family is a family whose head, spouse, cohead, or sole member is a person with disabilities

Medical Expense Deduction

Unreimbursed medical expenses may be deducted to the extent that, in combination with any disability assistance expenses, they exceed three percent of annual income. The medical expense deduction is permitted only for families in which the head, spouse, or cohead is at least 62 or is a person with disabilities. If a family is eligible for a medical expense deduction, the medical expenses of all family members are counted. HUD regulations define medical expenses at 24 CFR 5.603(b) to mean "medical expenses, including medical insurance premiums, that are anticipated during the period for which annual income is computed, and that are not covered by insurance." The most current IRS Publication 502, Medical and Dental Expenses, will be used to determine the costs that qualify as medical expenses.

Disability Assistance Deduction

Reasonable expenses for attendant care and auxiliary apparatus for a disabled family member may be deducted if they: (1) are necessary to enable a family member 18 years or older to work, (2) are not paid to a family member or reimbursed by an outside source, (3) in combination with any medical expenses, exceed three percent of annual income, and (4) do not exceed the earned income received by the family member who is enabled to work.

The disability expense deduction is capped by the amount of "earned income received by family members who are 18 years of age or older and who are able to work" because of the expense [24 CFR 5.611(a)(3)(ii)]. The earned income used for this purpose is the amount verified before any earned income disallowances or income exclusions are applied.

Child Care Expense Deduction

HUD defines child care expenses at 24 CFR 5.603(b) as "amounts anticipated to be paid by the family for the care of children under 13 years of age during the period for which annual income is computed, but only where such care is necessary to enable a family member to actively seek employment, be gainfully employed, or to further his or her education and only to the extent such amounts are not reimbursed. The amount deducted shall reflect reasonable charges for child care. In the case of child care necessary to permit employment, the amount deducted shall not exceed the amount of employment income that is included in annual income." If the child care expense being claimed is to enable a family member to seek employment, the family must provide evidence of the family member's efforts to obtain employment at each reexamination. The deduction may be reduced or denied if the family member's job search efforts are not

commensurate with the child care expense being allowed by the Authority. If the child care expense being claimed is to enable a family member to further his or her education, the member must be enrolled in school (academic or vocational) or participating in a formal training program. The family member is not required to be a full-time student, but the time spent in educational activities must be commensurate with the child care claimed. If the child care expense being claimed is to enable a family member to be gainfully employed, the family must provide evidence of the family member's employment during the time that child care is being provided. Gainful employment is any legal work activity (full- or part-time) for which a family member is compensated. The type of care to be provided is determined by the assisted family. The Authority may not refuse to give a family the child care expense deduction because there is an adult family member in the household that may be available to provide child care

Article V. Denial of Assistance

If a family does not meet the eligibility criteria as discussed in Article III and IV, the family must be denied assistance. Additional grounds for mandatory denial are discussed below. Denial of assistance to an applicant may include, denying or withdrawing a Voucher, Refusing to enter into a HAP contract or to approve a Lease, Refusing to process or provide Portability. The Authority will not make any denial based on a families' membership in a protected class. In determining violations of the Policy, the Authority will utilize a Preponderance of the Evidence Standard. Preponderance of the Evidence is defined as evidence which is of greater weight or more convincing than the evidence which is offered in opposition to it, that is evidence which as a whole shows that the facts sought to be proves id more probable than not. The Authority is authorized to consider all relevant circumstance in deciding whether to deny assistance based on a family's past history, except in situations for which denial of assistance is mandatory. The Authority will consider the following facts and circumstances prior to making its decision: The seriousness of the case, the extent of participation or culpability of individual family members, mitigating circumstances related to the disability of a family member, and the effects of denial or termination of assistance on other family members who were not involved in the action or failure.

Section 5.01 Mandatory Denial of Assistance

The Authority must deny admissions to the Programs to:

- Any family member that has been evicted from federally assisted housing for drugrelated criminal activity in the last 3 years. However the Authority may admit the family if it is determined that he/she has successfully completed an Authority approved, supervised drug rehabilitation program or the circumstances leading to the eviction no longer exist.
- The Authority determines that any household member is currently engaged in illegal use of a drug. The Authority defines currently engaged to mean the use of illegal drugs during the previous six months.
- The Authority determines that it has reasonable cause to believe that a household member's illegal drug use or a pattern of illegal drug use may threaten the health, safety,

or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents. In determining reasonable cause, the Authority will consider all credible evidence, including but not limited to, records of conviction, treatment providers, community based organizations and eviction records.

- If the Authority determines that it has reasonable cause to believe that a household member's abuse or pattern of abuse of alcohol may threaten the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.
- Any household member has ever been convicted of drug-related criminal activity for the production or manufacture of methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing.
- Any member of the household is subject to a lifetime State Sex offender registration program requirement. Applicant families will have the opportunity to remove the individual from the household.
- If the SSN disclosure requirements are not met.
- If the family member fails to sign and submit required consent forms.
- If no family member establishes citizenship or eligible immigration status.
- If any family member fails to meet the eligibility requirement concerning individuals enrolled at an institution of higher education.

Section 5.02 Authority to Deny Assistance

(a) Criminal Activity.

The Authority will prohibit admission of a household to the program if it is determined that any household member is currently engaged in, or has engaged in during the last three years before the admission:

- Drug-related criminal activity;
- Violent criminal activity;
- Other criminal activity which may threaten the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents or person residing in the immediate vicinity; or
- Other criminal activity which may threaten the health or safety of the owner, property management staff, or persons performing a contract administration function or responsibility on behalf of the PHA (including a PHA employee or a PHA contractor, subcontractor or agent).

See the Authority's One Strike and You're Our Policy.

- (b) Other Non-Compliant Conduct. The Authority will deny assistance to an applicant family if:
 - The family does not provide information that the Authority or HUD determines necessary in the administration of the program
 - The family does not provide complete and true information to the Authority.
 - Any family member has been evicted from federally- assisted housing in the last 5 years,

- The Authority has previously terminated assistance under the program for any member of the family.
- If any member of the family has committed fraud, bribery, or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any Federal housing program;
- If the family owes rent or other amounts to the Authority or to another public housing authority in connection with Section 8 or Public Housing assistance under the 1937 Act.;
- If the family has not reimbursed the Authority or any other public housing authority for amounts paid to an owner under a housing assistance payments contract for rent, damages to the unit, or other amounts owed by the family under the lease unless the family repays the full amount of the debt prior to being selected from the waiting list;
- If the family has not reimbursed the Authority, or agreed to enter into a repayment agreement for amounts owed to the Authority for reasons as specified in the above paragraph unless the family repays the full amount of the debt prior to being selected from the waiting list;
- If the participant family breaches an agreement with the Authority to pay amounts owed to the Authority, or amounts paid to an owner by the Authority unless the family repays the full amount of the debt prior to being selected from the waiting list;
- If a family participating in the Family Self Sufficiency Program (FSS) fails to comply, without good cause, with the family's FSS Contract of Participation;
- If any member of applicant or participating family has engaged in or threatened abusive or violent behavior toward Authority personnel;
- Adverse information due to negative end of participation or any negative status (i.e. abandoned unit, fraud, serious lease violations, criminal activity, etc.) from previous participation in any housing assistance program.
- Violations of the "One Strike You're Out" Policy.

Article VI. Removal from Waiting Lists

Section 6.01 Reasons for Removal

Applications found ineligible for assistance and/or withdrawn for any reason are removed from the active list. These applicants will not be denied the opportunity to file a new application when the waiting list is open. A family cannot receive assistance in more than one assistance program at the same time. Further, Applicant families may be removed from the waiting list for the following reasons:

- Failure to timely respond to the Interview Letter;
- Failure to attend two scheduled interview appointments;
- Failure to respond to requests for information from the Authority;
- Applicant was clearly advised of a requirement to notify the Authority of continued interest, but has failed to do so;
- Failure to notify the Authority, in writing, of any address changes;
- Failure to attend the Tenant Briefing Program;
- Failure to timely submit a Request for Approval of Tenancy to the Authority;

- Applicant is determined to be ineligible for assistance;
- Applicant knowingly supplies false information for personal gain in violation of application certification.
- Applicant requests removal.

If an applicant does not respond to the Authority's request for information or update because of a disability, the applicant will be reinstated to the waitlist.

Section 6.02 Procedures for Removal

All applicants will be notified by written communication, the method of which is selected by the applicant in the application, of the Authority's intention to remove the applicant from the waiting list. The notice will contain a brief statement of the reasons for the decision. The communication further explains the applicant family's right to an informal review to dispute the removal, which must be requested by the family, in writing, within 30 calendar days of the date of the letter. For applicants on the Housing Choice Voucher waiting list, those who decline one form of assistance for another do not lose their place on the waiting list. Applicants who decline both forms of assistance may be removed from the waiting list. The Violence against Women Act of 2013(VAWA) and HUD Regulations prohibit the Authority from denying an applicant admissions to the Programs "on the basis that the applicant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, if the applicant otherwise qualified for assistance or admissions. Please Section regarding VAWA for more information.

Article VII. Issuance of Assistance

Section 7.01 Family Interview

When selected from the waiting list, the family is interviewed by the Authority. Families must schedule an interview appointment within 10 calendar days of the date of the Interview Letter and attend the interview appointment where all documentation is collected and signed by the appropriate family members. The family will be notified in The Interview Letter of the necessary documents to bring to the interview. Following the interview, the family will have up to 14 calendar days to provide any requested information to the Authority. At the interview, the family will be provided an explanation of the program including the family's responsibilities while receiving assistance. After the interview appointment, the family's income, assets, medical costs, child care costs, disability, handicap or student status, and qualification for the local preference(s), Social Security Numbers and eligible immigration status will be verified through an independent, third party, as appropriate. The applicant will be informed of a final eligibility determination when all information is verified. The Authority must obtain verification of eligibility no more than 60 days before initial issuance of a voucher. Failure to attend the interview, or timely provide all requested information, will result in removal from the waiting list. Being invited to attend an interview does not constitute admission to the program.

Section 7.02 Tenant Briefing Program

If after independent, third party verification the family's anticipated annual income (in accordance with Federal Laws and Regulations) is less than the appropriate Income Limit, as determined by the HUD, the family will be invited to attend a "Tenant Briefing Program" (TBP) Class. At the TBP the family will be provided an oral briefing to ensure the family understands the way the program operates and the family's obligations under the program. The family will also be supplied a briefing packet containing the items and information specified in 24 C.F.R. § 982.301(b). Upon attending the TBP Class the family will be issued the Voucher for participation in the programs. The voucher will include the unit size for which the family qualifies based on the Authority's Subsidy Standards as well as the issue and expiration date of the voucher. The voucher is the document which authorizes the family to begin its search for a unit. Applicants who fail to attend a scheduled briefing will automatically be scheduled for another briefing. The Authority will notify the family of the date and time of the second scheduled briefing. Applicants who fail to attend two scheduled briefings, without the Authority's approval, will be denied assistance.

Section 7.03 Subsidy Standards

The subsidy standard is the criteria established by the Authority for determining the appropriate number of bedrooms and amount of subsidy for families of different sizes and compositions.

Requirements The subsidy standard must provide for the smallest number of bedrooms needed to house the family without overcrowding, must comply with HQS space requirements, and must be applied consistently for all families of the same size and composition. There must be at least one bedroom or living/sleeping room of appropriate size for each two persons. Persons of opposite sex, other than husband and wife or children age six or younger will not be required to occupy the same bedroom or living/sleeping room.

- (a) Exceptions The Authority will consider requests for an exception to the subsidy standards on a case-by-case basis. The family must request an exception to the subsidy standards in writing. The request should explain the reason for the request and how a larger/smaller unit would improve the current circumstances of the household. The Authority may grant an exception from the established subsidy standards if it is determined that an exception is justified because of the age, sex, health, handicap, or relationship of household members or other personal circumstances. However, for a single person, other than a disabled or elderly person or remaining family member, the exception may not override the limitation that family unit size for any family consisting of a single person must be either a zero or one-bedroom unit.
- (b) Live in Aides A live-in aide is defined as a person approved by the Authority who resides in the unit to care for a "family member" who is disabled or at least 50 years of age and who: (1) Is determined to be essential to the care and well-being of the person(s); (2) Is not obligated for support of the person(s); and (3) Who would not be living in the unit except to provide necessary support services.

A health care provider must document the need for a live-in aide. Accordingly, the Authority will seek a "Verification of Need for Live-In Aide" from a health care provider as a reasonable accommodation. Live-in aides will be verified at intake and during the participant's reexamination so long as a live-in aide is needed.

Once the participant is determined to be eligible for a live-in aide, the Authority will determine whether the specific individual indentified by the family as an aide is eligible by conducting a background /criminal check. The Authority may disapprove a particular person as a live-in aide if s/he has: (1) committed fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program; (2) committed drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity; (3) currently owes rent or other amounts to the PHA or to another PHA in connection with Section 8 or public housing assistance under the 1937 Act; (4) violated any family obligations under the program as published under CFR 982.551; (5) been convicted of manufacturing or producing methamphetamine, on the premises of an assisted housing project; (6) been evicted from any federally subsidized housing program for any reason; (7) been identified as someone who has to register as a sex offender; (8) is not qualified to provide the needed care

Once the particular aide is deemed eligible, Authority will require the participant to complete a live-in aide certification form.

In the event of moves, termination or death of the participant, Live-in aides will not be considered as a remaining member of the tenant family. Occasional, intermittent, multiple, or rotating care givers typically do not meet the definition of a live-in aide. A live-in aide must reside with a family permanently for the family unit size to be adjusted in accordance with the subsidy standards.

Section 7.04 Voucher

(a) Submission of Requests for Tenancy Approvals

The voucher is issued after the family has been certified eligible and briefed on program requirements or when the participant family wishes to move to another unit with continued tenant based assistance. The term of the Housing Choice Voucher will be suspended upon submission of a Request for Tenancy Approval (RFTA). Suspension shall mean stopping the clock on the term of a family's voucher after the family submits a request for approval of the tenancy. The RFTA form must be signed and dated by both the owner of the proposed unit and the head of the household and have a copy of the owner's proposed lease agreement attached. The suspension will end on the date the Authority approves or denies the RFTA and notifies the family in writing whether the request has been approved or denied. Suspension of terms will be documented by the Staff in the applicant's electronic file. If the Authority determines that the request cannot be approved for any reason, the Authority will instruct the owner and family what is necessary to approve the request or advise why the request cannot be approved. A family will initially be issued one RFTA form, but may request additional RFTA to allow concurrent submissions, if determined appropriate by the Supervisor. Families are responsible for communicating with the landlord to ensure that the RFTA has been properly and timely submitted to the Authority for approval.

(b) Requests for Extension

The initial term of the Housing Choice Vouchers is sixty (60) days. If a household fails to submit a RFTA within the sixty (60) day term, the household may request an extension. The Housing Choice Vouchers will be extended for an additional term of up to sixty (60) days

upon written request by the Housing Choice Voucher holder. Such request must be received by the Authority prior to the initial expiration date. The length of the extended term will be at the discretion of the Intake Supervisor, or her designee. In determining the length of the extension, the Intake Supervisor shall consider the totality of the circumstances including the cause of the delay and reasonable efforts to secure housing during the delay. It is recognized by the Authority that many factors influence how quickly a Housing Choice Voucher holder can lease an acceptable unit. Illness, the weather (winter snow or summer heat), lack of public or private transportation, employment commitments, demands of children, disability, and other factors may delay the search for housing. The Authority may require applicants to submit periodic progress reports regarding their status on leasing a unit. One the family's Voucher expires (including any extensions), the family is no longer eligible to search for housing assistance under the program and will be removed from the wait list.

Section 7.05 Limitations on non-residents

Applicants considered Non-residents at the time of registration must lease a unit within the Authority's operating jurisdiction during the initial year.

Section 7.06 Verification of Information

The Authority will verify all information that is used to establish the family's eligibility and level of assistance and it required to obtain written authorizations from the family in order to collect the information. Applicants and program participants must cooperate with the verification process as a condition of receiving assistance. The Authority will follow the verification process provided by HUD in Notice PIH 2010-19 and any subsequent guidance issued by HUD.

The table below lists factors to be verified along with the acceptable forms of documentation within each category

Verification Factor	Form of Documentation
Name	A form of government issued identification such as a birth certificate, driver's licenses, or identification card.
Age	Government issued documentation such as a birth certificate driver's licenses, or identification card that includes a birth date.
Married	Certificate of marriage or license
Divorced	Copy of certified divorce decree
Separated	Copy of certified, court-order maintenance award (if legal) or a notarized statement declaring separation

Full-Time	Current school records documenting a student's status as full-time at a
Dependent Student	degree or certificate granting institution. This requirement applies only to
	household members 18 years and older.
Employment Income	The Authority will check the Enterprise Income Verification database
Employment meome	(EIV) to verify sources of income and benefits. Most recent paycheck
	stubs (consecutive: six for weekly pay, three for biweekly or semi-
	monthly pay, two for monthly pay); employer-generated salary report or
	letter stating current annual income, W-2 forms if the applicant has had
	the same employer for at least two years and increases can be accurately
	projected; earnings statements; and most recent federal income tax
	statements are required. Verification must specify: Beginning date of
	employment; amount of pay; frequency of pay; effective date of last pay
	increase; and probability and effective date of any increase during the next 12 months.
	Heat 12 months.
Self-employment,	Form 1099, 1040/1040A or Schedule C of 1040 showing amount earned
Gratuities, Seasonal	and employment period; U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) transcripts
or Sporadic	will be required. Additionally, signed self-certifications, IRS letter of
	non-filing or full income tax returns may be required.
Business Income	IRS Form 1040 with schedules C, E or F; financial statements; any loan
	application or credit report listing income derived from business during
	the preceding 12 months.
Rental Income	Copies of recent bills, checks or leases to verify income; tax assessment
	information; insurance premiums; receipts for maintenance and utility
	expenses; bank statements.
Dividend and	Copies of current bank statements, bank passbooks, certificates of deposit
Interest Income	showing current rate of interest; copies of IRS form 1099 from the
	financial institution and verification of projected income for the next 12
	months; broker's quarterly statements showing value of stocks, bonds
	and earnings credited to the applicant; tax forms to indicate earned income tax credits.
	meome tax cicuits.
Interest from Sale of	Amortization schedule with amount of interest earned in next 12 months
Real Property	
Social Security and	Annual award letter signed by authorizing agency.
Supplemental Security Income	
(SSI)	
(001)	

Public Assistance Benefits	Original benefit letter signed by authorizing agency; copies of checks or records from agency stating payments, dates, pay period and benefit schedule;
Recurring Contributions or Gifts	Copies of checks received by the applicant or a self-certification that contains the following information: the person who provides the gifts; the value of the gifts; the regularity (dates) of the gifts; and the purpose of the gifts
Family Assets	Passbooks, checking or savings account statements, certificates of deposit, stock or bond documents or other financial statements; documents related to retirement funds; opinions from attorneys, stockbrokers, bankers and real estate agents verifying penalties and reasonable costs incurred to convert assets to cash.
Real Property	Copies of real estate tax statements; copies of real estate closing documents, which indicate distribution of sales proceeds and settlement costs; mortgage statements, a copy of a deed, utility bills for rental property and any other documents to establish the current value of any property
Trust	In the event that a participant is owner of a trust but does not receive income from that trust, proper documentation such as a "trust instrument" that explains that the participant does not, or cannot, receive income from the trust, must be submitted.
Disability Income/Workers Compensation	Benefit letter from authorizing agency indicating pay rate and period over which payments will be made; copies of checks or records from agency stating payments, dates, pay period and duration of benefit term
Pension	Benefit letter from authorizing agency; copies of checks or records from agency stating payments, dates, pay period and duration of benefit term.
Alimony and/or Child Support	Copies of recent checks, recording the date, amount and check number of alimony or child support payment; a court ordered support schedule; recent letters from the court.
Education Scholarships	Award letters showing the scholarship's purpose, amount and dates of the awards.
Medical Expense	Acceptable forms of documentation of medical expenses include but are not limited to: copies of cancelled checks that verify payments on outstanding medical bills that will continue for the next 12 months;

	income tax forms which itemize medical expenses that are expected to continue over the next 12 months; copies of cancelled checks that verify payments to a live-in aide; receipts or ticket stubs which verify transportation expenses directly related to medical care; written verification by a doctor, hospital or clinic personnel of the anticipated medical costs to be incurred by the family and regular payments due on medical bills; written confirmation by the insurance company or employer of health insurance premiums to be paid by the family.
Childcare Expenses	Verification of childcare expenses must include the childcare provider's name, address and telephone number, the names of the children cared for, the number of hours the childcare occurs, the rate of pay, and the typical yearly amount paid, including school and vacation periods. The Authority will require as documentation copies of receipts or cancelled checks indicating childcare payments. If the childcare provider is an individual, that person must provide a notarized statement of the amount they are charging the family for their services
Assistance to Persons with Disabilities	Written certification from a reliable professional that the disabled person requires the services of an attendant and/or the use of any auxiliary apparatus permitting him/her to be employed or function with sufficient independence thus enabling another family member to be employed; family's certification as to how much if any amount of reimbursement for any of the expenses of disability assistance they receive; and the following documentation: Attendant Care: • Attendant's written certification of amount received from the family, frequency of receipt, and hours of care provided; and • Certification of family and attendant and/or copies of cancelled checks family used to make payments. Auxiliary Apparatus: • Receipts for purchase or proof of monthly payments and maintenance expenses for auxiliary apparatus; and • In the case where the person with disabilities is employed, a statement from the employer that the auxiliary apparatus is necessary for employment.
Residency	At least two of the following documents: Utility bill (electric, water, refuse, telephone, cable, or gas) • Checking or savings account statement from a bank or credit union • High school or college report card or transcript containing your address • Lease or rental agreement • Property tax bill, statement or receipt • Letter or official correspondence from IRS or state tax office, or

	any federal or local government agency Deed/Title Mortgage Insurance Policy Voters registration Card Pay Stub Pension or retirement statement Court Order New Jersey Drivers License or ID Card Military Service Records Federal/State Tax Return
Social Security Numbers	The Authority must accept the following documentation as acceptable evidence of the social security number: • An original SSN card issued by the Social Security Administration (SSA)
	• An original SSA-issued document, which contains the name and SSN of the individual
	• An original document issued by a federal, state, or local government agency, which contains the name and SSN of the individual.
	The Authority may only reject documentation of an SSN provided by an applicant or resident if the document is not an original document, if the original document has been altered, mutilated, is illegible, or if the document appears to be forged
Displacement Status	This verification may be obtained from source of displacement project reported

Section 7.07 Small Area Fair Market Rents

In accordance with the Small Area Fair Market Rent (SAFMR) Final Rule (FR-5855-F-03) The Authority is obligated to implement SAFMR effective April 1, 2018. As such, in lieu of determining Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) payment standards using a metropolitan area-wide FMR, payment standards will use FMR's calculated for Zip codes within the metropolitan area. the revised payment standards, as determined by the Authority, must be within 90 percent to 110 percent of the HUD published SAFMR for the zip code area. With respect to all families under HAP contract on April 1, 2018, the Authority shall implement the decreased payment standard

schedule after the family's second regular re-examination following the effective date of the decrease in the payment standard. For all new HAP contracts, including relocations with continued housing assistance and new lease ups, the payment standard schedule shall be effective April 1, 2018.

Article VIII. Occupancy Polices

Section 8.01 Family Obligations

Obligations of the family are described in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) regulations and on the voucher itself. These obligations include responsibilities the family is required to fulfill, as well as prohibited actions. A family's action or inactions in performing the following obligations affect both program eligibility and continued participation in the Program. All changes in income or family composition must be reported to the Authority in writing within 14 calendar days after they occur.

- The family must supply any information that the Authority or HUD determines is necessary in the administration of the program, including submission of required evidence of citizenship or eligible immigration status. "Information" includes any requested certification, release or other documentation;
- The family must supply any information requested by the Authority or HUD for use in a regularly scheduled reexamination or interim reexamination of family income and composition in accordance with HUD requirements;
- The family must disclose and verify social security numbers and must sign and submit consent forms for obtaining information in accordance with HUD requirements
- The family must be responsible for specific HQS breaches that are caused by the family's failure to pay any utilities or appliances, or damages to the dwelling unit or premises beyond normal wear and tear caused by any member of the household or guest.
- The family must allow the Authority to inspect the unit at reasonable times after reasonable notice. Notice will be supplied in writing to the assisted unit. The Authority expects families to make themselves available for the inspection or make other arrangements as appropriate to allow for the scheduled inspection.
- The family must not commit any serious or repeated violations of the lease. Serious and repeated lease violations include, but may not be limited to, nonpayment of rent, disturbances of neighbors, destruction of property, living or housekeeping habits that cause damage to the unit or premises and criminal activity. The Authority will determine if a serious or repeated lease violation has occurred based on available evidence including court-ordered eviction or owner's notice to evict, police reports and affidavits from owners, neighbors or other credible parties with direct knowledge;
- The family must notify the Authority and the owner before the family moves out of the unit or terminated the lease on notice to the owner. The family must comply with Lease requirements and provide written notice;
- The family must promptly give the Authority a copy of any owner eviction notice;
- The family must use the assisted unit for residence by the family. The unit must be the family's only residence;

- The family must have the composition of the assisted family residing in the unit approved by the Authority. The family must promptly inform the Authority of the birth, adoption or court-awarded custody of a child. The family must request Authority approval to add any other family member as an occupant of the unit. The request to add a family member must be submitted in writing and approved prior to the person moving into the unit. The authority will determine eligibility of the new member in accordance with its standard policies.
- The family must promptly notify the PHA if any family member no longer resides in the unit. The Authority will require proof of an alternative address for the removed individual
- Members of the household may engage in legal profitmaking activities in the unit, but only if such activities are incidental to primary use of the unit for residence by members of the family;
- The family must not sublease or let the unit. The Authority considers subleasing to include receiving payment to cover rent and utility costs by a person living in the unit who is not listed as a family member;
- The family must not assign the lease or transfer the unit;
- The family must supply any information or certification requested by the Authority to verify that the family is living in the unit or that the family is absent from the unit;
- The family must not own or have any interest in the unit;
- The members of the family must not commit fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with the programs;
- The members of the household may not engage in drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity or other criminal activity that threatens the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of other residents and persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises;
- The members of the household must not abuse alcohol in a way that threatens the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of other residents and persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises;
- An assisted family, or members of the family, may not receive Section 8 tenant-based assistance while receiving another housing subsidy, for the same unit or for a different unit, under any duplicative (as determined by HUD or in accordance with HUD requirements) federal, State or local housing assistance program.

Section 8.02 Payment Standards

For Housing Choice Voucher Program participants, the Authority maintains a schedule of payment standards by unit size. An evaluation of the Housing Choice Voucher Program affordability adjustment shall be made annually prior to implementing a change in the Housing Choice Voucher Program Payment Standard Schedule. Affordability adjustments shall be made to the Payment Standards by the Executive Director or his/her designee, following an affordability adjustment study and determination. The affordability adjustment shall be conducted so as to determine whether families have a sufficient level of subsidy to allow freedom of choice in the selection of rental housing within the Authority's jurisdiction. Affordability adjustments in the Payment Standard will be consistent with funding limitations as set forth in the Annual Contributions Contract, Federal Law, and regulations set by HUD. The Authority may establish a higher payment standard (although still between 90% and 110% of the

Fair Market Rents for Gloucester County, as determined by HUD) as a reasonable accommodation for a family that includes people with disabilities.

Section 8.03 Rent

Rent to Owner

Rent to owner is the total monthly rent payable to the owner under the lease for the unit. Rent to owner includes payment for any housing services, maintenance and utilities the owner is required to pay and provide for.

(b) The total tenant payment is the greater of: (1) 30% of the family's monthly adjusted income; or (2) 10% of the family's monthly income. At the time the Authority approves tenancy for initial occupancy of a dwelling unit, if the gross rent for the unit is greater than the payment standard for the family, the family share should not exceed 40 percent of the family's adjusted monthly income.

(c) Minimum Rents

- For the Moderate Rehabilitation Programs, the minimum total tenant payment is equal to \$0
- For the Housing Choice Voucher Program, the minimum family contribution is equal to \$0.

(d) <u>Utility Allowances</u>

The Authority shall maintain utility allowance schedules by unit type and bedroom size in accordance with Federal Laws and Regulations. If applicable, The Authority will issue a utility reimbursement check from the Authority towards the allowance for tenant supplied utilities to the tenant for the purpose of assisting with utility payments. However, The Authority may issue utility payments directly to the utility suppliers.

Section 8.04 Reasonableness of Rent

(a) Objectives

The Authority must make a rent reasonableness determination at initial occupancy and whenever the owner requests a rent adjustment. The purpose of the rent reasonableness limitation is to ensure that a federally subsidized rent does not exceed the fair rental value of a comparable unit on the private unassisted market. Reasonable rent is defined as "a rent to owner that is not more than rent charged 1) for comparable units in the private unassisted market and 2) For comparable unassisted units in the premises. By accepting each monthly payment from the Authority, the owner certifies that the rent to owner is not more than the rent charged by the owner for comparable unassisted units.

(b) Determination of Reasonableness

To determine reasonableness of rent, the Authority obtains data of comparable unassisted units within the Authority's operating jurisdiction. The market data is obtained from various sources considering contract rent, tenant supplied utilities, age of unit, amenities, location, housing services, maintenance or utilities provided by the owner. Prior to approving the initial contract, and at the time of any increases in contract rent, the Authority will compare the gross rents of the comparable units to that of the target unit. If the gross rent of the target unit exceeds that of the comparable units, the Intake Supervisor or the Section 8 Supervisor, as appropriate, will review the file and determine whether or not to approve the rent.

(c) Changes in Rent

After the initial term of the lease, the owner may increase the rent. The owner must notify the Authority in writing of the increase at least 60 days before the lease is to be effective. Changes in the rent are subject to rent reasonableness requirements.

Section 8.05 Family Absence from Dwelling

For purposes of this section, "absence" means that no member of the family is residing in the unit

(a) Limitations on Absence

The family may be absent from the unit for brief periods. A family must notify the Authority in writing of any absences longer than 30 calendar days. Such notification should include the purpose of the absence. In no case can any absence exceed 90 consecutive calendar days. Housing assistance payments terminate if the family is absent for longer than the maximum period permitted. The term of the HAP contract and assisted lease will also terminate

(b) <u>Temporary Absences</u>

Generally an individual who is or is expected to be absent from the unit for 90 consecutive days or less is considered temporarily absent and continues to be considered a family member. Generally an individual who is or is expected to be absent from the unit for more than 90 consecutive days is considered permanently absent and no longer a family member. Exceptions to this general policy are discussed below. If the period of absence is expected to occur during the projected time frame for either annual re-examination or Housing Quality Standard (HQS) inspection, the family must make alternative arrangements to meet their family obligations that are acceptable to the Authority. If the assisted lease contains provisions regarding tenant absence from unit, the family must document that it has complied with these lease provisions. All Housing Assistance over-payments may be recouped from both the owner and the family for any unauthorized absences.

<u>Absent Students:</u> When someone who has been considered a family member attends school away from home, the person will continue to be considered a family member unless information becomes available to the Authority indicating that the student has established a separate household or the family declares that the student has established a separate household.

Absences Due to Placement in Foster Care: Children temporarily absent from the home as a result of placement in foster care are considered members of the family. If a child has been placed in foster care, the Authority will verify with the appropriate agency whether and when the child is expected to be returned to the home. Unless the agency confirms that the child has been permanently removed from the home, the child will be counted as a family member. This also applies to minor children who are in detention facilities, such as juvenile hall.

<u>Absent Head, Spouse, or Co-head</u>: An employed head, spouse, or co-head absent from the unit more than 90 consecutive days due to employment will continue to be considered a family member.

<u>Family Members Permanently Confined for Medical Reasons:</u> If a family member is confined to a nursing home or hospital on a permanent basis, that person is no longer considered a family member and the income of that person is not counted. HAGC will seek verification of permanent confinement

Verification of Absences

The Authority may verify family occupancy or absences, through letters to the family's subsidized unit, phone calls, home visits, or through questions to landlords or neighbors, as determined necessary.

(c) Resumption of assistance after an absence

The Authority must terminate the HAP contract for an assisted unit if the family is absent from the assisted unit for more than 90 consecutive calendar days. If this occurs, the family must submit a written request to continue in the Housing Choice Voucher Program within 14 days of the termination of the HAP contract. This request must be made in writing, and the family must subsequently provide all required information and documents by the specified deadline in order for the Authority to recertify continuing eligibility and issue a new voucher. If a request is not received, or if the family does not provide required documents by the established deadlines, the family will be notified that the family has been deemed to have voluntarily given up their HCV Section 8 assistance. If the family's HAP contract was terminated after the 90 day limit for a previously approved absence and the family cannot submit or complete a request for recertification within 14 days due to special circumstances beyond the family's control, which include, but are not limited to, hospitalization, convalescent care, or disability, the Executive Director may permit an additional period of time for the family to request readmission or resumption of assistance. Resumption of assistance will generally only be granted when a medical necessity, domestic violence or other compelling circumstance was the cause for the absence. In such cases, the Authority will consider whether the family acted in a manner to attempt to fulfill their obligations under the program.

Section 8.06 Families Who Wish to Move With Continued Assistance

(a) Limitations on Moving

The Authority will not permit any family to move during the initial year of the assisted occupancy. After the initial year of assisted occupancy, a family, who is not in violation of any family obligations, may move, provided that they supply 60 calendar days written notice, prior to the first of the month, to both the landlord and to the Authority. The family must also be in compliance with all family obligations as set forth in 24 CFR 982.551 to be granted Authority permission to move. In any one year, a participant family may not move more than one time. The Authority may deny permission to move if there is not sufficient funding for continued assistance or the family is not in compliance with the program requirements and the Authority has grounds for denying or terminating the family's assistance. Such requests shall be documented with proper documentation demonstrating the Authority's inability to support the request. In the event the family's request is denied due to insufficient funding, the Authority will provide a letter to the tenant at the time the move is denied. The Authority shall consider a Family's request to move for thirty (30) days from the date the request was filed if there is insufficient funding to immediately grant the request. If funds become available within thirty (30) days which would allow the Family to move, the Authority shall notify the Family by a letter that funds are available, and that the request is granted.

(b) Requests to Move Prior to End of Lease

Should a participant notify the Authority that they wish to vacate a unit before the end of an assisted lease, the participant may only move with continued assistance if they provide the Authority with sufficient documentation demonstrating a Mutual Termination of Lease tenancy with the landlord. The family must also be in compliance with all family obligations as set forth in 24 CFR 982.551 to be granted Authority permission to move. In the cases where the landlord will not release the tenant, the tenant may only move with continued assistance upon the written approval from the Executive Director, or his designee. A participant's failure to provide proper notice to their landlord or the Authority before vacating an assisted unit will result in the delay, denial, or termination of housing assistance to the household.

(c) VAWA Protections

Restrictions on moves with continued assistance do not apply if the family or a member of the family is or has been the victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and the move is needed to protect the health or safety of the family or family member. See section X of Protections under VAWA.

Section 8.07 Portability

Portability is the process of renting a dwelling unit; or purchasing a dwelling within Section 8 Tenant-based voucher assistance outside the jurisdiction of the initial Public Housing Authority. Within the limitations of the regulations and this plan, a participant family or an applicant family that has been issued a voucher has the right to use tenant-based voucher assistance to lease a unit anywhere in the United States providing that the unit is located within the jurisdiction of a PHA administering a tenant-based voucher program. Portability assistance will not be provided for a participant family if the family has moved out of its assisted unit in violation of the lease. See exceptions for VAWA under Section X on Protections under VAWA.

Section 8.08 Continued Assistance When the Assisted Family Breaks up

Generally, the assistance will remain with the household members who remain in the contract unit. If the Voucher holder passes away leaving only minor children in the assisted unit, the Authority may consider a request to transfer the Voucher into the name of the individual named as guardian of the minor children. The decision of which family members continue to receive assistance will be made on a case-by-case basis considering the following factors: If any family members are caring and providing for minor children; If any family members are/were caring for an ill, elderly, or disabled adult; If any family members were forced to leave the unit as result of actual or threatened physical violence. If a court determines disposition of property between family members, the Authority must abide by the court's decision. If the family breaks up results from an occurrence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, the Authority must ensure that the victim retains the assistance. Household members such as live-in aides, foster children and foster adults do not qualify as remaining members of a family.

Section 8.09 Guests in the Assisted Household

A guest is a person temporarily staying in the assisted household with the consent of a member of the household who has express or implied authority to so consent. A guest staying in the assisted household greater than 14 days in a 12-month period without prior Authority approval will be considered to be living in the unit as an unauthorized household member and the household's assistance may be terminated.

Children who are subject to a joint custody arrangement or for whom a family has visitation privileges, that are not included as a family member because they live outside of the assisted household more than 50 percent of the time, are not subject to the time limitations on guests as described above.

A family may request an exception to this policy for valid reasons, for example, care of a relative recovering from a medical procedure. An exception will not be granted unless the family can identify and provide documentation of the residence to which the guest will return.

In determining whether there is a violation of the guest policy, the Authority will consider, the absence of another permanent address, statements by landlords or neighbors, use of the tenants address for any non-temporary purposes.

Section 8.10 Repayment Agreements

Families are required to reimburse the Authority if they were charged less rent than required by HUD's rent formula due to the tenant's underreporting or failure to report income. The family is required to reimburse the Authority for the difference between the tenant rent that should have been paid and the tenant rent that was charged. The Authority must determine retroactive rent amount as far back as the Authority has documentation of family reported income. If the family refuses to enter into a repayment agreement or fails to make payments on an existing or new repayment agreement, the Authority may terminate the family's assistance. All repayment agreements must be in writing, dated, signed by both the family and the Authority, include the total retroactive rent amount owned, amount of lump sum payment made at the time of execution, if applicable, and the monthly repayment amount. The monthly amount due shall be determined on a case by case basis, taking into consideration the family's income, rent, and other individual circumstances. All repayment agreements must be approved by the Section 8 Supervisor. If the participant family receives a utility reimbursement check from the Authority towards the allowance for tenant supplied utilities, the Authority may, at its discretion, issue the check to itself on behalf of the tenant. This amount shall be credited towards the monthly amount the participant family owes the Authority under the repayment agreement. The maximum number of repayment agreements that a participant may be permitted to enter into is two throughout the duration of participation. Outstanding debts due to the Authority will be pursued.

Article IX. Reexaminations

Section 9.01 Annual Reexaminations

Subject to an exception in set forth below, the Authority will reexamine the income and composition of families annually. The annual reexamination determines the continued eligibility of the family and establishes the payment to be made on behalf of the family. All reexaminations will be performed in accordance with Federal law and regulations. It is the family's obligation to provide the Authority with all requested information required to complete the reexamination in a timely manner. Delays in reexamination processing are considered to be caused by the family if the family fails to provide information requested by the Authority by the

date specified, and this delay prevents the Authority from completing the reexamination as scheduled

Section 9.02 Interim Reexaminations

As indicated in Family Obligations, a family is required to report all changes in income and family composition to the Authority. An interim reexamination will be performed for participant families when there is a change in family composition or the family's anticipated annual income is believed to have decreased or increased. The examination will occur within a reasonable time. The family has an obligation to supply all the documents requested to complete the interim. Failure to supply the requested documents will result in adverse action against the family as deemed appropriate. If the tenant rent or family rent decreases, the effective date the HAP will be adjusted will be the 1st of the month succeeding the completed interim reexamination. If tenant rent or family rent to owner increases, the effective date will be the 1st of the month after the family has received 30 calendar days notice of such increase. The Authority may conduct an interim reexamination at any time in order to correct an error in a previous reexamination, or to investigate a tenant fraud complaint. At the Executive Director's discretion, the Authority reserves the right to not perform an interim recertification from the point of voucher issuance until after 6 months of an assisted family's contract. An interim reexamination will not occur when the family reports a loss of welfare benefits due to fraud or a failure to participate in selfsufficiency or work activity. In the event a family experiences a temporary decrease in income, the Authority will perform an interim reexamination based on the current circumstance, which may temporarily reduce the tenant's share. When the income of the family stabilizes, another interim reexamination will be performed to adjust the tenant's share accordingly. Further, see the Authority's Policy for Zero Income Families as stated above.

Section 9.03 Obligation to Provide Information

Families are required to supply all required information, as described in the reexamination notice, to the reexamination appointment or supply the information by mail. If the assisted family head of household does not respond to the reexamination notification, the Authority will send a second notice requiring the missing documents or information to be supplied within seven business days. If the assisted family does not respond to the second notice, the Authority will send a termination notice to both the family and the owner.

Section 9.04 Notification of Reexamination

The Authority will notify the family and the owner of the results of the annual reexamination in writing. The notice will include the amount and effective date of the new HAP; the amount and the effective date the new family share of the rent; and the amount and the effective date of the new rent to owner.

Section 9.05 Discrepancies

If during a reexamination, the Authority discover information previously reported by the family was in error, that the family intentionally misrepresented information or that an error was made by the Authority, corrections will be made and the family may be subject to a repayment agreement and/or termination.

Section 9.06 Verification of Assets

For a family with a net assets equal to or less than \$5,000 the Authority will accept, for the purposes of recertification of income, a family declaration that it has net assets equal to or less than \$5,000, without taking additional steps to verify the accuracy of the declaration. The family declaration shall be maintained in the tenant file.

Article X. Housing Quality Standards/Inspections

Section 10.01 Owner and Family Responsibilities

Family Responsibilities

The family is responsible for correcting the following HQS deficiencies:

- Tenant-paid utilities not in service
- Failure to provide or maintain family-supplied appliances
- Damage to the unit or premises caused by a household member or guest beyond normal wear and tear. "Normal wear and tear" is defined as items which could not be charged against the tenant's security deposit under state law or court practice.

Owner Responsibilities

The owner is responsible for all HQS violations not listed as a family responsibility above, even if the violation is caused by the family's living habits (e.g., vermin infestation). However, if the family's actions constitute a serious or repeated lease violation the owner may take legal action to evict the family

Section 10.02 Regular Inspections

The Authority shall require that all assisted units be maintained in accordance with Housing Quality Standards (HQS) as provided in 24 CFR 982.401, as established by HUD. Biennial inspections, and inspections prior to commencing housing assistance payments contracts for units with landlords, are performed in accordance with the HQS performance requirements and acceptability criteria. The Authority reserves the right to perform annual inspections. Both the family and the owner will be provided reasonable notice of all inspections. Except in the case of life-threatening emergencies, reasonable notice is considered to not be less than 48 hours. When a family occupies the unit at the time of inspection, an adult family member must be present for the inspection. Two or more missed or rescheduled inspection appointments may be grounds for termination. The Authority will notify the owner and the family of the HQS determination. Failed items must be verified as corrected before the beginning of the initial lease term and prior to the HAP contract execution.

Section 10.03 Special Inspections

Special inspections also may be performed at the request of the owner, family, or as determined necessary by the Authority. During a special inspection, the inspector will generally only inspect those deficiencies which are reported. However, the inspector will record any additional HQS

deficiencies or violations of family obligations. In the event that an active vermin or rodent infestation is reported to the Authority, the Authority will accept documentation from a verifiable third party that the infestation exists.

Section 10.04 Quality Control Inspections

HUD requires that a sample of units be reinspected by a supervisor or other qualified individual to ensure that HQS are being enforced correctly and uniformly by all inspectors.

Section 10.05 Repairs

Owners shall be given a reasonable amount of time, 30 days, to make repairs to units, in accordance with Federal rules and regulations. For conditions that are not life-threatening, the Authority may grant extensions of time to make repairs upon the request of the owner, if the Authority determines the extension is appropriate. All life-threatening HQS deficiencies must be corrected within 24 hours from the inspections. If the violations are not corrected by the deadline date, the Authority may suspend payment or terminate the HAP Contract. These procedures place ultimate responsibility for the correction of any HQS violation found during an inspection with the owner. However, the owner is not responsible for a breach of the HQS that is not caused by the owner, and for which the family is responsible. The Authority may terminate assistance to a family because of HQS breach caused by the family. The Authority will verify that necessary repairs have been completed by the end of the corrective period, or any Authority approved extension. The Authority will determine the verification process based on the severity of the corrections and/or its experience with the owner and knowledge of the property. The Authority may require a re-inspection to verify that repairs were completed. If required, the family and owner will be given reasonable notice of the reinspection appointment. If the deficiencies have not been corrected by the time of the reinspection, the Authority will send a notice of abatement to the owner, or in the case of family caused violations, a notice of termination to the family, in accordance with Authority policies. If the Authority is unable to gain entry to the unit in order to conduct the scheduled reinspection, the Authority will consider the family to have violated its obligation to make the unit available for inspection. This may result in termination of the family's assistance.

Section 10.06 Life Threatening Conditions

The following conditions are considered life threatening conditions:

Gas leak; Exposed/arcing electrical; Structural damage: collapsed walls, floors, ceiling; Exposed broken glass; Missing or inoperable smoke detector; Lack of a functioning flush toilet in a one bathroom unit; Lack of security of the unit; Plumbing leaks or flooding; Lack of permanent functioning heating equipment if inspection occurs during the months of November—March; Vermin infestation; No water, gas or electric service.

When life threatening conditions are identified, the Authority will immediately notify both the owner and family and specify who is responsible for correcting the violation.

Section 10.07 Abatement of Housing Assistance Payments

When a unit fails to meet the HQS and the owner has been given an opportunity to correct the deficiencies, but has failed to do so within the required timeframe, the housing assistance payment will be abated (not paid). For tenant caused deficiencies, the owner will not be held accountable and the housing assistance payment will not be abated. The owner will not be penalized for delays in inspections of the repairs as long as they have notified the Authority that the repairs had been made. During any abatement period the family continues to be responsible for its share of rent. The owner must not seek payment from the family for abated amounts and may not use the abatement as a cause for eviction.

Section 10.08 Inspection of PHA-owned Unit

The Authority must obtain the services of an independent entity to perform all HQS inspections in cases where an HCV family is receiving assistance in a Authority -owned unit. A Authority -owned unit is defined as a unit that is owned by the PHA that administers the assistance under the consolidated ACC (including a unit owned by an entity substantially controlled by the PHA). The independent agency must communicate the results of each inspection to the family and the Authority.

Section 10.09 Enforcing Family Compliance with HQS

Families are responsible for correcting any HQS violations listed in the above section-Family Responsibilities. If the family fails to correct a violation within the period allowed by the Authority (and any extensions), the Authority will terminate the family's assistance, according to the policies described in this Policy. If the owner carries out a repair for which the family is responsible under the lease, the owner may bill the family for the cost of the repair.

Article XI. Owner Participation

Section 11.01 Proof of Ownership

For purposes of this section, "owner" includes a principal or other interested party. In addition to the owner's certification on the Housing Assistance Payments Contact, it is the policy of the Authority to verify ownership of the assisted unit. A landlord who wishes to participate in the Program must provide proof of ownership of the property rented under the program; e.g., tax bill. A landlord currently participating in the Program must provide current proof of ownership, when requested. A landlord must provide a Tax ID number for the property under contract upon entering the program and/or when requested.

Section 11.02 Owner's Responsibility to Screen

The owner is responsible for screening and selection of the family to occupy the owner's unit. The Authority does not screen applicants for family behavior or suitability for tenancy and has no liability or responsibility to the owner for the family's behavior or suitability for tenancy.

Section 11.03 Providing Information to Owners

The Authority must provide interested owners with the family's last known address, current landlord, and prior landlord, if known. The Authority's policy on providing information to owners will be communicated to the families, in writing, at the time of admission or upon a family requesting to move to another unit.

Section 11.04 Disapproval of Owners

The Authority will deny lease approval if it required to do so in accordance with 24 C.F.R. § 982.306 and for the following reasons:

- The Authority is required to deny approval by state law;
- The federal government has instituted an administrative or judicial action against the owner for violation of the Fair Housing Act or other federal equal opportunity requirements, and such action is pending;
- A court or administrative agency has determined that the owner violated the Fair Housing Act;
- For all new admissions and moves after June 17, 1998, if the owner is the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sister, or brother of any member of the family, unless approving the unit would provide reasonable accommodation for a family member with disabilities;
- The Authority has been notified that the owner is debarred, suspended, or subject to a limited denial of participation under 2 CFR part 2424;

Further, in the following circumstances, the Authority may deny approval of an assisted tenancy of the following reasons:

- The owner is not willing to make the necessary repairs for the unit to conform to Housing Quality Standards or the owner will not permit the Authority's staff to perform a Housing Quality Standards Inspection.
- The owner has a history or practice of noncompliance with Housing Quality Standards for tenant-based programs, or housing standards for project-based assistance under any Federal housing program, including a failure to make timely utility payments
- The owner has committed fraud, bribery, or any other corrupt or criminal act involving any Federal housing program.
- The owner has engaged in drug trafficking.
- The owner has a history or practice of renting units that fail State or local housing codes.
- The owner has not paid State or local real estate taxes, fines, or assessments.
- The owner has refused (or has a history of refusing) to evict families for drug-related or violent criminal activity or for activity that threatens the health, safety, or right of peaceful enjoyment of the premises by tenants, employees of the owner, or neighbors.
- The owner has engaged in any drug related or violent criminal activity
- The owner has violated obligations under the Section 8 HAP contract
- The owner has a history or practice of harassing or threatening tenants or the Authority's staff

Section 11.05 Housing Assistance Payment Contacts

The HAP contract represents a written agreement between the Authority and the owner of the dwelling unit occupied by a HCV assisted family. The contract specifies the owner's responsibilities under the program, as well as the Authority's responsibilities. Under the HAP contract, the Authority agrees to make housing assistance payments to the owner on behalf of a

specific family approved by the Authority to occupy a specific unit. The Authority will distribute the housing assistance payments, in accordance with the Housing Assistance Payments Contract, to the landlords. Housing assistance payments may only be paid to the owner during the lease term, and while the family is residing in the unit. In the event that the checks are forwarded to the post office late because HUD is late in transferring the funds or for any other reasons beyond the control of the Authority, the Authority shall not be held responsible for late fees.

Section 11.06 Changes in Ownership

The HAP contract cannot be assigned to a new owner without the prior written consent of the Authority. An owner under a HAP contract must notify the Authority in writing prior to a change in the legal ownership of the unit. The owner must supply all information as requested by the Authority and be qualified to be an owner. Prior to approval of assignment to a new owner, the new owner must agree to be bound by and comply with the HAP contract. The agreement between the new owner and the former owner must be in writing and in a form that the Authority finds acceptable.

Article XII. <u>Termination of Assistance</u>

HUD Regulations specify mandatory and discretionary grounds for which the Authority can terminate a family's assistance.

Section 12.01 Mandatory Denial or Termination of Assistance

Applicant families must be denied assistance or participant families must have their assistance terminated for any one of the following reasons:

- Any member of the household has been evicted from federally-assisted housing in the last 3 years for drug-related criminal activity. A family will be considered evicted if the family moves after a legal eviction order has been issued, whether or not physical enforcement was required. If a family moves after the owner has given the family an eviction notice for serious or repeated lease violation but before a legal eviction order has been issues, termination of assistance is not mandatory. In such cases the Authority will review all available evidence to determine if the family has in fact committed a serious or repeated violation of the lease and may terminate assistance if appropriate.
- The Authority determines that any household member is currently engaged in the use of illegal drugs;
- The Authority has reasonable cause to believe that any household member's current use or pattern of use of illegal drugs, or current abuse or pattern of abuse of alcohol, may threaten the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents;
- Any household member has ever been convicted of drug-related criminal activity for the production or manufacture of methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing;
- The Authority discovers that a member of an assisted household was subject to a lifetime sex offender registration requirement at admissions and was erroneously admitted after June 25, 2001.

- If SSN disclosure requirements are not met;
- If any family member fails to sign and submit required consent forms regular for interim reexamination;
- If the Authority determines that a family member has knowingly permitted an individual ineligible for assistance to reside in the assisted unit;
- If a family member fails to meet the eligibility requirements concerning individuals enrolled at an institution of higher education as specified in 24 CFR 5.612;
- If a family was evicted from housing assisted under the program for serious violations of the lease;
- The family no longer requires assistance such that the HAP payment is zero, the family's assistance will be terminated automatically 180 days after the last HAP payment.
- The family request that the Authority terminate assistance payments on behalf of the family. The request to terminate must be made in writing and signed by the head of household, co-head and spouse, if applicable.
- Death of a sole family member.

Section 12.02 Discretionary Denial and Mandatory Policies

The Authority will terminate a family's assistance for the following reasons:

- Any household member is currently engaged in any illegal use of a drug, or has a pattern of illegal drug use that interferes with the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment or the premises by other residents.
- Any household member's abuse or pattern of abuse of alcohol may threaten the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.
- Any household member has violated the family's obligation not to engage in any drugrelated criminal activity.
- Any household member has violated the family's obligation not to engage in violent criminal activity.
- The family has failed to comply with any family obligations under the program.
- The family member has committed fraud, bribery, or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program.
- The family currently owes rent or other amounts to any PHA in connection with Section 8 or public housing assistance under the 1937 Act.
- The family has not reimbursed any PHA for amounts the PHA has paid to an owner under a HAP contract for rent, damages to the unit, or other amounts owed by the family under the lease.
- The family has breached the terms of a repayment agreement entered into with the Authority.
- The family member has engaged in threatening, violent or abusive behavior toward the Authority personnel. Abusive or violent behavior includes verbal as well as physical abuse or violence. Threats include any oral or written threats or physical gestures that communicate the intent to abuse or commit violence.
- Absence from the unit as described under the Authority's Occupancy Policies.
- If the Authority determines, in accordance with HUD requirement, there is insufficient funds to support continued assistance for families in the program.

In the alternative, the Authority may impose sanctions on a case by case basis. In deciding whether to take the following adverse action, the Authority has discretion to consider all of the circumstances in each case, including the seriousness of the case, the extent of participation of individual family members, and the effects of denial on other family members who were not involved in the action or failure.

Section 12.03 Alternatives to Termination of Assistance

As a condition of continued assistance, the Authority may impose conditions upon the family that must be satisfied to avoid adverse action. Conditions may include:

- Change in household composition including the removal of any household member who participated in or was responsible for the offense.
- Repayment of Family Debts.
- Continued monitoring including ongoing inspections or requirement to provide documents.
- Limiting the methods of communication the family may have with the Authority.

Section 12.04 Procedures for Termination

The Authority will provide written notice of the termination of assistance to the family and the owner when the family's assistance is to be terminated. The notice will include the date the termination will be effective, which will be at least 30 calendar days following the date of termination. If a family whose assistance is being terminated is entitled to an informal hearing, the notice of termination will contain the necessary information about requesting a hearing.

Article XIII. Grievance Procedures

The purpose of the Authority's informal review and informal hearing policy is to ensure that a decision to deny or terminate housing assistance complies with the regulations of HUD and administrative polices of the Authority. For details on the grievance procedures, please consult The Authority's Grievance Procedure Policy attached as an exhibit.

Article XIV. Insufficient Funding

The Authority may terminate HAP contracts if the Authority determines, in accordance with HUD requirements, that funding under the consolidated ACC is insufficient to support continued assistance for families in the program. If the Authority determines there is a shortage of funding, prior to terminating any HAP contracts, the Authority will determine if any other actions can be taken to reduce program costs. If after implementing all reasonable cost cutting measures there is not enough funding available to provide continued assistance for current participants, the Authority will terminate HAP contracts as a last resort. Prior to terminating any HAP contracts, the Authority will inform the local HUD field office. the Authority will terminate the minimum number needed in order to reduce HAP costs to a level within the Authority annual budget authority. If the Authority must terminate HAP contracts due to insufficient funding, the Authority will do so in accordance with the following criteria and instructions: HAP Contracts in place on behalf of HCV program participants who have been on the program the longest will be

the first HAP Contracts terminated in the event of insufficient program funding. In accordance with HUD requirements, the Authority will protect the interests of the near-elderly, elderly, and disabled. These families will not have their HAP Contracts terminated due to insufficient program funding.

Article XV. Project Based Vouchers

Upon the designation of Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers as project based, the Authority may enter into project-based HAP contracts with landlords of existing dwelling units. The Administrative Procedures as detailed throughout this document shall also govern Project-Based Vouchers, except where noted below:

Section 14.01 Tenant Selection

Applicants will be treated in accordance with Article II of this document unless otherwise noted. The Authority will maintain a separate waiting list for each bedroom size of project-based units available. All admissions into the project-based Voucher Program shall be in accordance with the income targeting requirements. The Authority shall monitor the targeting requirements of the tenant-based and project-based Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Programs jointly in accordance with the Section 8 Administrative Plan.

Section 14.02 Unit Inspections and Housing Quality Standards

The Authority shall apply HQS standards to all inspections performed at units under a project-based HAP contract. All units shall be inspected at least biennially and at the special request of the assisted tenant and/or landlord.

Section 14.03 Vacant Units

The Authority may approve vacancy payments to a landlord for project-based units under contract for a maximum of 60 days. The Authority will only make such payments, upon the written request of the owner. The written request must contain sufficient documentation which proves the vacancy is not the fault of the owner, and that the owner has taken every reasonable step to minimize the extent and likelihood of vacancies.

Section 14.04 Family Choice to Move with Continued Assistance

The HAP Contract will provide that a family may move out of the project-based unit after 12 months. The Authority will offer the family available tenant-based rental assistance under the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program if, after the first 12 months, the family moves in good standing. However, the Authority may not issue tenant-based vouchers targeted for special purposes unless the family meets the criteria.

Section 14.05 HAP Contract Terms & Rents

The Authority will enter into HAP Contracts with landlords for a term of up to 10 years, subject to the availability of appropriations and future availability of funding the Authority's Annual Contributions Contract with HUD. The Authority will only approve gross rents that do not

exceed 110% of the Fair Market Rent as most recently determined by HUD and are reasonable in comparison with rents charged for comparable units in the private unassisted market.

Article XVI. Homeownership Option

Section 15.01 Objectives

The homeownership option will be used to assist a family residing in a home purchased and owned by one or more members of the family. A family assisted under the homeownership option may be a newly admitted or existing participant in the HCV Program.

Section 15.02 Forms of Homeownership Assistance

The Authority may provide one of two forms of homeownership assistance for a family: (1) Monthly homeownership assistance payments; or (2) A single down-payment assistance grant only as a reasonable accommodation to a person with disabilities in accordance with Federal Regulations. A family may only receive one form of homeownership assistance. Accordingly, a family that includes a person who was an adult member of a family that previously received either of the two forms of homeownership assistance may not receive the other form of homeownership assistance from any PHA. It is the sole responsibility of the Authority to determine whether it is reasonable to implement a homeownership program as a reasonable accommodation. The Authority will determine what is reasonable based on the specific circumstances and individual needs of the person with a disability. The Authority may determine that it is not reasonable to offer homeownership assistance as a reasonable accommodation in cases where the Authority has otherwise opted not to implement a homeownership program. The family chooses whether to participate in the homeownership option if offered by the Authority. The Authority must approve a live-in aide if needed as a reasonable accommodation so that the program is readily accessible to and useable by persons with disabilities in accordance with Federal Regulations.

Section 15.03 Participation in Homeownership

The Authority must have the capacity to operate a successful Section 8 homeownership program. The Authority has the required capacity if it satisfies either one of the following.

- 1. The Authority establishes a minimum homeowner down payment requirement of at least 3% of the purchase price for participation in its Section 8 homeownership program, and requires that at least 1% of the purchase price come from the family's personal resources;
- 2. The Authority requires that financing for purchase of a home under its Section 8 homeownership program: I. Be provided, insured, or guaranteed by the state or Federal government; II. Comply with secondary mortgage market underwriting requirements; or III. Comply with generally accepted private sector underwriting standards; or
- 3. The Authority otherwise demonstrates in its Annual Plan that it has the capacity, or will acquire the capacity, to successfully operate a Section 8 homeownership program.

Section 15.04 Family Eligibility

Before commencing homeownership assistance for a family, the Authority must determine that all of the following initial requirements have been satisfied: 1. The family is qualified to receive

homeownership assistance; 2. The unit is eligible; and 3. The family has satisfactorily completed the Authority program of required pre-assistance homeownership counseling. The Authority is responsible for complying with the authority listed in Section 58.6 requiring the purchaser to obtain and maintain flood insurance if necessary. The Authority may not provide assistance for a family unless it determines the family satisfies all the requirements listed below at commencement of Homeownership assistance

Family Qualifications

- 1. The family must be a current participant or newly admitted participant into the HCV Program;
- 2. The family must be a "first-time homebuyer"
- 3. The family must satisfy the minimum income requirements,
- 4. The family must satisfy the employment requirements,
- 5. The family must not have defaulted on a mortgage securing debt to purchase a home under the homeownership option,
- 6. Except for cooperative members who have acquired cooperative membership shares prior to commencement of homeownership assistance, no family member has a present ownership interest in a residence at the commencement of homeownership assistance for the purchase of any home;
- 7. Except for cooperative members who have acquired cooperative membership shares prior to the commencement of homeownership assistance, the family has entered a contract of sale in accordance with Federal Regulations regarding homeownership assistance;
- 8. The family also satisfies the following initial requirements established by the Authority. (i) The family must have a down payment of at least 3% of the purchase price of the home. At least 1% of the purchase price must come from the family's personal resources. (ii) The family must obtain financing that is provided, insured, or guaranteed by the state or Federal government; Comply with secondary mortgage market underwriting requirements; or Comply with generally accepted private sector underwriting standards. (i) The family must meet the other requirements as described below.

First Time Home Ownership Requirements

At commencement of Homeownership Assistance for the Family, the family must any of the following:

(1)A first-time homeowner; (2)A cooperative member; or (3)A family of which a family member is a person with disabilities, and use of the homeownership option is needed as a reasonable accommodation so that the program is readily accessible to and usable by such person, in accordance with Federal Regulations.

Income Requirements

- (1) Upon commencement of monthly homeownership assistance payments for the family, or at the time of a down payment assistance grant for the family, the family must demonstrate that the annual income, as determined by the Authority in accordance with Section 5.609 of the Federal Regulations, of the adult family members who will own the home at commencement of homeownership assistance is not less than:
 - (i) In the case of a disabled family, as described in Section 5.403 (b) of the Federal Regulations, the monthly Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

benefit for an individual living alone (or paying his or her share of food and housing costs) multiplied by twelve; or

(ii) In the case of other families, the Federal minimum wage multiplied by 2,000 hours.

(2)

- (i) Except in the case of an elderly family or a disabled family, the Authority shall not count any welfare assistance received by the family in determining annual income under this section.
- (ii) The disregard of welfare assistance income under paragraph (b) above only affects the determination of minimum annual income used to determine if a family initially qualifies for commencement of homeownership assistance in accordance with this section, but does not affect: a. the determination of income-eligibility for admission to the voucher program; b. calculation of the amount of the family's total tenant payment (gross monthly contribution); or c. Calculation of the amount of homeownership assistance payments on behalf of the family.
- (iii) In the case of an elderly or disabled family, the Authority shall include welfare assistance for the adult family members who will own the home in determining if the family meets the minimum requirement.
- (3) The Authority elects not to establish a minimum income standard that is higher than those required in paragraph 3 c (1) and (2).

Employment Requirements

- 1. Except as provided in paragraph (2) below, the family must demonstrate that one or more adult members of the family who will own the home at commencement of homeownership assistance:
 - (i) Is currently employed on a full-time basis (the term "full-time employment" means not less than an average of 30 hours per week); and
 - (ii) Has been continuously so employed during the year before commencement of homeownership assistance for the family.
- 2. The Authority shall have discretion to determine whether and to what extent interruptions are considered to break continuity of employment during the year. The Authority may count successive employment during the year. The Authority may count self employment in a business. The Authority shall make determinations regarding continuous employment on a case by case basis.
- 3. The employment requirement does not apply to an elderly family or a disabled family. Furthermore, if a family, other than an elderly family or a disabled family, includes a person with disabilities, the Authority shall grant an exemption from the employment requirement if the Authority determines that an exemption is needed as a reasonable accommodation so that the program is readily accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities in accordance with part 8 of this title.

Other Requirements

- 1. The Authority will not approve assistance if any member has previously defaulted on a mortgage under the Section 8 HCV homeownership option.
- 2. The Authority shall provide a preference to families participating in the FSS Program, however, shall not limit the participation to such families.
- 3. The Authority shall require all eligible families satisfactorily complete budget and credit counseling. Additionally, eligible families must repair their credit where

- determined necessary by the Authority, before participating in the homeownership option. The family must be able to qualify for a mortgage.
- 4. Eligible families must attend and satisfactorily complete pre-assistance homeownership counseling.
- 5. The budget, credit, and pre-assistance counseling shall be provided by a HUD-approved agency or will be consistent with the homeownership counseling provided under HUD's Housing Counseling Program.

Disqualifying Factors

THE AUTHORITY WILL NOT COMMENCE HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR A FAMILY THAT INCLUDES AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS AN ADULT MEMBER OF A FAMILY AT THE TIME WHEN SUCH FAMILY RECEIVED HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE DEFAULTED ON A MORTGAGE SECURING DEBT INCURRED TO PURCHASE THE HOME.

Home Search

The Authority will allow the family to search for a suitable home for 60 days. Upon a written request from the family, the Authority may allow for an additional 60 days. The request must be received by the Authority prior to the expiration date of the initial 60 days. 2. The Authority shall require a written progress report on the family's progress in finding and purchasing a home after 30 days and each 30 days thereafter. 3. If the family is unable to purchase a home within the maximum time established (120 days) the Authority will issue the family a voucher.

Section 15.05 Unit Eligibility

The Authority must determine that the unit satisfies all of the following requirements.

- 1. The unit is eligible.
- 2. The unit is either under construction or already existing at the time the family enters into the contract of sale.
- 3. The unit is either a one-unit property (including a manufactured home) or a single dwelling unit in a cooperative or condominium.
- 4. The unit has been inspected by an Authority Inspector and by an independent inspector designate by the family.
- 5. The unit satisfies Housing Quality Standards (HQS).

Purchase of home where family will not own fee title to the real property

Homeownership assistance may be provided for the purchase of a home where the family will not own fee title to the real property on which the home is located, but only if:

1. The home is located on a permanent foundation; and 2. The family has the right to occupy the home site for at least forty years.

Authority disapproval of seller

The Authority will not commence homeownership assistance for occupancy of a home if the Authority has been informed (by HUD or otherwise) that the seller of the home is debarred, suspended, or subject to a limited denial of participation under part 24 of the Federal Regulations.

Authority –owned units

Homeownership assistance may be provided for the purchase of a unit that is owned by the Authority that administers the assistance under the consolidated ACC (including a unit owned by an entity substantially controlled by the Authority), only if all of the following conditions

are satisfied: 1. The Authority must inform the family, bother orally and in writing that the family has the right to purchase any eligible unit and an Authority owned unit is freely selected by the family without Authority pressure or steering; 2. The unit is not ineligible housing; 3. The Authority must obtain the services of an independent agency in an accordance with 982.352 (b)(1)(iv)(B) and (C), to perform the following Authority functions: I. Inspection of the unit for compliance with the HQS, in accordance with 982.631(a); II. Review of independent inspection report, in accordance with 982.631(b)(4); III. Review of contract of sale, in accordance with 982.631(c); and IV. Determination of the reasonableness of the sales price and the Authority provided financing, in accordance with 982.632 and other supplementary guidance established by HUD.

Section 15.06 Home Inspections

A. The Authority may not commence monthly homeownership assistance payments or provide a down payment assistance grant (as a reasonable accommodation) for the family until the Authority has inspected the unit and has determined that the unit passes HQS. The Authority elects to perform HQS inspections for the term of the homeownership assistance on an as needed basis, but not less than annually.

B. Independent Inspection.

- 1. The unit must also be inspected by an independent professional inspector selected by and paid by the family.
- 2. The independent inspection must cover major building systems and components, including foundation and structure, housing interior and exterior, and the roofing, plumbing, electrical, and heating systems. The independent inspector must be qualified to report on property conditions, including major building systems and components.
- 3. The Authority may not require the family to use an independent inspector selected by the Authority. The independent inspector may not be an Authority employee or contractor, or other person under control of the Authority. However, the Authority will require the inspector to be a licensed home inspector in the State of NJ.
- 4. The independent inspector must provide a copy of the inspection report both to the family and to the Authority. The Authority may not commence monthly homeownership assistance payments, or provide a down payment assistance grant for the family, until the Authority has reviewed the inspection report of the independent inspector.

Section 15.07 Contract of Sale

- 1. Before commencement of monthly homeownership assistance payments or receipt of a down-payment assistance grant (when permitted as a reasonable accommodation to a person with disabilities), a member or members of the family must enter into a contract of sale with the seller of the unit to be acquired by the family. The family must give the Authority a copy of the contract of sale.
- 2. The contract of sale must: I. Specify the price and other terms of the sale by the seller to the purchaser. II. Provide that the purchaser will arrange for a prepurchase inspection of the dwelling unit by an independent inspector selected by the purchaser. III. Provide that the purchaser is not obligated to purchase the unit

unless the inspection is not satisfactory to the purchaser. IV. Provide that the purchaser is not obligated to pay for any necessary repairs. V. Contain a certification from the seller that the seller has not been debarred, suspended, or subject to a limited denial of participation under part 24 of this title.

Section 15.08 Disapproval of Owner

The Authority may deny approval of a seller for any reason provided for disapproval of an owner in 24 CFR 982.306(c).

- 1. The Authority must not approve a contract of sale if the Authority has been informed (by HUD or otherwise) that the owner is debarred, suspended, or subject to a limited denial of participation under 24CFR Part 24.
- 2. When directed by HUD, the Authority must not approve a contract of sale if: I. The federal government has instituted an administrative or judicial action against the owner for violation of the Fair Housing Act or other federal equal opportunity requirements, and such action is pending; or II. A court or administrative agency has determined that the seller violated the Fair Housing Actor or other federal equal opportunity requirements.
- The Authority may deny approval to sell a unit from a seller for any of the 3. following reasons: I. The seller has violated obligations under a HAP contract under Section 8 of the 1937 Act. II. The seller has committed fraud, bribery or any other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any federal housing program; III. The seller has engaged in any drug-related criminal activity or any violent criminal activity; IV. The seller has a history or practice of non-compliance with the HQS for units leased under the tenant-based programs, or with applicable housing standards for units leased with project-based Section 8 assistance or leased under any other federal housing program; V. The seller has a history or practice of failing to terminate tenancy of tenants of units assisted under Section 8 or any other federally assisted housing program for activity engaged in by the tenant, any member of the household, a guest or another person under the control of any member of the household that: a. Threatens the right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents; b. Threatens the health or safety of other residents, of employees of the Authority, or of seller employees or other persons engaged in the management of housing; c. Threatens the health or safety of, or the right to peaceful enjoyment of their residences, by persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises; or d. Is drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity; or meet State or local housing codes; or e. The seller has not paid State or local real estate taxes, fines, or assessments.
- 4. The Authority must not approve a unit if the seller is the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sister or brother of any member of the family; unless the Authority determines that approving the unit would provide reasonable accommodation for a family member who is a person with disabilities. This restriction against Authority approval of a unit applies at the time the family initially receives monthly homeownership assistance or a down-payment assistance grant for the purchase of a particular unit. 5. Nothing in this Policy is intended to give any seller any right to participate in the program. 6. For the purposes of this section, "seller" includes a principal or other interested party.

Section 15.09 Financing Purchase of Home

A. The family is responsible for obtaining financing. The Authority will develop partnerships with lenders and provide guidance to the family, but will not require a specific lender.

B. The Authority will approve the lenders/financing on a case by case basis. The Authority will review the lender qualifications and the loan terms before authorizing homeownership assistance. The Authority may disapprove the proposed financing if it determines that the debt is unaffordable, or if the Authority determines that the lender or loan terms do not meet the Authority's qualifications.

C. The Authority shall prohibit the following types of financing. 1. Seller financing; 2. Balloon payment mortgages.

Section 15.10 Distribution of Homeownership Assistance Payment

A. Amount of monthly homeownership assistance payment.

While the family is residing in the home, the Authority shall pay a monthly homeownership assistance payment on behalf of the family that is equal to the lower of:

1. The payment standards minus the total tenant payment; or 2. The family's monthly homeownership expenses minus the total tenant payment.

B. Payment Standard for family

- 1. The payment standard for a family is the lower of: I. The payment standard for the family unit size; or II. The payment standard for the size of the home
- 2. If the home is located in an exception payment standard area, the Authority must use the appropriate payment standard for the exception payment standard area.
- 3. The payment standard for a family is the greater of: I. The payment standard (as determined in accordance with b (1) and b (2) of this section at the most recent regular reexamination of family income and composition since the commencement of homeownership assistance for occupancy of the home. II. The Authority must use the same payment standard schedule, payment standard amounts, and subsidy standards pursuant to Section 982.402 and 982.503 for the homeownership option as for the rental voucher program.

C. Determination of homeownership expenses

- 1. Monthly mortgage (principal plus interest);
- 2. Monthly real estate taxes and public assessments on the home (annual amount divided by 12 months);
- 3. Monthly utilities (based on the Authority's Utility Allowance Worksheet). Monthly water & sewer. (Utilities shall not include telephone or cable expenses.)
- 4. Monthly homeowners insurance (annual premium divided by 12 months).
- 5. Cooperative or condominium fees that are not elective (for example a pool membership is not included).
- 6. Authority allowance for maintenance expenses;
- 7. Authority allowance for major repairs and replacements;
- 8. Principal and interest on mortgage debt incurred to finance costs for major repairs, replacements or improvements for the home. If a member of the family is a person with disabilities, such debt may include debt incurred by the family to finance costs needed to make the home accessible for such person, if the Authority determines that allowance of such costs as homeownership expenses is

- needed as a reasonable accommodation so that the homeownership option is readily accessible to and usable by such person, in accordance with part 8 of the Federal Register.
- D. Homeownership expenses for a cooperative member may only include amounts allowed by the Authority to cover:
 - 1. The cooperative charge under the cooperative occupancy agreement including payment for real estate taxes and public assessments on the home;
 - 2. Principal and interest on initial debt incurred to finance purchase of cooperative membership shares and any refinancing of such debt;
 - 3. Home insurance;
 - 4. The Authority allowance for maintenance expenses;
 - 5. The Authority allowance for costs of major repairs and replacements;
 - 6. The Authority utility allowance for the home and
 - 7. Principal and interest on debt incurred to finance major repairs, replacements or improvements for the home. If a member of the family is a person with disabilities, such debt may include debt incurred by the family to finance costs needed to make the home accessible for such person, if the Authority determines that allowance of such costs as homeownership expenses is needed as a reasonable accommodation so that the homeownership option is readily accessible to and usable by such person, in accordance with part 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations;
 - 8. Land lease payments (where a family does not own fee title to the real property on which the home is located.
- E. If the home is a cooperative or condominium unit, homeownership expenses may also include cooperative or condominium operating charges or maintenance fees assessed by the condominium or cooperative homeowner association.
- F. Payment to lender or family. The Authority must pay the homeownership assistance payments as follows:
 - 1. The Authority shall make monthly payments either directly to the assisted family or directly to the lender as determined on a case by case basis in order to comply with the underwriting requirements of family's mortgage.
 - 2. The Authority shall require the family to provide documentation from the mortgage company that the monthly mortgage amount is paid. Such requests shall be from time to time as determined necessary by the Executive Director, or his designee.
 - 3. Should the family not cooperate with the Authority's requests, the family may be subject to termination from the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.
 - 4. In cases where the monthly homeownership assistance is paid directly to the family, if the family is not making their mortgage payment in a timely manner, the Authority reserves the right to send homeownership assistance payments, for the respective family, directly to the mortgage company.
- G. Automatic termination of homeownership assistance. Homeownership assistance for a family terminates automatically after 180 calendar days after the last homeownership assistance payment on behalf of the family.

Section 15.11 Down payment Assistance Grants

- A. General The Authority may provide a single down payment assistance grant for a family with a disabled family member that has received tenant based or project based rental assistance in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program only in those cases where a down-payment assistance grant would result in a reasonable accommodation.
- B. The down payment assistance grant must be applied toward the down payment required in connection with the purchase of the home and/or reasonable and customary closing costs in connection with the purchase of the home.
- C. The Authority shall not permit the down payment grant to be applied to closing costs.
- D. Maximum down payment grant. A down payment assistance grant may not exceed twelve times the difference between the payment standard and the total tenant payment.
- E. Payment of down payment grant. The down payment assistance grant shall be paid at the closing of the family's purchase of the home.
- F. Administrative fee. For each down payment assistance grant made by the Authority, HUD will pay the Authority a one-time administrative fee.
- G. Return to tenant-based assistance. A family that has received a down-payment assistance grant may apply for and receive tenant-based rental assistance, in accordance with program requirements and the Authority's policies. However, the Authority may not commence tenant-based rental assistance for occupancy of the new unit so long as any member of the family owns any title or other interest in the home purchased with homeownership assistance. Further, eighteen months must have passed since the family's receipt of the down-payment assistance grant.
- H. Implementation of down payment assistance grants. The Authority may not offer down payment assistance under this paragraph until HUD publishes a notice in the Federal Register.

Section 15.12 Family Obligations

In order to remain eligible for continued assistance, the family must

- (a) Occupy the home as the family's sole residence;
- **(b)** Comply with mortgage terms;
- (c) Report changes in family composition to the Authority;
- (d) Comply with the family obligations of the HCV Program;
- (e) Supply information as required by the Authority concerning refinancing or payment of debt; sale or transfer of any interest in the home; or homeownership expenses;
- (f) Notify the Authority before moving out of the home and of any mortgage default;
- **(g)** Comply with any additional Authority requirements, such as ongoing counseling and HQS Inspections; and
- **(h)** Execute a written statement that the family agrees to comply with all family obligations for homeownership assistance.

A Family must not:

- (i) Sublet or lease the home;
- (i) Acquire ownership interest in a second residence or any other residential property.

Section 15.13 Move with Continued Assistance

The family may move with continued assistance provided (homeownership or rental) provided they are in good standing. The Authority will not commence continued assistance of a new unit if any family member owns title or any other interest in the prior home. B. The Authority shall only approve one move during any one-year period. For continuation of assistance in a new unit, the family must meet all initial eligibility requirements except for the first-time homeowner requirement. The Authority will determine on a case by case basis if additional counseling is required.

Section 15.14 Time Limits

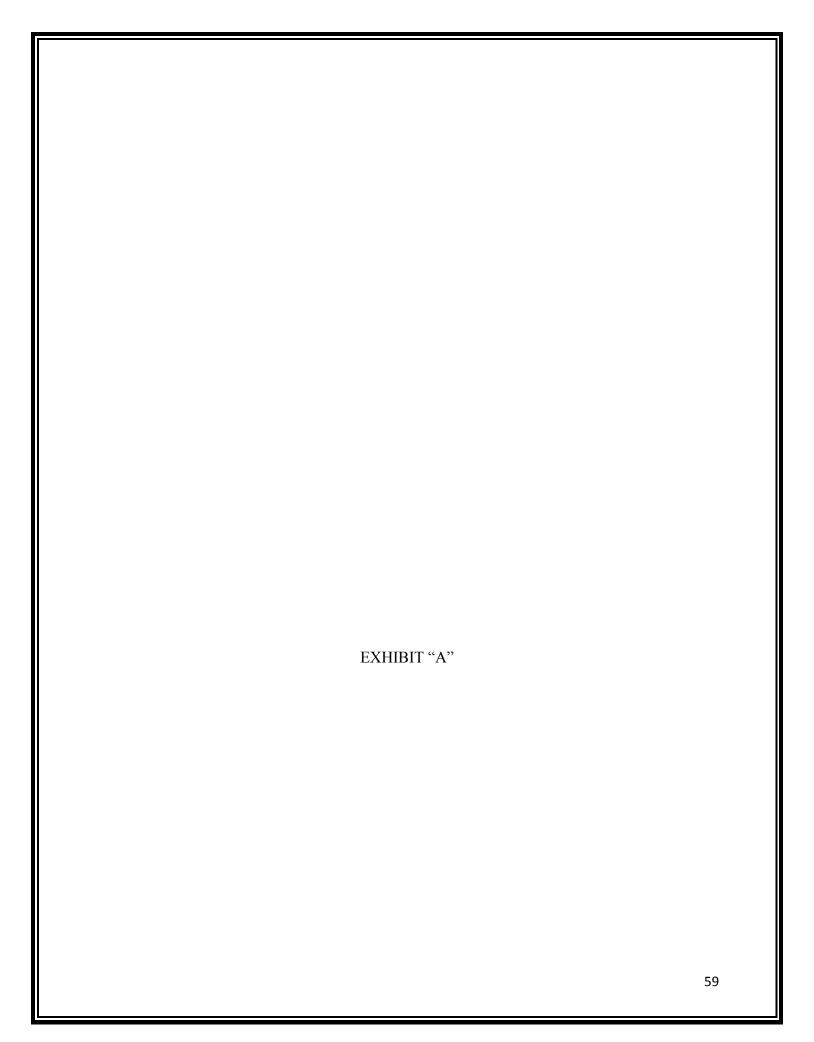
If the initial mortgage is 20 years or more, the maximum term of homeownership assistance is 15 years. In all other cases, the term shall be 10 years. The time limits do not apply to families that qualified as elderly at the start of the homeownership assistance or to families that qualify as disabled at any time during the homeownership assistance. Should the family cease to qualify as elderly or disabled during the course of homeownership assistance, the maximum term becomes applicable from the date the assistance commenced. In no case shall the assistance be less than 6 months from the date of initial purchase. Time limits shall be applied from the date of initial purchase, regardless of whether the family moves to a new unit.

Section 15.15 Denial or Terminations

The common terms of denial or termination of the Section 8 HCV Program, which includes the homeownership option, are described in Article VIII. In the event of a mortgage default the Authority must terminate assistance and not allow the family to move with continued assistance, including rental assistance.

Charges to the Administrative Fee Reserve

In no event shall amounts be charged to the Section 8 Net Restricted Assets account (also referred to as the Administrative Fee Equity Account) without formal approval from the Board of Commissioners through Board Resolution. In the event HUD will not provide funding for units under lease in excess of the Annual Contributions Contract, the Authority must identify funds to pay for such units and may only do so by formal approval from the Board of Commissioners through Board Resolution. Should funds not be available to pay for over-leased units, the Authority may have to terminate rental assistance contracts. Such contracts will be selected by determining the clients who are relying on the Section 8 assistance the least. The action to determinate assistance for over-leased units may only be done by formal approval from the Board of Commissioners through Board Resolution.



	Housing Authority of Gloucester County
	VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA) POLICY
I.	Purpose and Applicability: Notwithstanding its title, this policy is gender-neutral and its protections are available to males who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking, as well as female victims of such violence. The purpose of this policy (herein called "Policy") is to implement the applicable provisions of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization of 2013 Act (VAWA) regarding domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, as hereinafter defined. Neither VAWA nor this Policy implementing it shall preempt or supersede any provision of Federal, State or local law that provides greater protection than that provided under VAWA for victims of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking.
II.	Goals and Objectives: This policy has the following principal goals and objectives:

- A. Maintaining compliance, including training of appropriate staff managing the Authority's properties, with all applicable legal requirements imposed by VAWA;
- B. Participating, with others, in protecting the physical safety of victims of actual or threatened domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking who are assisted by the Authority;
- C. Providing and maintaining housing opportunities for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking;
- D. Cooperating, with others, information and maintenance of collaborative arrangements between the Authority, law enforcement authorities, victim services providers, and others to promote the safety and well-being of victims of actual and threatened domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking, who are assisted by the Authority; and
- E. Responding in accordance with the Authority policies and procedures to incidents of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking, affecting individuals assisted by the Authority.

III. **Definitions**:

- A. <u>Bifurcate</u> means with respect to a public housing or a Section 8 lease, to divide a lease as a matter of law such that certain tenants can be evicted or removed while the remaining affiliated members, lease and occupancy rights are allowed to remain.
- B. <u>Domestic Violence</u> The term 'domestic violence' includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabiting with or has cohabited with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction."
- C. <u>Dating Violence</u> means violence committed by a person— 1. who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim; and 2. where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: i. The length of the relationship. ii. The type of relationship. iii. The frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship.
- D. <u>Stalking</u> means engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to -1. Fear for the person's individual safety or the safety of others; or 2. Suffer substantial emotional distress.
- E. <u>Sexual Assault</u>- means any nonconsensual sex act proscribed by Federal, Tribal, or state law including when the victim lacks capacity to consent.
- F. Immediate Family Member means, with respect to a person -1. a spouse, parent, brother, sister, or child of that person, or an individual to whom that person stands in loco parentis; or 2. any other person living in the household of that person.
- G. <u>Perpetrator</u> means person who commits an act of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking against a victim.

IV Admissions and Screening

A. <u>Non-Denial of Assistance</u>. The Authority will not deny admission to public housing or to the Section 8 programs on the basis or as a direct result of the fact that the applicant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking if the applicant other qualified for admissions. Further, the Authority will not deny admissions based on an adverse factor, if the adverse factor is determined to be a direct result of the fact that the applicant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking,

VI. Termination of Tenancy or Assistance

- A. <u>VAWA Protections</u>. Under VAWA, public housing residents and persons assisted under the Section 8 programs have the following specific protections, which will be observed by the Authority:
- 1. An incident or incidents of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking will not be considered to be a "serious or repeated" violation of the lease by the victim or threatened victim of that violence and will not be good cause for terminating the tenancy or occupancy rights of or assistance to the victim of that violence.
- 2. Tenancy or assistance will not be terminated by the Authority on the basis or as a direct result of the fact that the tenant/participant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking. Further, the Authority will not terminate tenancy or participation based on an adverse factor, if the adverse factor is determined to be a direct result of the fact that the applicant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking, However, the protection against termination of tenancy or assistance described in this paragraph is subject to the following limitations:
- i. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall limit any otherwise available authority to terminate tenancy, evict, or to terminate assistance, as the case may be, for any violation of a lease or program requirement not premised on the act or acts of domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking in question against the tenant or a member of the tenant's household. However, in taking any such action, the Authority shall not apply a more demanding standard to the victim of domestic violence dating violence or stalking than that applied to other tenants.
- ii. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall be construed to limit the Authority's ability to evict or terminate from assistance any tenant or lawful applicant if the Authority as the case may be, can demonstrate an actual and imminent threat to other tenants or to those employed at or providing service to the property, if the tenant is not evicted or terminated from assistance.
- B. Removal of Perpetrator. Further, notwithstanding the above or Federal, State or local law to the contrary, the Authority, may bifurcate a lease, or remove a household member from a lease, without regard to whether a household member is a signatory to a lease, in order to evict, remove, terminate occupancy rights, or terminate assistance to any individual who is a tenant or lawful occupant and who engages in acts of physical violence against family members or others. Such action against the perpetrator of such physical violence may be taken without evicting, removing, terminating assistance to, or otherwise penalizing the victim of such violence who is also the tenant or a lawful occupant. Such eviction, removal, termination of occupancy rights, or termination of

assistance shall be effected in accordance with the procedures prescribed by law applicable to terminations of tenancy and evictions by the Authority.

VI. Verification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking

A. Requirement for Verification. The Authority shall require verification in all cases where an individual claims protection against an action involving such individual proposed to be taken by the Authority. Verification of a claimed incident or incidents of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence or stalking may be accomplished in one of the following three ways: 1. By completing a HUD-approved form 2. Other documentation - by providing to the Authority signed by an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, or a medical professional, from whom the victim has sought assistance in addressing the domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, or the effects of the abuse, described in such documentation. The professional providing the documentation must sign and attest under penalty of perjury (28 U.S.C. 1746) to the professional's belief that the incident or incidents in question meet the applicable definitions for protections and remedies under VAWA. The victim of the incident or incidents of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking described in the documentation must also sign and attest to the documentation under penalty of perjury. 3. Police or court record – by providing to the Authority a Federal, State, tribal, territorial, or local police or court record describing the incident or incidents In question.

B. <u>Time allowed to provide verification/ failure to provide</u>. An individual who claims protection against adverse action based on an incident or incidents of actual or threatened domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, and who is requested by the Authority to provide verification, must provide such verification within 14 business days (i.e., 14 calendar days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and federally-recognized holidays) after receipt of the request for verification. The Authority may grant an extension during which no adverse action can be taken. Failure to provide verification, in proper form within such time will result in loss of protection under VAWA and this policy against a proposed adverse action.

C. Acceptance of Verbal Statement. The Authority may, with respect to any specific case, waive the above stated requirements for verification and provide the benefits of this policy based on the victim's statement or other corroborating evidence. Such waiver may be granted in the sole discretion of the Executive Director or his/her designee and generally in such cases where the Authority is otherwise aware of the abused and encouraged the victim to request VAWA protections. Any such waiver must be in writing. Waiver in a particular instance or instances shall not operate as precedent for, or create any right to, waiver in any other case or cases, regardless of similarity in circumstances.

D. Request for Third-Party Documentation of Victim Status

The Authority will request third-party documentation of victim status if more than one applicant or tenant provides documentation to show they are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalk and in the information in one person's documentation conflicts with the information in another person documentation or submitted documentation contains information that conflicts with existing information already available to the Authority.

VII. Confidentiality

A. Right of confidentiality. All information (including the fact that an individual is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking) provided to the Authority in connection with a verification required of this policy or provided in lieu of such verification where a waiver of verification is granted, shall be retained by the receiving party in confidence and shall neither be entered in any shared database nor provided to any related entity, except where disclosure is: 1. requested or consented to by the individual in writing, or 2. required for use in a public housing eviction proceeding or in connection with termination of Section 8 assistance, as permitted in VAWA, or 3. otherwise required by applicable law. The Authority will take reasonable precautions to avoid inadvertent disclosures via mail or voicemail and conduct the exchange of confidential information in person with the victim.

B. <u>Notification of rights</u>. All tenants of public housing and tenants participating in the Section 8 rental assistance program shall be notified in writing concerning their right to confidentiality and the limits on such rights to confidentiality.

VIII. Court Orders/Family Break-up

A. <u>Court orders</u>. It is the Authority's policy to honor orders entered by courts of competent jurisdiction affecting individuals assisted by the Authority. This includes cooperating with law enforcement authorities to enforce civil protection orders issued for the protection of victims and addressing the distribution of personal property among household members in cases where a family breaks up.

X. Relationships with Service Providers

It is the policy of the Authority to cooperate with organizations and entities, both private and governmental that provides shelter and/or services to victims of domestic violence. If the Authority staff becomes aware that an individual assisted by the Authority is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, the Authority will refer the victim to such providers of shelter or services as appropriate.

XII. Notification

The Authority shall provide written notification to applicants, tenants, and Section 8 owners and managers, concerning the rights and obligations created under VAWA relating to confidentiality, denial of assistance and, termination of tenancy or assistance.

EXHIBIT "B"	
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Housing Authority of Gloucester County

Emergency Transfer Plan for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking

Emergency Transfers

The Housing Authority of Gloucester County (HAGC) is concerned about the safety of its tenants, and such concern extends to tenants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. In accordance with the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), HAGC allows tenants who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to request an emergency transfer from the tenant's current unit to another unit. The ability to request a transfer is available regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.² The ability of HAGC to honor such request for tenants currently receiving assistance, however, may depend upon a preliminary determination that the tenant is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and on whether HAGC has another dwelling unit that is available and is safe to offer the tenant for temporary or more permanent occupancy. This plan identifies tenants who are eligible for an emergency transfer, the documentation needed to request an emergency transfer, confidentiality protections, how an emergency transfer may occur, and guidance to tenants on safety and security. This plan is based on a model emergency transfer plan published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Federal agency that oversees that HAGC's federally assisted housing programs are in compliance with VAWA.

Eligibility for Emergency Transfers

A tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, as provided in HUD's regulations at 24 CFR part 5, subpart L is eligible for an emergency transfer, if: the tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant remains within the same unit. If the tenant is a victim of sexual assault, the tenant may also be eligible to transfer if the sexual assault occurred on the premises within the 90-calendar-day period preceding a request for an emergency transfer. A tenant requesting an emergency transfer must expressly request the transfer in accordance with the procedures described in this plan. Tenants who are not in good standing may still request an emergency transfer if they meet the eligibility requirements in this section.

Emergency Transfer Request Documentation

To request an emergency transfer, the tenant shall notify HAGC's management office and submit a written request for a transfer within the Housing Authority of Gloucester County. HAGC will provide reasonable accommodations to this policy for individuals with disabilities. The tenant's written request for an emergency transfer should include either:

¹ Despite the name of this law, VAWA protection is available to all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

² Housing providers cannot discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic, including race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or age. HUD-assisted and HUD-insured housing must be made available to all otherwise eligible individuals regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status.

- 1. A statement expressing that the tenant reasonably believes that there is a threat of imminent harm from further violence if the tenant were to remain in the same dwelling unit assisted under HAGC's program; OR
- 2. A statement that the tenant was a sexual assault victim and that the sexual assault occurred on the premises during the 90-calendar-day period preceding the tenant's request for an emergency transfer.

Confidentiality

HAGC will keep confidential any information that the tenant submits in requesting an emergency transfer, and information about the emergency transfer, unless the tenant gives HAGC written permission to release the information on a time limited basis, or disclosure of the information is required by law or required for use in an eviction proceeding or hearing regarding termination of assistance from the covered program. This includes keeping confidential the new location of the dwelling unit of the tenant, if one is provided, from the person(s) that committed an act(s) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against the tenant. See the Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act For All Tenants for more information about HAGC's responsibility to maintain the confidentiality of information related to incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Emergency Transfer Timing and Availability

HAGC cannot guarantee that a transfer request will be approved or how long it will take to process a transfer request. HAGC will, however, act as quickly as possible to move a tenant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking to another unit, subject to availability and safety of a unit. If a tenant reasonably believes a proposed transfer would not be safe, the tenant may request a transfer to a different unit. If a unit is available, the transferred tenant must agree to abide by the terms and conditions that govern occupancy in the unit to which the tenant has been transferred. HAGC may be unable to transfer a tenant to a particular unit if the tenant has not or cannot establish eligibility for that unit.

If, after a reasonable time, HAGC has no safe and available units for which a tenant who needs an emergency is eligible, HAGC will assist the tenant in identifying other housing providers who may have safe and available units to which the tenant could move. This shall be deemed an "External Emergency Transfer", meaning a transfer of a tenant to another unit or form of assistance where the tenant would be categorized as a new applicant. This shall include a transfer from an HAGC Public Housing unit to the HAGC's or GHA's Section 8 Voucher Program. At the tenant's request, HAGC will also assist tenants in contacting the local organizations offering assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking that are attached to this plan.

Safety and Security of Tenants

Pending processing of the transfer and the actual transfer, if it is approved and occurs, the tenant is urged to take all reasonable precautions to be safe.

Tenants who are or have been victims of domestic violence are encouraged to contact the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233, or a local domestic violence shelter, for assistance in creating a safety plan. For persons with hearing impairments, that hotline can be accessed by calling 1-800-787-3224 (TTY).

Tenants who have been victims of sexual assault may call the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network's National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800-656-HOPE, or visit the online hotline at https://ohl.rainn.org/online/.

Tenants who are or have been victims of stalking seeking help may visit the National Center for Victims of Crime's Stalking Resource Center at https://www.victimsofcrime.org/our-programs/stalking-resource-center.

Please see local organizations offering assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

• Center for Family Services – Services Empowering the Rights of Victims (SERV)

www.centerffs.org

serv@centerffs.org 1-866-295-SERV (7378) PO Box 566 Glassboro, NJ 08028

• NJ Domestic Violence Hotline

www.nj.gov/dcf/women/domestic 1-855-INFO-DCF (463-6323) PO Box 729 Trenton, NJ 08625

• Family Part-Chancery Division Superior Court of NJ

1-856-379-2200 101 S 5th Street, 2nd Floor Camden, NJ 08103

New Jersey Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-572-SAFE (7233)

EXHIBIT "C"	
	69

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY 100 POP MOYLAN BLVD DEPTFORD, NEW JERSEY 08096

Statement of Family Responsibility- Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program

1.	Certification. The undersigned Public Housing Agency (PHA) hereby certifies that the Family headed by
	consists of the following members:
	eligible to participate in the Section 8
PH	derate Rehabilitation Program of this A and is approved to occupy a unit ated at
Pro Glo ass par ow uni	Under this ogram, Under the Moderate Rehabilitation ogram, The Housing Authority of oucester County (HAGC) makes housing istance payments on behalf of ticipating families towards their rent to mers of decent, safe, sanitary dwelling its moderately rehabilitated under the ogram.

2. Family Portion of Rent.

(a) **Total tenant payment**. The total amount the family is obligated to pay

monthly towards rent and utilities is based on the family's income and is called the Total Tenant Payment.

- (b) Family payment to owners. The amount that the family is obligated to pay monthly to the owner is the amount of the Total Tenant Payment unless the family is responsible for paying any utilities. If the family must pay any utilities directly, the family will pay to the owner the Total Tenant Payment minus the appropriate allowances as determined by HAGC for tenant-paid utilities.
- (c) Changes in family income and allowances. The amount of the family's required total tenant payment is subject to change by reason of changes to program rules and changes in family income, composition, or expenses. The family is required to notify HAGC of any and all changes in writing within fourteen days.
- **3. HAGC portion of rent.** HAGC will pay to the owner on behalf of the family the difference between the family's payment to the owner and the monthly contract rent.
- 4. **Family Obligations.** Any family participating in the Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Program with HAGC must follow the rules listed below in order to continue to receive housing assistance under the program. Each family member must:

- 1. Supply any information that HAGC or HUD determines to be necessary for administration of the program including submission of required evidence of citizenship or eligible immigration status. All information supplied by the family must be true and complete.
- 2. Report any and all changes in household composition, income, assets or deductions in writing within fourteen (14) calendar days of the change. Promptly notify HAGC in writing if any family member no longer lives in the unit.
- 3. Disclose and verify social security numbers and sign and submit consent forms for obtaining information.
- 4. Supply any information requested by HAGC or HUD for use in a regularly scheduled reexamination or interim reexamination of family income and composition.
- 5. Supply any information requested by HAGC to verify that the family is living in the unit or information related to family absence from the unit.
- 6. Request written approval to add any other person as an occupant of the unit. Visitor may not stay more than 14 days in a 12 month period.
- 7. Notify HAGC in writing prior to the family being away from the unit for 30 days or more. Absence may not exceed 90 consecutive days or 90 days per calendar year. Prior written notice is required, documenting the length of the absence and affirming the intent to return. The family is also responsible for paying rent and utilities during their absence, arranging for HAGC

- inspection and receiving all correspondence.
- 8. Allow HAGC to inspect the unit at reasonable times after reasonable notice.
- 9. Give HAGC and the owner at least 60 days notice in writing before moving out of the unit or terminating the lease.
- 10. Use the assisted unit for residence by eligible family members. The unit must be the family's only residence.
- 11. Promptly notify HAGC in writing of the birth, adoption or court-awarded custody of a child.
- 12. Request HAGC written approval to add any other family member as an occupant of the unit.
- 13. Give HAGC a copy of any owner eviction notice.
- 14. Do not cause damage to the unit or premises or permit any guest to damage the unit or premises. If a breach in Housing Quality Standards is life threatening, it must be corrected within 24 hours; all others must be corrected in 30 days.
- 15. Pay utility bills and supply appliances that the owner is not required to supply under the lease.
- 16. Only engage in legal profit making activities in the unit as long as the primary use of the unit is the family's residence and the owner gives permission.
- 17. Agree that any persons who move in without permission may be required to leave the unit.

18. Cooperate with HAGC in finding another unit when the family is no longer eligible for the contract unit they now occupy because of a change in family size.

The family (including each family member) must not:

- 1. Commit any serious or repeated violations of the lease.
- 2. Breach an agreement with HAGC to pay amounts owed.
- 3. Commit fraud, bribery or other corrupt or criminal act in connection with any Federal Housing Program.
- 4. Participate in illegal drug related activity, violent criminal activity or abuse alcohol in a way that will threaten the health and safety of others or the right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by others or those residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises.
- 5. Engage in drug-related criminal activity or violent criminal activity.
 - 6. Sublease or let the unit, assign the lease, transfer the unit or provide accommodations for boarders or lodgers.
 - 7. Be subject to lifetime registration a requirement under a State sex offender program.
 - 8. Ever have been convicted of drugrelated criminal activity for the manufacture or production of methamphetamine on the premises of federally assisted housing

- 9. Engage in abusive or violent behavior toward HAGC personnel which includes verbal abuse or verbal harassment, whether communicated orally or in print format.
- 10. Damage the unit or premises (beyond ordinary wear and tear) or permit any guest to damage the unit or premises.
- 11. Rent a unit from a relative, who is the child, grandparent, parent, sister or brother of any grandchild, member of the family, unless HAGC has determined (and has notified the owner and the family of such determination) approving rental of the that notwithstanding such relationship, Would provide reasonable accommodation for a family member who is a person with disabilities.
- 12. Own or have any interest in the unit.
- 13. Receive Section 8 Moderate
 Rehabilitation housing assistance
 while receiving other housing
 subsidy, for the same unit or a
 different unity under any other Federal,
 State or local housing assistance program.
- **4. Termination of Assistance.** If the family voluntarily vacates the unit, there is no guarantee that further housing assistance will be provided. Additionally, if the family vacates the unit in violation of the lease term causing HAGC to be liable for vacancy payments or if the family vacates the unit while owing rent or other amounts due under the lease, the family may not receive

further assistance unless the family satisfies these liabilities. HAGC may deny program assistance for an applicant or terminate program assistance for a participant for any breach of the family obligations listed above or for any of the following reasons:

- (a) If any member of the family has ever been evicted from federally assisted housing in the last five years;
 - (b) If any PHA has ever terminated assistance under a tenant based voucher assistance program for any family member
 - (c) If the family currently owes any money to HAGC for another PHA in connection with Section 8 or public housing assistance.
- 5. Continued Participation of Family when Contract is Terminated. an Owner evicts an assisted family in violation of the Contract or otherwise breaches the Contract, and the Contract for the unit is terminated, and if the Family was not at fault and is eligible for continued assistance, the Family may continue to receive housing assistance through the conversion ofthe Moderate Rehabilitation assistance to tenant-based assistance under the Section 8 voucher program.
- **6. Illegal Discrimination**. If the family has reason to believe that it has been discriminated against on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin or familial status, the family may file

a housing discrimination complaint with any HUD office in person, by mail or by telephone. HAGC will give the family information on how to fill out and file a complaint.

Signature of Head of Household Date	
mbers:	
	Date

		Date	

The Housing Authority of Gloucester County Section 8 Administrative Plan	
	EXHIBIT "D"
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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY SECTION 8 ADMINSTRATIVE PLAN

Bed Bug Management Policy

Policy Objectives:

The purpose of this Bed Bug Policy is to establish roles and responsibilities for landlords, participants and the Housing Authority of Gloucester County (HAGC) in minimizing the potential for bed bugs and provide guidance when bed bugs are present in a unit assisted under the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher or Moderate Rehabilitation Program.

Landlord Roles and Responsibilities:

The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) Contact requires the landlord to maintain the contract unit and its premises in accordance with Housing Quality Standards (HQS). It is the landlord's responsibility, as stated in the Federal Regulations addressing HQS, 24 CFR 982.401, to ensure the dwelling unit is in sanitary condition and free of vermin and rodent infestation. If the presence of bed bugs is suspected, the landlord must notify HAGC immediately. HAGC's Inspectors are not certified in the identification of bed bugs. When notified by a landlord or participant that bed bugs are present, HAGC will fail the unit under HQS requirements, therefore it is strongly recommended that the landlord contact an extermination professional for an immediate inspections. If treatment is deemed necessary, a copy of the contract the landlord entered into with the extermination professional (included all treatment performed) must be provided to HAGC by the landlord within 48 hours of the initial determination that treatment is required. In additional, the landlord must complete the "Landlord Certification Statement" document and sent to HAGC within 72 hours of the initial determination that treatment is required.

Failure to comply with the above requirements is a direct violation of the HAP contract and may result in abatement, suspension or termination of housing assistance payment, termination of the HAP contract and suspension of eligibility to participate in the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Tenant Roles and Responsibilities:

The HAP contract requires the tenant to keep the unit and its premises free from damage. Therefore, if the presence of bed bugs is suspected, it is the tenant's responsibility to notify the landlord and HAGC immediately in order to minimize any potential damage to the unit. In addition, it is the responsibility of the tenant to work corporately with the landlord and/or

The Housing Authority of Gloucester County Section 8 Administrative Plan

extermination professional to ensure successfully elimination of bed bugs. Tenant non-compliance may result in the loss of the Housing Choice Voucher.

If the tenant notifies the landlord of the presence of bed bugs and the landlord fails to take action within a reasonable period of time, the tenant shall notify HAGC. HAGC will assist the tenant in relocation if it is deemed necessary and appropriate. Prior to relocation, HAGC will notify the new landlord of tenant's prior exposure to bed bugs. In addition, the tenant must complete all items on the "Relocation Task List" document.

HAGC Roles and Responsibilities:

HAGC is responsible to ensure the landlord maintains the assisted unit within HQS guidelines and provides guidance on the resolution of any potential bed bug problems. HAGC will assist in tenant relocation, if relocation has been deemed necessary and appropriate. When relocation is necessary, HAGC will ensure the tenant complete the "Relocation Task List" prior to relocation in order to minimize the transfer of bed bugs to a new unit. HAGC will also require all program participants and landlords to disclose at intake, recertification and inspection all exposure to bed bugs within the last twelve month period.

Bed Bug Management Policy

Landlord Certification Statement

It is the goal of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County (HAGC) to promote and provide safe and sanitary housing to program participants. If bed bugs are present, it is responsibility of the landlord as stated in the HQS (24 CFR 982.401), to ensure that the dwelling unit and its equipment be sanitary condition and free of vermin and rodent infestation. It is the responsibility of the tenant to work corporately with the landlord and/or extermination professional to ensure the successful elimination of bed bugs. It is imperative that all parties (Tenant, Landlord, and Extermination Professional) work together towards a common goal, extermination and elimination.

To assist HAGC in its goal, HAGC request that the following information be completed by the

landlord upon completion of treatment (within 72 hours of initial determination that treatment is necessary)
Date unit was treated:
Type of treatment provided (methods, products used, areas treated:
Did tenant complete required pre-treatment activities:
Was follow up treatment recommended by Extermination Professional? If yes, provide date when follow up treatment will be provided:
Landlord Statement of Certification
I,, certify that I have had the unit located
at
Landlord Signature Date

Bed Bug Management Policy

Participant Relocation Task List

Bed bugs are difficult to contain without the proper treatment. Therefore if a participant relocates and the proper treatment has not taken place, the beg bugs will move with the participant in carried furniture, bedding, clothing etc. If HAGC has determined that it is necessary and appropriate for you to locate to a new unit, HAGC requires that certain steps be followed to ensure that the bed bugs are not transferred to the new residence. To control further infestation, the Relocation Task List must be completed in preparation for relocation.

Relocation Task List (initial each item)
Remove all sheets, blankets, mattress covers, pillowcases, etc. from bed and wash in hot water (120+degrees) and dry in clothes dryer on the highest heat setting for at least 30 minutes. Fold and place them in a plastic garbage bag, seal bags tightly. Do not put them back on the bed until move is complete.
Wash all clothing, toys, towels and linens in hot water (120+degrees) and dry in clothes dryer on the highest heat setting for at least 30 minutes. Place clean items inside airtight plastic storage bin or plastic garbage bags that are seal tightly and store until relocated
Vacuum (using disposable vacuum cleaner bags) all furniture, dresser drawers, night stand drawers, mattress and box springs/ Place disposable vacuum cleaner bag inside plastic garbage bag and seal tightly and discard in outdoor trash receptacle immediately.
Purchase and place special beg bug mattress box spring encasements around all mattress and box springs. The encasements must remain on all mattresses and box springs for at least one year.
Discard of or have all infested furniture professionally treated by a licensed exterminator. If participant chooses to keep the furniture, proof of treatment must be provided. HAGC will not relocate a participant to a new unit with infested furniture.
Tenant Statement of Certification
I,
Participant Signature Date

The Housing Authority of Gloucester County Section 8 Administrative Plan	
	EXHIBIT "E"
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CODE OF CONDUCT

Ethical and Legal Business Practices

1.1 HAGC Ethical Standard

Employees must conduct business according to the highest ethical standards of public service. Employees are expected to devote their best efforts to the interests of HAGC. Employees should also be guided by basic honesty and good judgment, and be sensitive to others' perceptions and interpretations. HAGC recognizes the right of employees to engage in outside activities that are private in nature and unrelated to HAGC business. However, business dealings that appear to create a conflict between the employee and HAGC's interests are unlawful and prohibited.

1.2 Conflicts of Interest Policy

Employees must avoid any interest, influence or relationship which might conflict or appear to conflict with the best interests of HAGC. Employees must avoid any situation in which their loyalty may be divided and promptly disclose any situation where an actual or potential conflict may exist. Business dealings that appear to create a conflict between the employee and the Authority's interests are unlawful under the New Jersey Local Government Ethics Acts. A potential or actual conflict of interest occurs whenever an employee is in a position to influence a decision that may result in a personal gain for the employee or an immediate relative.

No HAGC employee shall participate in the selection, award or administration of a contract supported by federal funds if a conflict of interest, financial or otherwise, real or apparent would be involved. No HAGC employee shall engage in selling or attempting to sell supplies, service or construction to HAGC for one year following the date such employment ceased. Additional examples of potential conflict situations include:

- · Having a financial interest in any business transaction with the Housing Authority of Gloucester County
- · Owning or having a significant financial interest in, or other relationship with, a Housing Authority of Gloucester County competitor, customer or supplier, and
- · Accepting gifts, entertainment or other benefit of more than a nominal value from A Housing Authority of Gloucester County competitor, customer or supplier.

Anyone with a conflict of interest must disclose it to management and remove themselves from negotiations, deliberations or votes involving the conflict. There will be no retaliation against any party who makes a good faith complaint concerning violations of this policy; regardless of whether it is ultimately determined that such violation has in fact occurred. Nor will there be any retaliation against any party who provides information in the course of an investigation into

alleged violations of policy. Any employee, officer or agent of HAGC determined to have committed a violation of this Code of Conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Employees are permitted to hold outside employment as long as it does not interfere with their responsibility to HAGC or create a conflict of interest.

1.3 Gifts Policy

Employees, shall neither, directly or indirectly, solicit, accept, or agree to accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors, suppliers, government officials or other organizations. Employees shall not accept any gift, favor, service, employment or offer of employment or anything of value which he knows or has reason to believe is offered to the employee with the intent to influence the employee in the performance of duties and responsibilities. Exceptions may be made for gifts that are customary and lawful, are of nominal value and are authorized in advance. You may accept meals and refreshments if they are infrequent, are of nominal value and are in connection with business discussions. If you do receive a gift or other benefit of more than nominal value, report it promptly to Human Resources. It will be returned or donated to a suitable charity.

1.4 Confidentiality Policy

Information that pertains to HAGC's business, including all nonpublic information concerning the Company, its participants and applicants, is strictly confidential and must not be given to people who are not employed by HAGC.

Please help protect confidential information -- which may include, for example, client/participant lists and financial information -- by taking the following precautionary measures:

- · Discuss work matters only with other HAGC employees who have a specific business reason to know or have access to such information.
- · Do not discuss work matters in public places.
- · Monitor and supervise visitors to HAGC to ensure that they do not have access to confidential information.
- · Destroy hard copies of documents containing confidential information that are not filed or archived.
- · Secure confidential information in desk drawers and cabinets at the end of every business day.

HAGC collects personal information about employees that relates to their employment. Only people with a business-related need to know are given access to this information, and the Executive Director or the Chair of the Board of Commissioners must authorize any release of the information to others. Personal information, other than that required to verify employment or to satisfy legitimate investigatory or legal requirements, will be released outside the company only with employee approval.

If you have access to any confidential information, including private employee information, you are responsible for acting with integrity. Unauthorized disclosure or inappropriate use of confidential information will not be tolerated.

1.5 Accounting and Financial Reports

HAGC's financial statements and all books and records on which they are based must accurately reflect the Company's transactions. All disbursements and receipts must be properly authorized and recorded. Employees must record and report financial information accurately. Reimbursable business expenses must be reasonable, accurately reported and supported by receipts.

Those responsible for handling or disbursing funds must assure that all transactions are executed as authorized and recorded to permit financial statements in accord with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

1.6 Political Activity Policy

The Hatch Act, 5 U.S.C. §1501-1508, restricts the political activity of persons principally employed by a state or local agency who work in connection with programs financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States or a Federal agency. A state or local employee covered by the Hatch Act may not run for partisan office. However, employees may join political organizations, as long as they maintain a clear separation between their official responsibilities and their political affiliations.

1.7 Employee Records

An employee's personnel file consists of the employee's employment application, withholding forms, reference checks, emergency information and any performance appraisals, or other appropriate employment-related documents.

It is the employee's responsibility to notify the Payroll or the Human Resource Administrator of any changes in name, address, telephone number, marital status, number of dependents, military service status, beneficiaries or person to notify in case of an accident.

Personnel records are considered company property and are not available for review by employees unless specifically authorized by management. Personnel files are confidential records that must be secured in a locked cabinet. Upon request, employees may inspect their own personnel files at a mutually agreeable time on the premises and in the presence of the Human Resource Administrator

1.8 **Nepotism Policy**

The employment of more than one member of the same family shall be avoided insofar as possible. No person should be hired as a regular or temporary employee if that appointment would violate any provision of this nepotism policy, or unless the appointment is otherwise

The Housing Authority of Gloucester County Section 8 Administrative Plan

permitted by the New Jersey Department of Personnel Rules and Regulations. No member of the immediate family of a Commissioner shall be hired or be in a position of supervision over another member of the same family.

For purposes of this policy, the term "immediate family" shall mean spouse, child, parent, sister, brother, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew and grandchildren.

This nepotism policy shall not deprive any employee of any promotional right in normal career development, nor change the existing status of an employee.

RESOLUTION #18-108

RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT

WITH

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE BOROUGH OF GLASSBORO and THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CORPORATION OF GLASSBORO

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County (HAGC) has previously entered into a Management Services Agreement (MSA) with the Housing Authority of the Borough of Glassboro (GHA) and The Affordable Housing Corporation of Glassboro (AHCG); and

WHEREAS, the MSA sets forth the HAGC's organizational, managerial, supervisory, coordinating and monitoring functions with regard to the GHA and the AHCG; and

WHEREAS, the HAGC, GHA and AHCG agreed it was in their respective best interests to extend the current Management Services Agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, that the HAGC, GHA and the AHCG have extended the existing Management Services Agreement which shall be effective until December 31, 2019.

ADOPTED at a regular Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19th of December, 2018.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY DATED: <u>DECEMBER 19, 2018</u>

Management Services Agreement By and Between

The Housing Authority of Gloucester County

and

The Housing Authority of the Borough of Glassboro

THIS AGREEMENT is made on this 17st day of December 2018 by and between the Housing Authority of Gloucester County (hereinafter "the HAGC") and the Housing Authority of the Borough of Glassboro (hereinafter "the GHA") (the HAGC and the GHA may also be referred to herein individually as a "party" and collectively as the "parties").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the GHA is a public body corporate established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development as an independent federal housing agency administering affordable housing through Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD), Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher, and Home Support Services Programs; and

WHEREAS, the HAGC is a public body corporate established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development as an independent federal housing agency administering Public Housing, Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher, Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Section 202 Project Based Rental Assistance, Section 8 New Construction, Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation, Resident Opportunities for Self Sufficiency (ROSS), Family Self Sufficiency (FSS), and Congregate Services, Programs; and

WHEREAS, there is an existing Management Services Agreement between the GHA and the HAGC which expired on November 30, 2017 and was mutually extended by both parties until a new agreement was negotiated; and

WHEREAS, the GHA adopted a Resolution on November 20, 2017 authorizing the extension of the current Management Services Agreement with the HAGC; and

WHEREAS, the HAGC adopted a similar Resolution on November 20, 2017 authorizing the extension of the current Management Services Agreement with the GHA; and

WHEREAS, the GHA is desirous of the continued and uninterrupted management of its day-today operations and assets the GHA wishes to retain management services from the HAGC; and

WHEREAS the HAGC is willing to perform the management services for GHA; and

WHEREAS, the GHA has the requisite funds available for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of both parties to share services as set forth in this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, said sharing of services need not be advertised or bid as same is not subject to either federal or state procurement standards as same is an intergovernmental contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

- 1. AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE MANAGEMENT SERVICES: The HAGC hereby agrees that it shall provide management services and additional services on an as-needed basis for the GHA in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Management Services Agreement ("Agreement"). The GHA agrees to reimburse the HAGC for said services in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
 - COMPENSATION: The HAGC shall be reimbursed for the services provided hereunder

Notwithstanding any other provisions herein, total payments under this Agreement shall not exceed the GHA's budgeted amount without further authorization from the GHA. In the event that the contract maximum of the GHA's budgeted amount is reached and the GHA does not authorize further expenditures, the HAGC shall have no further obligation to perform services under this Agreement.

- 3. SCOPE OF SERVICES: The HAGC shall perform the following services:
 - a. Carry out the organizational, managerial, supervisory, coordinating and monitoring functions of the GHA and its instrumentalities and affiliates.
 - b. Provide leadership to the GHA and its instrumentalities and affiliates with respect to the community in the development, rehabilitation, management and maintenance of decent, safe and sanitary affordable housing for residents of the GHA and/or its instrumentalities and affiliates, as well as in the development of GHA's other related land uses.
 - c. Establish appropriate advocacy relationships with, and act as the GHA's primary spokesperson and representative to US Department of HUD, local, state and federal elected officials and administrative personnel, resident representatives and organizations and private sector organizations and foundations.
 - Promote the creation and sustenance of a cohesive functioning community partnership to facilitate housing and development activities.
 - e. Advocate through appropriate channels legislative and administrative policies, programs and positions that will advance the GHA's housing and redevelopment mandate.
 - Perform and execute all management duties for the GHA and its instrumentalities and affiliates according to applicable federal and state statutes.
 - g. Take all personnel, management and administrative actions to facilitate the day-to-day operation of the GHA and its instrumentalities and affiliates.
 - h. Coordinate and oversee all functions exercised by the HAGC under this agreement.
 - Make recommendations for plans and policies to correct any managerial deficiencies within the GHA and its instrumentalities and affiliates.

4. RIGHT TO HIRE OTHERS:

- a. The HAGC shall have the right to designate its staff to assist in fulfilling the GHA's responsibilities under this Agreement. Compensation for such employees shall be pursuant to the rates indicated on Attachment A.
- b. The HAGC shall have the right to employ additional individuals subject to the prior approval of the GHA.
- 5. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR: The HAGC employees designated to perform services under this Agreement shall be deemed to be independent contractors, as a group and individually, and shall not be deemed to be employees of the GHA for any purpose whatsoever. HAGC and GHA expressly reject any joint-employer relationship between HAGC and GHA, with regard to HAGC and/or GHA's employees.
- 6. CONTRACT PERIOD AND OPTION TO EXTEND: The Agreement shall be effective upon execution by an authorized designee of each party and shall continue until December 31, 2019, unless terminated before as permitted in this Agreement. The Agreement shall be automatically renewed for one (1) additional period of twelve (12) months unless written notice is received by the HAGC at least 60 days prior to the expiration date. Either party may terminate this Agreement with 60 days advance written notice during the term of the Agreement.
- 7. **BOND AND INSURANCE:** The HAGC, on the effective date of this Agreement, shall, furnish the GHA with a fidelity bond issued by a surety company satisfactory to the GHA in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 indemnifying the GHA against loss, theft, embezzlement or other fraudulent acts on the part of the HAGC or its employees. The GHA shall reimburse the HAGC for the cost of said bond.
 - a. The HAGC shall carry such Worker's Compensation insurance as is now or hereafter required by law as to those persons performing services for the GHA pursuant to this Agreement.
- 8. **TERMINATION:** This Agreement may be terminated for convenience as follows:
 - a. By the GHA upon sixty (60) days advance written notice to the HAGC.
 - b. By the HAGC upon sixty (60) days advance written notice to the GHA.

9. INDEMNIFICATION AND LIABILITY INSURANCE:

- a. The GHA shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the HAGC against all claims that arise out of or result from its performance of this Agreement, except that the GHA shall not indemnify the HAGC for claims caused by the willful misconduct or gross negligence of the HAGC or those hired by the HAGC.
- b. The GHA at its cost shall obtain an insurance policy for Officers, directors, and Employees covering the HAGC employees who perform services pursuant to this Agreement in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 or, in the alternative, the HAGC shall be added to the policy of the GHA insuring the Directors, Officers and Employees of the HAGC.

- The GHA shall continue, in force, liability insurance coverage naming the HAGC and its Officers, Commissioners, and staff as additional insured.
- d. If the GHA refuses or fails to obtain and continue such insurance prior to the effective date of this Agreement, said Agreement shall be null and void.

10. INTEREST OF MEMBERS, OFFICERS, OR EMPLOYEES OF PHA, MEMBERS OF LOCAL GOVERNING BODY OR OTHER PUBLIC OFFICIALS:

- a. No member, officer, or employee of the HAGC, no member of the governing body of the County of Gloucester or the Borough of Glassboro and no other public official of such localities who exercises any functions or responsibilities with respect to the project programs during his tenure or for one year thereafter, shall have any interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement or the proceeds thereof.
- b. The HAGC warrants that it has disclosed all relevant information, and warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief, it does not have any organizational conflict of interest.
- c. The HAGC agrees that if after execution of this Agreement, it discovers an organizational conflict of interest with respect to this Agreement it shall make an immediate and full disclosure to the GHA that the HAGC has taken or intends to take all actions necessary to eliminate or neutralize the conflict.
- 11. **RECORDS:** The HAGC shall maintain a comprehensive system of records, books, and accounts in a manner satisfactory to US Department of HUD, NJ Department of Community Affairs and the GHA. All records, books, and accounts, together with all documents, papers and records of the HAGC which relate to the operation of the GHA shall be available for examination at reasonable hours by any authorized representative of HUD, the Comptroller General or New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the GHA. The HAGC will turn over all records to the GHA at the termination of this Agreement.

12. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

During the performance of this Agreement, the HAGC agrees as follows:

a. The HAGC will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The HAGC agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided setting forth the provisions of this Equal Opportunity clause.

- b. In the event of the HAGC's noncompliance with the Equal Opportunity clause of this Agreement or with any other such rules, regulations, or orders, this Agreement may be cancelled, terminated, or suspended in whole or in part and the HAGC may be declared ineligible for further contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1966, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in such order, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.
- 13. **LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES:** Notwithstanding any of the foregoing provisions, the prior approval of the GHA will be required for any expenditure related to items or services that are beyond the HAGC's Scope of Services, as set forth in Section 3 of this Agreement, or for expenditures that exceed \$5,000. Nothing in this Section shall limit the HAGC's authority to make expenditures over \$5,000, under emergent circumstances and where prior approval of the GHA would prohibit the HAGC's ability to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement. Under such circumstances, the HAGC shall provide the GHA with any receipts related to the expenditure and a written explanation as to why the expenditure was necessary under the Agreement.
- 14. **NOTICES & APPROVALS:** Where notice to a party or the approval of a party is required under the terms of this Agreement, such notice shall be given to and such approval shall be given to and such approval shall be obtained from the following representatives of each party:

Housing Authority of the Borough of Glassboro Attn: Jay Lapp, Chairman 181 Delsea Manor Drive Glassboro, NJ 08028

Housing Authority of Gloucester County Attn: William W. Bain, Jr, Chairman 100 Pop Moylan Boulevard Deptford, NJ 08096

- 15. **CONTINGENCIES:** This Agreement shall be subject to the approval of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- 16. The parties agree that this Agreement is in lieu of the 120-notice provision provided by N.J.S.A. 10A:12A-18, and that the HAGC expressly waives the benefit of same.
- 17. **UNIFORM SHARED SERVICES AND CONSOLIDATION ACT:** This Agreement complies with the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act 40A:65-1 through 40A:65-35 providing authority to enter into a contract for joint provision of services.
- 18. **INTERPRETATION:** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and no changes will be valid unless made by in writing and executed by the parties.
- 19. SUCCESSORS BOUND: The GHA and the HAGC for themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors or assigns, hereby agree to the full performance of the covenants herein contained.
- 20. **SEVERABILITY:** In the event that any covenant, condition, or provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such 2319749.v1

covenant, condition, or provision shall not materially prejudice either party in their respective rights and obligations contained in the valid covenants, conditions, or provisions of this Agreement.

- 21. **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS:** Each party shall comply with all applicable federal, state, municipal, local or department laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and orders in its performance of this Agreement.
- 22. **GOVERNING LAW:** The parties agree that this Agreement is made and to be performed in New Jersey and that the validity, interpretation, performance and enforcement of all duties, obligations, liabilities and terms of this Agreement shall be governed by and decided in accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey. The parties agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the Superior Court, State of New Jersey, or, where applicable, to the United States District Court, District of New Jersey, Camden Vicinage.

ATTEST:

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE BOROUGH OF GLASSBORO

By:_

Jay Lapp, Chairman

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CORPORATION OF GLASSBORO

y: Marl

Andrew Halter, President

ATTEST:

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

By: William W. Bain, Jr., Chairman

SCHEDULE A COMPENSATION

Gloucester County Housing Authority Services for Glassboro Housing Authority

- 1. Monthly, HAGC shall bill GHA for the management services it performs in accordance with this agreement. Monthly fees charged to GHA shall be based on an hourly rate, which shall be calculated by HAGC in accordance with HAGC's payroll allocation plan, to reflect the services provided by HAGC employees and the associated payroll costs to HAGC. HAGC shall maintain a detailed listing of fees billed to GHA each month, which shall include a breakdown of hourly rates charged for each service performed by HAGC on GHA's behalf.
- 2. HAGC shall bill GHA additional monthly administrative fees based on the number of units managed. These fees are intended to cover GHA's share of costs, other than the costs described in Section (1) above, which are necessary and reasonable for performance of the management services in accordance with this agreement. Such costs shall include but not be limited to rent, electric, software licensing and support (for programs such as Tenmast WinTen 2+ and Microsoft Office), hosting and data backup, use of equipment (such as computers, monitors, telephones, copy machines, fax machines), internet, telephone lines, insurance, paper, toner, and postage.
- 3. For the RAD Program, which currently consists of 104 Project Based Voucher units, HAGC shall bill \$17.00 per unit each month.
- 4. For the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, the administrative fee shall be \$10.00 for each unit month under lease on the 1st of each month as claimed for administrative fee income from HUD through the Voucher Management System.
- 5. This Schedule may be amended by mutual agreement if the programs operated by GHA and/or number of units being administered changes.

RESOLUTION #18-109

HONORING Ronald Bernardíní Modernízatíon Coordinator For 8 Years of Service

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County recognizes the retirement of Ronald Bernardini; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Bernardini has been a dedicated & loyal employee at the Housing Authority since June 14th, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County appreciates the dedicated services performed by Ronald Bernardini during his 8 years of service in his position of Modernization Coordinator; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that the contributions of Ronald Bernardini to the mission of the Housing Authority, providing safe, sanitary and affordable housing to the low income elderly, disabled and families of Gloucester County, be and hereby are acknowledged; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Housing Authority of Gloucester County

Commissioners and staff wish to express their sincere gratitude for the faithful service performed by

Ronald Bernardini in providing assistance to the residents of the Authority; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Housing Authority of Gloucester County wishes happiness, contentment, & good health to Ronald Bernardini in his years of retirement.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19TH day of December, 2018.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

IMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATE: DECEMBER 19, 2018

RESOLUTION # 18-110

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE

LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN (LAP)

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY (HAGC)

WHEREAS, The Housing Authority of Gloucester County (HAGC) wishes to comply with the requirements of the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, Title VI is a federal law that protects individuals from discrimination on the basis of their race, color, or national origin in programs that receive federal financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, EO 13166, signed on August 11, 2000, directs all federal agencies, including the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), to work to ensure that programs receiving federal financial assistance provide meaningful access to Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons; and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to EO 13166, the meaningful access requirement of the Title VI regulations and the four-factor analysis set forth in the Department of Justice (DOJ) LEP Guidance, apply to the programs and activities of federal agencies, including HUD;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Housing Authority of Gloucester County will take reasonable steps to provide meaningful services to LEP individuals who come in contact with the Housing Authority in order to ensure no person is subject to prohibited discrimination based on national origin in any program receiving federal assistance from HUD,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that the LAP attached hereto and made a part of is hereby approved; and

ADOPTED at the Regular Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19th of December, 2018.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

BY:

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATED: December 19, 2018

I. Language Access Plan Purpose

Purpose: All programs and operations of entities that receive financial assistance from the federal government, including but not limited to state agencies, local agencies and for-profit and non-profit entities, must comply with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title VI is a federal law that protects individuals from discrimination on the basis of their race, color, or national origin in programs that receive federal financial assistance. EO 13166, signed on August 11, 2000, directs all federal agencies, including the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), to work to ensure that programs receiving federal financial assistance provide meaningful access to Limited English Proficient persons. Pursuant to EO 13166, the meaningful access requirement of the Title VI regulations and the four-factor analysis set forth in the Department of Justice (DOJ) LEP Guidance apply to the programs and activities of federal agencies, including HUD.

Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons are defined as persons who, as a result of national origin, do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to speak, read, write, or understand.

It is the policy of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County (The Housing Authority) to take reasonable steps to provide meaningful services to LEP individuals who come in contact with the Housing Authority. It is the policy of the Housing Authority to ensure no person is subject to prohibited discrimination based on national origin in any program receiving federal assistance from HUD.

This assessment is to ensure the language will not prevent the Housing Authority from communicating with LEP persons regarding critical programs and services and to comply with the requirements of EO 13166.

II. LEP Population Assessment

Four-Factor Analysis

STEP 1-

A. Number or percentage (%) of LEP in the eligible service population.

In order to determine the number and % of LEP in the eligible service population, the following resource was used:

American FactFinder via Census.gov, data regarding Origins and Languages, Languages Spoken at Home. It is estimated at 8.4% (23,170) of Gloucester County residents speak a language other than English at home. A total of 2.9% (7,939) of the County's residence over age 5 years old speak English "less than very well." The Languages spoken at home by percentage are indicated as follows:

- Spanish: 3.6% (9,840)
 - Of the 3.6% percent of families who speak Spanish at home, 32.7% indicate they speak English less than very well while 67.3% indicate that the speak English less than well.
- Other-Indo European Languages: 2.6% (5,117)
 - Of the 2.6% percent of the families who speak Other-Indo European Languages, 28.9% (2,082) speak English less than very well.
- Asian and Pacific Island Languages: 1.6% (2,357)
 - Of the 1.6% percent of families who speak Asian/Pacific Island Languages,
 46.5% (2,052) speak English less than very well.
- Other Languages: .6% (1,130)

As indicated above, the percentage of LEP in the eligible service population is quite low.

Further, the Housing Authority has reviewed the Gloucester County Language Assistance Plan, published in 2012 which contains a summary to data gathered from the 2006-2010 American Community Survey identifying the number of people that speak a particular language and whether they speak English very well. According to this data, 2.6% of the County's residence over age 5 years of age speak English less than very well and 8.3% (8,877) of the County's residents speak a language other than English at home.

The Housing Authority has also reviewed New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Language Assistance Plan which confirms that Gloucester County does not have more than 1,000 individuals that speak a language other than English or Spanish.

Guidance provided by HUD states that written translations of vital documents should be provided for each eligible LEP Language Group that constitutes either at least 1,000 person or 5% of the population of persons eligible to be served or likely to be affected by the encounter. According the most recent available date, that predominant foreign languages spoken at home are Spanish and Italian. Of the 9,840 families who speak Spanish at home, 3,213 speak English less than "very well." The next most frequently spoken language is Italian with 2,733 resident speaking Italian at home and 792 of those Italian speaking residents speaking English less than "very well."

A survey of Housing Authority employees to determine their past encounters with LEP populations has confirmed the presence of a Spanish speaking LEP population.

B. Frequently in which LEP persons come into contact with the program

As indicated above, Spanish is the only language that has a number greater than 1,000 or 5% of the population with residents who speak English less than "very well." There are concentrations of Spanish speaking LEP residents in Woodbury, Deptford, Swedesboro, South Harrison, Glassboro and Franklin. In order to determine the frequently in which LEP persons come into contact with the programs administered by the housing authority, a survey was conducted amongst Housing Authority staff. The survey evaluated the frequency in which staff comes into

contact with LEP persons and the nature of the communication. Housing Authority staff indicated that they come into contact with Spanish speaking LEP persons on a moderately frequent basis and LEP persons speaking other languages on a rare but increasing basis. LEP citizens that communicate with the Housing Authority include both potential program applicants and current program participants. Inquiries from LEP citizens include questions about program eligibility, program compliance and program services. The Housing Authority has not been contacted by any community organization seeking language assistance or requesting modifications to the Housing Authority's language assistance services.

C. Nature and importance of the program, activity or service.

Both Gloucester County's Consolidated Plan and the Housing Authority's Agency Plan contain the objectives of providing safe and affordable housing to the County's low income residents. Priorities contained within the County's Consolidated Plan include preserving and increasing affordable housing and supportive services, reducing housing discrimination, and preventing and addressing homeless. The Housing Authority's Goals and Objectives contained within the Agency Plan are, amongst others, to increase the number of affordable housing opportunities available to low-income residents of Gloucester County and implement a housing program benefiting families in danger of becoming homeless. The housing programs and services administered by the Housing Authority play a vital role in meeting the above objectives. The Housing Authority services programs and services that could directly involve LEP persons include assisting low income families apply for housing opportunities and assisting low income participant families in the annual re-certification process or avoid a termination of housing assistance or eviction. The Housing Authority shall consider a document to be defined as a document if it is considered critical for obtaining a federal service/and or benefit or is required by law. Vital documents include:

- Published Notices about the housing programs including waiting lists openings and closing and public hearing meetings seeking public comment;
- Marketing material that explains the availability of federally funded services and programs;
- Applications to receive services, benefits or participate in programs or activities
- · Annual recertification and reviews documents;
- Notice of Rights, denial, or loss of housing assistance;
- Consent forms;
- Complaint forms.

D. Resources available and cost to the Housing Authority

According the Gloucester County's Language Assistance Plan, the need for language assistance in providing services related to federally funded programs is low. Specifically, only one language, Spanish, has a greater than 1,000 residents of 5% of the population who speak English less than "very well." The Housing Authority employs 5 bilingual staff members who speak both English and Spanish fluently. Bilingual staff assist program applicants and participants in oral

and written interpretation services to facilitate meaningful access to the programs, activities and services offered. The employment of bilingual staff has been determined the most cost effective manner to ensure that vital documents are translated into Spanish. Further, The Housing Authority will utilize HUD's data base of HUD translated materials.

III. Language Assistance Measures

The type of language assistance necessary to provide meaningful access will vary depending on the type of communication staff is having with the LEP person (e.g. phone, in person or written communication). Regardless of how the language assistance is provided, The Housing Authority will strive to provide services in a timely and appropriate manner. Failure to do so may effectively delay or deny LEP applicants and tenants access to housing and services. The Housing Authority understands that the extent of our obligation to provide both oral and written translation is dependent on the four-factor analysis as indicated above. The Housing Authority shall follow the Safe Harbor rule, contained in HUD's final guidance, to assist in determining when to provide translation of vital documents. The Safe Harbor rule for written translation of vital documents is based on the number and percentages of the market area-eligible population or current beneficiaries and applicants that are LEP. According to the Safe Harbor Rule:

HUD would expect translation of vital documents to be provided when the eligible LEP population in the market area or current beneficiaries exceeds 1,000 persons or if it exceeds 5% of the eligible population or beneficiaries along with more than 50 people. In cases where more than 5% of the eligible population speaks a specific language, but fewer than 50 persons are affected, there should be a translated written notice of the person's right to an oral interpretation.

As such, because our LEP residents who speak Spanish are more than 50 in number and comprise more than 5% of our resident population, Housing Authority will make every effort to translate all vital written documents into Spanish.

HUD's safe harbor rule isn't applicable to oral communication. As such, the Housing Authority has an obligation to provide oral language assistance regardless of the number or percentage of persons who comprise a specific language group at a site or in the service area. The degree to which we will provide oral language assistance will depend on the nature and importance of the activity:

- Although recreational activities provided by Housing Authority sites are important to
 the quality of life in the community the Housing Authority does not have the resources
 to provide language assistance to each person during such events. However, to the
 degree possible, notice of such events will be provided in an accessible manner.
- The Housing Authority will provide free language assistance to LEP individuals for important, critical junctures, such as assistance with the application, the application interview, recertification, health and safety related issues, fair housing related matters (including any discussions regarding the need for reasonable accommodation), conflict

resolution between residents, lease violation notification and related meetings, and relocation and displacement issues.

The Housing Authority is committed to taking reasonable steps to provide LEP individuals with meaningful access to housing programs and activity, the availability and cost of resources limits the provision of language services in some instances. The Housing Authority balances the needs of the LEP community with the funding resources available.

Proving Notice of free Language Services

At each Housing Authority office with direct client/resident/public access, signs shall be posted in the most commonly spoken languages stating that language services are available free of charge to LEP Individuals.

Determining Language Access Need of a LEP Individual

Housing Authority clients shall be asked at the time of initial interview to designate his or her primary language for both written and oral communication. The primary language shall be recorded in the client's file. Residents of Housing Authority owned/managed dwellings shall be asked at the time of each annual review to designate their primary language for both written and oral communications. The primary language shall be recorded in the client's file.

In order to be able to provide language assistance the Housing Authority must identify who needs the assistance. All applicants (regardless of race or national origin) will be asked if they need language assistance. Language identification cards shall invite LEP persons to identify their own language needs.

Competent Bilingual Staff

A consideration when hiring staff who will engage in direct client interactions is whether the applicant can competently provide language assistance to LEP residents. The Housing Authority employs 5 bilingual staff member and every effort has been made to match their language skills with the needs of LEP residents. The Housing Authority's preference is to meet the needs of our LEP applicants and participants through direct language assistance with our staff throughout the occupancy cycle.

Oral Language Services In Addition To Bilingual Staff

In the event that bilingual staff is not available or it is inappropriate for bilingual staff to serve as the interpreter, the housing authority shall utilize outside resources including include community volunteers and residents who are willing to provide oral language assistance.

Under most circumstances, interpreters aren't required to provide a formal certification as an interpreter. However, they must still do the following:

- Be proficient in and able to communicate information accurately in both English and the other applicable language;
- · Understand affordable housing-related terms;

- Understand and ensure confidentiality;
- · Maintain impartiality and act solely in the role as an interpreter; and
- Be aware of regionalisms and be able to provide the most appropriate interpretation in a consistent manner.

Informal Interpreters

Applicants and Residents who have limited English proficiency often choose to bring an informal interpreter with them to assist in communication, including but not limited to the LEP client's family members, friends, legal guardians, service representatives or personal advocates.

Written Translation Services

The Housing Authority will provide written translation of vital documents into the language of each frequently encountered LEP group as determined by HUD's Safe Harbor Rule. In addition, the Housing Authority will conduct marketing (including using translated materials) in a manner that reaches each LEP group "eligible" to be served based on the census data for the geographic area.

Accuracy of Translation

The Housing Authority will make every effort to use competent and accurate translators. The Housing Authority recognizes that this is particularly important for documents with legal or other information where accuracy has important consequences. To the degree possible, The Housing Authority will rely on HUD prepared documents available online and on staff to translate vitally important documents.

When translating documents, the Housing Authority will make every effort to do so at the appropriate reading level of the target audience. The Housing Authority also recognizes that there isn't always an appropriate direct translation of an English term. The Housing Authority will work to provide an appropriate alternative and try to develop and maintain a glossary of commonly used terms that can be used again, when appropriate.

Monitoring and Updates

The Housing Authority shall engage in an annual review to determine compliance with this Policy and to permit an opportunity for feedback from residents and staff on this policy. The Housing Authority shall periodically review the demographics of Gloucester County residents to ensure language assistance needs are adequately met.

RESOLUTION #18-111

RESOLUTION ADOPTING

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY BUDGET FISCAL YEAR: FROM JANUARY 1, 2019 TO DECEMBER 31, 2019

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget and Capital Budget for the Housing Authority of Gloucester County for the fiscal year period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019 has been presented before the Members of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County at its open public meeting of October 24, 2018 and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as introduced reflects Total Revenues of **\$21,491,813** Total Appropriations, including any Accumulated Deficit if any, of **\$23,351,567** Total Fund Balance utilized of **\$1,859,754**; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget as introduced reflects Total Capital Appropriations of \$498,635, and Total Fund Balance planned to be utilized as funding thereof, of \$_-0-; and

WHEREAS, the schedules of rates, fees and other charges in effect will produce sufficient revenues, together with all other anticipated revenues to satisfy all obligations to the holders of bonds of the Authority, to meet operating expenses, capital outlays, debt service requirements, and to provide for such reserves, all as may be required by law, regulation or terms of contracts and agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget/Program pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:31-2, does not confer any authorization to raise or expend funds; rather it is a document to be used as part of the said Authority's planning and management objectives. Specific authorization to expend funds for the purposes described in this section of the budget, must be granted elsewhere; by bond resolution, by a project financing agreement, by resolution appropriating funds from the renewal and replacement reserve or other means provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County at a meeting held on October 24, 2018 that the Annual Budget, including appended Supplemental Schedules, and the Capital Budget/Program of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County for the fiscal year period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2019, is hereby approved; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the anticipated revenues as reflected in the Annual Budget are of sufficient amount to meet all proposed expenditures/expenses and all covenants as stipulated in the said Housing Authority's outstanding debt obligations, capital lease arrangements, service contracts, and other pledged agreements; and

ADOPTED at a regular Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19th of December, 2018.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

WILLIAM W BAIN JR, CHAI	RMAN	KIMBERLY	OBER, SECRE	ETARY
GOVE	RNING BOI	DY RECORDED	VOTE	
MEMBER	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR.	V			
DANIEL B. REED				
SCOTT H. KINTZING				
BRENDEN GAROZZO				
BETTY JANE PURNELL				
FRANK SMITH				V
JOHN GIOVANNITTI	V			

RESOLUTION # 18-112

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF THE

LEAD BASED PAINT CAPITAL FUND PROGRAM GRANT

NJ39L204501-17

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County has been selected to

receive funding under the Fiscal Year 2017 Lead-Based Paint Capital Fund Program as authorized

by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law No. 115-31), in the amount of

\$786,100 under grant NJ39L204501-17; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County has received from the

United States Department of Housing and Urban Development a funding commitment and

Annual Contributions Amendment for FY 2017, under Grant Number NJ39L204501-17; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds will enable the Housing Authority of Gloucester

County to conduct activities of risk assessments of, abatement of, and interim controls for lead-

based paint in Public Housing; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County to

proceed with the evaluation and reduce lead-based paint hazards in public housing to the benefit

of the program and its residents:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of

the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that Capital Fund Grant Number NJ39L204501-17is

hereby accepted; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing

Authority of Gloucester County that the Executive Director is authorized to make adjustments to

the Capital Funds program budget to include the work activities that will be funded as part of this

grant, as may be required in accordance with federal requirements

ADOPTED at a Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19th

of December, 2018.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

BY:

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

MBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATED:

DECEMBER 19, 2018

RESOLUTION #18-113 RESOLUTION DESIGNATING A

PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER (P.A.C.O.) FY2019

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority Gloucester County (HAGC) deemed a public agency by

the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, every public agency is required by law to designate a Public Agency Compliance

Officer (P.A.C.O.) in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.2; and

WHEREAS, the P.A.C.O. will be the point of contact for all matters concerning

implementation & administration of the legal requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity

Monitoring Program & administering contracting procedures pertaining to equal employment

regarding both the HAGC and its service providers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the

Housing Authority of Gloucester County does hereby appoint Kimberly Gober as its Public Agency

Compliance Officer for the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury.

ADOPTED at a Regular Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester

County, held on the 19th day of December, 2018.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATED: December 19, 2018

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
DIVISION OF PURCHASE & PROPERTY
CONTRACT COMPLIANCE AUDIT UNIT
EEO MONITORING PROGRAM

Print Form

Submit by Email

Designation Of Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O)

Public Agency:	The Housing Authority of Glouc. Ct	y Telephone:	(856) 845-4959 x 218
Name:	Kimberly Gober	Fax:	(856) 384-9904
Title:	Executive Director	Email:	kgober@hagc.org
Business Addres	s: 100 Pop Moylan Blvd		
	Deptford NJ 08096		
	Elected or Appointed Official: rson currently serving as the P.A.C	William W. Bain Jr., Ch	nairman
x appoi		Purchase & Property, Con	. A copy of the resolution designating th ntract Compliance Audit Unit, EEO hed
	ional technical assistance is require	ed.	
☐ Addit			

Please mail or fax form to:

RESOLUTION #18-114

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE EXPANDED HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES (EHO) PROGRAM POLICY AND AUTHORIZING INCREASE IN MONTHLY RENTS

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County developed and implemented an Expanded Housing Opportunities (EHO) Program in 1991; and the Housing Authority of Gloucester County subsequently purchased 12 single family dwellings located in 4 municipalities in Gloucester County; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County wishes to amend the EHO Program Policy and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to increase revenue on the properties in order to perform necessary maintenance and repairs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that an amendment to EHO Program Policy regarding Family Eligibility and Operational Polices be and hereby is adopted; and

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT ALSO RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that the Executive Director be and is hereby authorized to increase the monthly rent on each Expanded Housing Opportunities (EHO) dwelling to \$800.00 for a 3 bedroom home and \$815.00 for a 4 bedroom home beginning February 1, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive is hereby authorized to execute and file all necessary documentation for the attached amendment for EHO Program Policy

ADOPTED at a Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2019.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

: W Mul

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY DATED: DECEMBER 19, 2018

SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING EXPANDED HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

FAMILY ELIGIBILITY AND OPERATIONAL POLICIES

The objective of the Expanded Housing Opportunities (EHO) Program is to house moderate income families in decent, safe, and sanitary housing. The Housing Authority of Gloucester County (The Authority) owns and manages the EHO housing which is intended to promote an environment for families which is conducive to healthful living and is based on nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, religion or familial status.

The Authority's Public Housing Occupancy Policy (ACOP) will be used as guidance for topics not covered in this policy.

1. FAMILY ELIGIBILITY

- a. The Authority will receive and process applications in a way that treats all applicants fairly and consistently. All registrants will be placed on the waiting list based on the date and time of application. The waiting list will be assembled in sequential order by date and time of registration, with annual income and bedroom size indicated.
- A local preference will be given to applicants whose head, co-head, or spouse are b. residents or, working in, or hired to work in the operating jurisdiction of the authority. An applicant who is a resident of or works in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority on the day their application is received by the Authority will be eligible for the local preference. If the applicant does not live or work in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority at the time of eligibility determination, they retain the local preference effective the date the application was received by the Authority. An applicant who is homeless will receive a local preference if they can document to the satisfaction of the Authority that they lived or worked in the operating jurisdiction immediately prior to becoming homeless. Applicants who have been notified that they are hired to work in a residency preference area are treated as residents of the residency preference area. An applicant, who lives and works outside the operating jurisdiction of the Authority on the day their application is received, will be entitled to the local preference if they notify the Authority in writing they moved into or began working in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority. The applicant must, at the time of eligibility determination, live or work within the operating jurisdiction of the Authority.
 - c. Participating Communities of the Authority include: Clayton, Glassboro, Deptford Township, East Greenwich, Elk Township, Greenwich Township, Harrison Township, Logan Township, Mantua Township, Monroe Township, National Park, Paulsboro, Swedesboro, Washington Township, West Deptford Township, Westville, Woodbury, Woodbury Heights, Woolwich Township and Franklin Township.
- d. Family income shall be between 50% and 80% of the H.U.D. determined median income for Gloucester County, New Jersey OR the family must have a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (S8 HCV).

- e. Applicant and Tenant families must supply any information that the Authority determines is necessary in the administration of the program. All information supplied by the family must be true and complete, and is subject to verification by the Authority.
- Families are subject to Eligibility Screening and Screening for Suitability of Tenancy as defined within the ACOP.
- g. Applicant families will be denied assistance and removed from the wait list for the reasons defined within the ACOP.
- Applicant and Tenant families are subject to the Authority's One Strike and You're Out Policy.

2. OCCUPANCY STANDARDS

- a. Occupancy standards are established by the Authority to ensure that units are occupied by families of the appropriate size. The EHO Occupancy Standards permit maximum two persons per living/sleeping room.
- b. Persons of opposite sex, other than husband and wife or children age six or younger will not be required to occupy the same bedroom or living/sleeping room. The Authority will consider granting exceptions to the occupancy standards at the family's request if the Authority determines the exception is justified by the relationship, age, sex, health or disability of family members, or other personal circumstances.

3. CONTINUED OCCUPANCY

- a. Income eligibility for continued occupancy will be reviewed by the Authority annually.
- b. Over income families will be required to relocate, or pay the Fair Market Rent established by HUD for the appropriate size bedroom, in accordance with the Lease. For the purposes of continued occupancy in the EHO program, over-income families shall be defined as those with income over 120% of area median income for Gloucester County, New Jersey for the most recent two consecutive years.
- c. If the family was admitted with a S8 HCV, continued occupancy is contingent upon the continued eligibility for the S8 HCV Program. However, if a HCV holder is withdrawn from the program in good standing, either voluntarily or due to obtaining self-sufficiency, the household may remain in the EHO unit, provided the household income is less than over 120% of area median income for Gloucester County, New Jersey for the most recent two consecutive years.
- d. Tenant families shall be in compliance with all terms of the Lease Agreement between the family and the Authority.
- e. A guest can remain in the EHO unit no longer than 14 days in a 12 month period.
- f. EHO Units will be inspected by the Authority pre-occupancy, pre-termination, at the request of the tenant, or at any other time deemed appropriate by the Authority, after providing notice as required by the Lease.

g. In addition to the inspections identified above, the Authority will inspect the EHO units annually in accordance with the Uniform Physical Condition Standards adopted by HUD. For EHO Units occupied by S8 HCV participants, additional inspections will be conducted by an independent agency for compliance with Housing Quality Standards.

4. LEASE AND RENT

- a. Contract Rent shall be a fixed sum, \$800.00 for a 3 bedroom home and \$815.00 for a 4 bedroom home, and may be increased annually. Rent shall be payable in advance on the first day of each month.
- b. The Authority will examine rents annually in connection with the Authority's Budget cycle to determine if an increase is warranted.
- c. Rent may exceed 30% of tenant's adjusted income.
- The form of Lease and Lease Addendum shall be similar to lease utilized in the Authority's Public Housing 204-1 Program.
- e. Termination of occupancy shall be for cause consistent with N.J.S.A. 2A:18-61.1 et. seq. and the governing Lease Agreement.

5. TENANT CHARGES SHALL INCLUDE:

- a. Thirteen dollar (\$13.00) late charge for rent paid after the thirteenth day of the month.
- b. Ten dollar (\$10.00) bounced check charge for uncollected check.
- c. Actual costs of legal fees and court costs incurred by the Authority for the purpose of advising or preparing for or conduction an action for eviction of Tenant or collection of delinquent rent.
- Actual costs of repairs and replacement for tenant caused damage beyond normal wear and tear in accordance with established schedule.
- h. Excess utility use charge water charges in excess of \$150.00 per year.

6. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

a. Applicant and Tenant families are governed by the Authority's Grievance Procedure Policy.

SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING EXPANDED HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM

FAMILY ELIGIBILITY AND OPERATIONAL POLICIES

The objective of the Expanded Housing Opportunities (EHO) Program is to house moderate income families in decent, safe, and sanitary housing. The Housing Authority of Gloucester County (The Authority) owns and manages the EHO housing which is intended to promote an environment for families which is conducive to healthful living and is based on nondiscrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, religion or familial status.

The Authority's Public Housing Occupancy Policy (ACOP) will be used as guidance for topics not covered in this policy.

1. FAMILY ELIGIBILITY

- a. The Authority will receive and process applications in a way that treats all applicants fairly and consistently. All registrants will be placed on the waiting list based on the date and time of application. The waiting list will be assembled in sequential order by date and time of registration, with annual income and bedroom size indicated.
- A local preference will be given to applicants whose head, co-head, or spouse are b. residents or, working in, or hired to work in the operating jurisdiction of the authority. An applicant who is a resident of or works in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority on the day their application is received by the Authority will be eligible for the local preference. If the applicant does not live or work in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority at the time of eligibility determination, they retain the local preference effective the date the application was received by the Authority. An applicant who is homeless will receive a local preference if they can document to the satisfaction of the Authority that they lived or worked in the operating jurisdiction immediately prior to becoming homeless. Applicants who have been notified that they are hired to work in a residency preference area are treated as residents of the residency preference area. An applicant, who lives and works outside the operating jurisdiction of the Authority on the day their application is received, will be entitled to the local preference if they notify the Authority in writing they moved into or began working in the operating jurisdiction of the Authority. The applicant must, at the time of eligibility determination, live or work within the operating jurisdiction of the Authority.
 - c. Participating Communities of the Authority include: Clayton, Glassboro, Deptford Township, East Greenwich, Elk Township, Greenwich Township, Harrison Township, Logan Township, Mantua Township, Monroe Township, National Park, Paulsboro, Swedesboro, Washington Township, West Deptford Township, Westville, Woodbury, Woodbury Heights, Woolwich Township and Franklin Township.
- d. Family income shall be between 50% and 80% of the H.U.D. determined median income for Gloucester County, New Jersey OR the family must have a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (S8 HCV).

- e. Applicant and Tenant families must supply any information that the Authority determines is necessary in the administration of the program. All information supplied by the family must be true and complete, and is subject to verification by the Authority.
- f. Families are subject to Eligibility Screening and Screening for Suitability of Tenancy as defined within the ACOP.
- g. Applicant families will be denied assistance and removed from the wait list for the reasons defined within the ACOP.
- h. Applicant and Tenant families are subject to the Authority's One Strike and You're Out Policy.

2. OCCUPANCY STANDARDS

- a. Occupancy standards are established by the Authority to ensure that units are occupied by families of the appropriate size. The EHO Occupancy Standards permit maximum two persons per living/sleeping room.
- b. Persons of opposite sex, other than husband and wife or children age six or younger will not be required to occupy the same bedroom or living/sleeping room. The Authority will consider granting exceptions to the occupancy standards at the family's request if the Authority determines the exception is justified by the relationship, age, sex, health or disability of family members, or other personal circumstances.

3. CONTINUED OCCUPANCY

- a. Income eligibility for continued occupancy will be reviewed by the Authority annually.
- b. Over income families will be required to relocate, or pay the Fair Market Rent established by HUD for the appropriate size bedroom, in accordance with the Lease. For the purposes of continued occupancy in the EHO program, over-income families shall be defined as those with income over 120% of area median income for Gloucester County, New Jersey for the most recent two consecutive years.
- c. If the family was admitted with a S8 HCV, continued occupancy is contingent upon the continued eligibility for the S8 HCV Program. However, if a HCV holder is withdrawn from the program in good standing, either voluntarily or due to obtaining self-sufficiency, the household may remain in the EHO unit, provided the household income is less than over 120% of area median income for Gloucester County, New Jersey for the most recent two consecutive years.
- d. Tenant families shall be in compliance with all terms of the Lease Agreement between the family and the Authority.
- e. A guest can remain in the EHO unit no longer than 14 days in a 12 month period.
- f. EHO Units will be inspected by the Authority pre-occupancy, pre-termination, at the request of the tenant, or at any other time deemed appropriate by the Authority, after providing notice as required by the Lease.

g. In addition to the inspections identified above, the Authority will inspect the EHO units annually in accordance with the Uniform Physical Condition Standards adopted by HUD. For EHO Units occupied by S8 HCV participants, additional inspections will be conducted by an independent agency for compliance with Housing Quality Standards.

4. <u>LEASE AND RENT</u>

- a. Contract Rent shall be a fixed sum, \$800.00 for a 3 bedroom home and \$815.00 for a 4 bedroom home, and may be increased annually. Rent shall be payable in advance on the first day of each month.
- b. The Authority will examine rents annually in connection with the Authority's Budget cycle to determine if an increase is warranted.
- c. Rent may exceed 30% of tenant's adjusted income.
- d. The form of Lease and Lease Addendum shall be similar to lease utilized in the Authority's Public Housing 204-1 Program.
- e. Termination of occupancy shall be for cause consistent with N.J.S.A. 2A:18-61.1 et. seq. and the governing Lease Agreement.

5. TENANT CHARGES SHALL INCLUDE:

- a. Thirteen dollar (\$13.00) late charge for rent paid after the thirteenth day of the month.
- b. Ten dollar (\$10.00) bounced check charge for uncollected check.
- c. Actual costs of legal fees and court costs incurred by the Authority for the purpose of advising or preparing for or conduction an action for eviction of Tenant or collection of delinquent rent.
- c. Actual costs of repairs and replacement for tenant caused damage beyond normal wear and tear in accordance with established schedule.
- h. Excess utility use charge water charges in excess of \$150.00 per year.

6. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

a. Applicant and Tenant families are governed by the Authority's Grievance Procedure Policy.

RESOLUTION # 18-115

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF MILLVILLE

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County ("HAGC") administers the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program for Gloucester County, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, conflicts of interest may arise between a Section 8 landlord and HAGC regarding the administration of HAP contracts by HAGC related to premises owned by such landlords; and

WHEREAS, in the event of such a conflict of interest, HAGC must transfer the administration of the HAP contracts to another housing authority for HAP contract administration; and

WHEREAS, a newly elected County Freeholder is a Section 8 landlord owning property located in Gloucester County, New Jersey subject to HAP contracts administered by HAGC; and

WHEREAS, as a result of this conflict of interest, it is necessary that HAGC transfer administration of the subject HAP contracts to another housing authority; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Millville has agreed to administer the subject HAP contracts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq., HAGC and the Housing Authority of Millville may enter into a shared services agreement for the administration of the subject HAP contracts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that the Executive Director be and hereby is authorized to execute a shared services agreement with the Housing Authority of Millville to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

ADOPTED at the Regular Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19th of December, 2018.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

BY:

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATED: December 19, 2018

RESOLUTION #18-116

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF CONTRACT FOR TESTING OF FIRE ALARM & SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

ANACONDA PROTECTIVE CONCEPTS, INC.

CARINO PARK APARTMENTS

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County has need for the Testing of Fire Alarm & Sprinkler Systems at Carino Park Apartments, 100 Chestnut Street, Williamstown, NJ; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County has solicited bids for Testing of Fire Alarm & Sprinkler Systems services through public advertisement; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County reviewed the proposals received; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bid for such services is with the following, ANACONDA PROTECTIVE CONCEPTS, INC., at the cost of \$3,517.00, and is proper and responsive to the specifications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that the contract with **ANACONDA PROTECTIVE CONCEPTS, INC.** for Carino Park Apartments, be and is hereby approved; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director be and is hereby authorized to execute a contract for the Testing of Fire Alarm & Sprinkler Systems, in accordance with the bid received and the bid tabulation attached hereto for the contract amount of \$3,517.00, for Carino Park Apartments subject to receipt of required documentation and check of references.

ADOPTED at a Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19TH day of December, 2018.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

BY:

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATED: DECEMBER 19, 2018

FORM PO 102

QUOTATION SHEET

HOUSING AUTHORITY
of GLOUCESTER COUNTY
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Rev. Nov. 2015 (Previous Editions are Obsolete) (ATTACHMENT-B)
Please Print or Type

LOCATI	ON OF NEED Carino Park		WRITTEN QUOTES AND JM OF 3 QUOTES ARE RE		
REQUI	ESTED PURCHASE DESCRIBE ITEM(s) or SERVICE (use multiple lines when neccessary)	QUOTE # 1 (Enter Vendor Info Below)	QUOTE # 2 (Enter Vendor Info Below)	QUOTE # 3 (Enter Vendor Info Below)	QUOTE # 4 (Enter Vendor Info Below)
Annua	al testing of Fire & Sprinkler Systems	3,517.00	No Response	No Response	No Response
	Shipping and Handling Charges (if any)				
	COLUMN TOTAL	3,517.00			
	TOTAL				
# 1	Anaconda Protective Services ADDRESS 210 Executive Drive, Suite 6		VENDOR CONTACT Kim CITY Newark	ST DE	ONE 34-1125 ZIP 19702
	DATE OF QUOTE 12/11/18 VERBAL CATALOG TYPE: VERBAL CATALOG	WRITTEN / EMAIL X	VENDOR MODEL/CATALO VENDOR CONTACT	G NO.	DATE AVAILABLE
# 2	ADDRESS DATE OF QUOTE VERBAL CATALOG	WRITTEN / EMAIL	CITY VENDOR MODEL/CATALO	ST	ZIP DATE AVAILABLE
#	VENDOR See Attached		VENDOR CONTACT	TELEPH	
3	DATE OF QUOTE TYPE: VERBAL CATALOG	WRITTEN / EMAIL	VENDOR MODEL/CATALO	G NO.	DATE AVAILABLE
#	VENDOR See Attached ADDRESS		VENDOR CONTACT	TELEPH	DNE ZIP
4	DATE OF QUOTE TYPE: VERBAL CATALOG	WRITTEN / EMAIL	VENDOR MODEL/CATALO		DATE AVAILABLE
SELEC	TED VENDOR		REMARKS:		
1	Anaconda Protective Services		List of 7 vendors as	sked for quotes/ see	attached
NO	SIFICATION OF PURCHASE (IF LESS THAN 3 QU EMERGENCY PURCHASE OTHER: NJ STATE GVT CONTRACT VALUE REQUIRES ONLY ONE SINGLE SOURCE ITEM	OTES ARE PROVIDED)			
QUOTE	S PROCURED BY MGMT APPROVED (if diff)	FINANCIAL OFFICER	APPROVING OFFICER SIG	GNATURE	DATE

2019 LIST of the INDECTION VENDORS

2018 Fire mailed 10/12/18

Anaconda Protective Concepts 210 Executive Drive, Suito 6 Newark, DE 19702 14,00

Electronic Security Solutions 5115 Campus Drive Plymouth Meeting, PA 01962

35

DCD Fire & Security, Inc. 112 Heatherton Road Woolwich, NJ 08085 Wayman Fire Protection 403 Meco Drive Wilmington, DE 19804

Oliver Fire Protection 501 February Drive King Of Prussia, PA 19406 1st Defense Fire & Protection 101 Route 30 Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

ABJ Sprinkler Co., Inc. PO box 663 Glassboro, NJ 08028 Received Fax : Dec 11 2018 9:30AM

Fax Station

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PAGE 06/11

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

100 Pop Moylan Boulevard Deptford, New Jersey 08096

SPECIFICATIONS AND

QUOTE FORMS

FOR

TESTING OF FIRE & SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
DEPTFORD PARK

QUOTES DUE: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 @ 2:00 p.m

RETURN QUOTES TO:

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

100 POP MOYLAN BOULEVARD DEPTFORD, NEW JERSEY 08096

COMPANY NAME: Anacanda Protective Concepts

CONTACT NAME:

Um Norns

ADDRESS: 210 Executive Drive - Ste. 6

Newarks DE 19702

PHONE:

302-834-1125

CONATCT EMAIL: Jam. novis@ anacondaprotective concepts, com

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A. Sprinkler System Test

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Cagno Park

100 Pop Moylan Boulevard Deptford, New Jersey 08096

QUOTE FORM FOR ANNUAL, 2 & 5 YEAR FIRE PROTECTION AND ALARM SYSTEM TESTING

TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY 100 POP MOYLAN BOULEVARD DEPTFORD, NEW JERSEY 08096

The undersigned has carefully examined the requirements and specifications for The Housing Authority of Gloucester County. The Contractor certifies that he is qualified to submit quote and that he will furnish all necessary labor, equipment and materials for the annual fire system testing based upon the Requirements and Specifications attached hereto:

	the state of the s		
	B. Fire Sprinkler Systems	\$	A
	C. Standpipe/Hose Systems	\$	AnnualInsp.
	D. 5 year Internal	\$	
	E. Hydrostatic Test	\$	B1,250.00
	F. Fire Pump Test	\$	- 71 Eur Tasling
	G. Fire Alarm Systems	\$	- 2:54r. Testing
	H. Smoke Detectors	\$	\$ 2,267.00
	I. Heat Detectors	\$	\$ 4264.00
	J. Exhaust Fans	S	
r If O	bsmuction is found of Limberty Noble	duning 5 yr. 1	nternal - repairs billed Separately.
	TITLE		
	210 Executive Dr.	- Selo Neward	c, DE 19702
	12/10/18 DATE		

RESOLUTION #18-117

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF CONTRACT FOR TESTING OF FIRE ALARM & SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

ANACONDA PROTECTIVE CONCEPTS, INC.

DEPTFORD PARK APARTMENTS

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County has need for the Testing of Fire Alarm & Sprinkler Systems at Deptford Park Apartments, 120 Pop Moylan Blvd; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County has solicited bids for Testing of Fire Alarm & Sprinkler Systems services through public advertisement; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County reviewed the bids received; and

WHEREAS, the lowest responsible bid for such services is with the following, ANACONDA PROTECTIVE CONCEPTS, INC., at the cost of \$3,743.00, and is proper and responsive to the specifications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that the contract with <u>ANACONDA PROTECTIVE</u> <u>CONCEPTS, INC.</u> for Deptford Park Apartments, be and is hereby approved; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director be and is hereby authorized to execute a contract for the Testing of Fire Alarm & Sprinkler Systems, in accordance with the bid received and the bid tabulation attached hereto for the contract amount of \$ 3,743.00, for Carino Park Apartments subject to receipt of required documentation and check of references.

ADOPTED at a Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19TH day of December, 2018.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

RV.

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATED: DECEMBER 19, 2018

FORM PO 102

QUOTATION SHEET

HOUSING AUTHORITY

of GLOUCESTER COUNTY Rev. Nov. 2015 (ATTACHMENT-B) Please Print or Type FINANCE DEPARTMENT (Previous Editions are Obsolete) (ATTACH WRITTEN QUOTES AND APPLICABLE CATALOG SHEETS) LOCATION OF NEED Deptford Park NOTE: A MINIMUM OF 3 QUOTES ARE REQUIRED FOR PURCHASES OVER \$2,000. REQUESTED PURCHASE DESCRIBE ITEM(s) or SERVICE **QUOTE #1** QUOTE # 2 QUOTE#3 **QUOTE #4** (use multiple lines when neccessary) Enter Vendor Info Below) Annual testing of Fire & Sprinkler Systems 3,743.00 No Response No Response No Response Shipping and Handling Charges (if any) **COLUMN TOTAL** 3,743.00 TOTAL VENDOR VENDOR CONTACT TELEPHONE Anaconda Protective Services Kim 302-834-1125 CITY ST ZIP 19702 210 Executive Drive, Suite 6 DE Newark VENDOR MODEL/CATALOG NO. DATE OF QUOTE CATALOG WRITTEN / EMAIL DATE AVAILABLE VERBAL TYPE 12/11/18 X VENDOR VENDOR CONTACT **TELEPHONE** # See Attached **ADDRESS** CITY ZIP DATE OF QUOTE VERBAL CATALOG WRITTEN / EMAIL VENDOR MODEL/CATALOG NO. DATE AVAILABLE TYPE VENDOR CONTACT VENDOR TELEPHONE # See Attached ADDRESS CITY 3 DATE OF QUOTE VERBAL CATALOG WRITTEN / EMAIL VENDOR MODEL/CATALOG NO. DATE AVAILABLE TYPE VENDOR VENDOR CONTACT TELEPHONE # See Attached CITY ADDRESS WRITTEN / EMAIL VENDOR MODEL/CATALOG NO. DATE AVAILABLE DATE OF QUOTE VERBAL CATALOG TYPE SELECTED VENDOR List of 7 vendors asked for quotes/ see attached **Anaconda Protective Services** WAS A COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS DONE? BY WHOM? NO YES (Copy Attached) CLASSIFICATION OF PURCHASE (IF LESS THAN 3 QUOTES ARE PROVIDED) **EMERGENCY PURCHASE** OTHER: NJ STATE GVT CONTRACT VALUE REQUIRES ONLY ONE SINGLE SOURCE ITEM IGMT APPROVED (if diff) IFINANCIAL OFFICER APPROVING OFFICER SIGNATURE QUOTES PROCURED B

2019 LIST OF TICE TIPECTIAN VENDORS

2018 Ein mailed 10/12/18

Anaconda Protective Concepts 210 Executive Drive, Suito 6 Newark, DE 19702 14,00

Electronic Security Solutions 5115 Campus Drive Plymouth Meeting, PA 01962

DCD Fire & Security, Inc. 112 Heatherton Road Woolwich, NJ 08085 Wayman Fire Protection 403 Meco Drive Wilmington, DE 19804

Oliver Fire Protection fi01 Febeley Drive King Of Prussia, PA 19406 1st Defense Fire & Protection 101 Route 30 Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

ABJ Sprinkler Co., Inc. PO box 663 Glassboro, NJ 08028

Dec 11 2018 9:30AM Fax Station : Deptford Park

12/11/2018 08:56

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

100 Pop Moylan Boulevard Deptford, New Jersey 08096

SPECIFICATIONS

AND

QUOTE FORMS

FOR

TESTING OF FIRE & SPRINKLER SYSTEMS DEPTFORD PARK

QUOTES DUE: Wednesday, November 7, 2018 @ 2:00 p.m.

RETURN QUOTES TO:

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

100 POP MOYLAN BOULEVARD DEPTFORD, NEW JERSEY 08096

COMPANY NAME: Anacanda Protective Concepts

CONTACT NAME:

Jam Norns

ADDRESS: 210 Executive Drive - Ste. 6

Newark, DE 19702

PHONE:

302-834-1125

CONATCT EMAIL: Jun. novis@ anaundaprotective concepts, com

12/11/2018 08:56

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THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

Deptlord Park

100 Pop Moylan Boulevard Deptford, New Jersey 08096

QUOTE FORM FOR ANNUAL, 2 & 5 YEAR FIRE PROTECTION AND ALARM SYSTEM TESTING

TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY 100 POP MOYLAN BOULEVARD DEPTFORD, NEW JERSEY 08096.

The undersigned has carefully examined the requirements and specifications for The Housing Authority of Gloucester County. The Contractor certifies that he is qualified to submit quote and that he will furnish all necessary labor, equipment and materials for the annual fire system testing based upon the Requirements and Specifications attached hereto:

	 A. Sprinkler System Test 	\$	
	B. Fire Sprinkler Systems	\$	- Annual Tinen
	C. Standpipe/Hose Systems	\$	- Annual Insp.
	D. 5 year Internal	\$	\$1,350.00
	E. Hydrostatic Test	\$	- 2LTUR TOCKING
	F. Fire Pump Test	\$	-2 5 yr. Testing 2,393
	G. Fire Alarm Systems	\$	* 2,393.
	H. Smoke Detectors	\$	
	I. Heat Detectors	\$	
	J. Exhaust Fans	\$	
1400	Structions found during 5 total annual quote (A Wheny Signature Sacs Title	-J) \$_3174	<i>\$.0</i> 0
	210 Executive Dr	SK (NOWWIE)	21,100

RESOLUTION #18-118

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO REVISE THE

THE PUBLIC HOUSING ADMISSIONS
AND CONTINUED OCCUPANCY POLICY (ACOP)

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County

(HAGC) complying with federal laws and regulations and HUD requirements,

adopted the Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy (ACOP);

and

WHEREAS, the ACOP Policy is the Authority's written statement

of policies used to carry out the Public Housing Program which is for applicants and

participants who are extremely low, very low and low income families housed in a

decent safe and sanitary housing; and

WHEREAS, HAGC has reviewed the updated policy to be known

as the "The Public Housing Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy or ACOP

policy" to include HAGC's Code of Conduct, and has attached a revised version.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Housing

Authority of Gloucester County that the ACOP Policy should be amended to

include the attached modifications, will apply to all Public Housing Programs

administered by the HAGC and shall supersede all prior resolutions addressing

the subject matter of this resolution.

ADOPTED at the Regular Meeting of the Housing Authority

of Gloucester County, held on the 19th of December, 2018.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

BY:

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATED: December 19, 2018

RESOLUTION # 18-119

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE

ENTERPRISE INCOME VERIFICATION (EIV) SYSTEM SECURITY
AND PROCEDURES POLICY
THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY (HAGC)

WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mandates that Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system shall be utilized by the Housing Authority of Gloucester County (HAGC) accordance with the requirements of Federal Regulation 24 CFR 5.233 and all applicable guidance published by HUD through Security Procedures and Administrative Guidance Notices; and

WHEREAS, (HUD) mandates EIV shall be utilized in its entirety as a third party source to verify tenant employment and income information during mandatory reexamination or recertification of family income and compositions, and to reduce administrative and subsidy payment in accordance with HUD administrative guidance; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above requirements, HAGC has developed a EIV System Security and Procedures Policy containing the procedures to be implemented by HAGC governing the use of EIV; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that the EIV System Security and Procedures Policy attached hereto is hereby approved; and

ADOPTED at the Regular Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19th of December, 2018.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

BY:

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATED: December 19, 2018

The Housing Authority of Gloucester County Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) System Security and Procedures Policy



100 Pop Moylan Blvd. Deptford, NJ 08096 856-845-4959

Adopted: December 2018

I. Use and Confidentiality Policy

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) system shall be utilized by the Housing Authority of Gloucester County (The Housing Authority) accordance with the requirements of Federal Regulation 24 CFR 5.233 and all applicable guidance published by HUD through Security Procedures and Administrative Guidance Notices. Specifically, EIV shall be utilized in its entirety as a third party source to verify tenant employment and income information during mandatory reexamination or recertification of family income and compositions, and to reduce administrative and subsidy payment in accordance with HUD administrative guidance.

EIV information is to be considered strictly confidential and may only be utilized for the intended purposes of verifying income for initial eligibility and continued eligibility. The EIV data is subject to the provisions of the Federal Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and any future related amendments.

II. Privacy Act Requirements

The data provided via EIV system must be protected to ensure that is only used for official purposes and not disclosed in any way that would violate the privacy of the individuals represented in the system.

Whenever The Housing Authority requests information about a participant tenant, The Housing Authority will ensure the following:

- 1. The data will only be used for verification of tenant income to determine:
 - a. A tenant's eligibility for participation in a federal rental assistance program; and
 - b. The level of housing assistance that they are entitled to receive.
- 2. The data is NOT disclosed in any way that would violate the privacy of the individuals represented in the system.
- 3. ALL participating tenants will be notified of the following:
 - a. HUD or The Housing Authority authorization and purpose for collecting the information;
 - b. The uses that may be made of the data collected, and
 - c. The consequences if the tenant fails to provide the required information.

III. Criminal Penalties Associated with violation of the Privacy Act

A Housing Authority employee can be charged and possibly be found guilty of a federal misdemeanor or felony crime, if that employee knowingly and/or willfully:

1. Discloses a tenant or tenants records to an unauthorized party.

2. Fraudulently represents himself/herself to obtain another individual's record.

Penalties for Willful Disclosure or Inspection of EIV Data

- Unauthorized Disclosure felony conviction and fine up to \$5,000 or imprisonment up to five
 years, as well as civil damages.
- 2. Unauthorized Inspection misdemeanor penalty of up to \$1,000 and/or one (1) year imprisonment, as well as civil damages.

IV. Reporting Improper Disclosures

All employees shall report any evidence of unauthorized access or known security breaches to the Executive Director; and shall document all improper disclosures in writing. All security violations regardless of whether the security violation was intentional or unintentional shall be reported and documented. The Housing Authority shall take immediate action to address the impact of the breach including but not limited to prompt notification to appropriate authorities including the HUD Field Office's Public Housing Director.

V. EIV Access

Certified Users: EIV users are authorized by the Executive Director or by his/her designee and shall have access to the system. Authorized users must safeguard and insure the confidentiality of User Codes and Passwords. EIV Users must complete a User Access Authorization Form and execute the "Rules of Behavior and User Agreement" prior to being given access to the EIV system. Once an authorized user is no longer employed by the Housing Authority, access will be terminated the date of termination. Further, the Housing Authority shall revoke the access rights if there is a change in a user's duties or responsibilities indicating a change in the current level of privilege. Housing Authority has established the following classes of authorized personnel:

- Employees who must determine income for rent computation purposes of administering the following federal assisted housing programs identified in 24 CFR 5.233(a)
- b. Employees who must determine income for internal quality control purposes.

The Housing Authority shall maintain a list of authorized users including the access privilege of each user.

VI. Training

A. Initial EIV System

All NEW users MUST first view the Initial EIV System Training before they are granted access to the EIV System.

B. Annual Security Awareness

All EIV System users, views and handlers will complete an EIV Security Awareness Training annually. Certifications of completion shall be retained by the employee completing the training.

VII. Disclosure of EIV System Information

At initial program occupancy and annual recertification's, the Housing Authority will disclose its intent to make use of the EIV system. This will include the following:

- a. An explanation of the EIV procedure.
- b. What action(s) The Housing Authority may seek after determining that income has been unreported or underreported.
- c. Signatures of all adult household members on the What you should Know About EIV Form.

Form HUD-9887/9887-A; Applicant's/Tenant's Consent to the Release Of Information Packet will be signed and dated by each household member 18 years of age or older prior to accessing income reports in EIV. The forms are valid for 15 months.

Requests for EIV information by the tenant will require a signed Release of EIV Form. The EIV data of one adult household member will not be shared, provided or displayed with another adult household member or any unauthorized third party without a signed "Tenant Consent to Disclose EIV Income Information."

The Housing Authority will send EIV report information to all receiving portability Housing Authorities

VIII. Security

The data in EIV contains personal information on individual tenants which is protected under the Federal Privacy Act. The information in EIV may only be used for limited official purposes including the following:

- a. The Housing Authority in connection with the administration of PIH programs, for verifying employment and income at the time of interim and annual reexaminations;
- HUD staff for monitoring and oversight of Housing Authority compliance with HUD program requirements;
- c. Independent Auditors hired by the Housing Authority or HUD to perform a financial audit for use in determine the Housing Authority's compliance with HUD program requirements, including verifying income and determining the accuracy of the rent and subsidy calculations. The Housing Authority shall enforce the restrictions for disclosure requirements for independent auditors as contained within HUD PIH Notice 2018-18

EIV data will be safeguarded at all times. EIV information displayed on computers will be safeguarded by:

- a. Insuring that EIV data monitor displays are only active (e.g., visible) when the information is being solicited for verification purposes and only when no other unauthorized persons are within viewing range.
- b. When user exits their office, even for short periods, users will either screen protect or blank the monitor screen.
- c. EIV data stored electronically must be in a restricted access directory or, if placed on portable media, labeled appropriately and encrypted.

Printed Reports: Employees will insure that all EIV information in printed format are:

- a. immediately removed from printer trays. Especially if the printer utilized is in an unsecured common use area; and
- b. at no time left unattended where it is visible or in viewing distance of unauthorized staff or visitors; and
- c. filed in tenant files (paper or electronic) with all re-certification and interim calculations; and
- d. files filed in a secure location when not in use.

Discussing EIV Information:

- a. EIV information can only be discussed with other authorized staff on a "needs-to know" basis. "Need-to-Know" is defined as a criterion used in security procedures that requires the custodians of secure information to establish, prior to disclosure, that the intended recipient must have access to the information to perform his or her official duties.
- b. EIV information is protected at the individual household member level. Specific information pertaining to one family member cannot be discussed in the presence of other family members or other individuals.

IX. Record Retention

Upon expiration of the retention period, all documents will be shredded to prevent unauthorized access. See Reports Schedule for details of EIV report retention.

X. Resolving Discrepancies

When EIV information is substantially different from what the tenant reported and/or what was reported by a third party, the following procedures will be followed:

1. In any case where the tenant disputed the EIV data documenting the discrepant income, staff shall submit a third-party verification form to the income source(s); and

- 2. Staff shall refer the tenant disputing data to:
 - a. Social Security 1-800 772-1213 www.socialsecurity.gov
 - b. Identity Theft 1-877 438-4338 www.ftc.gov
- 3. Staff shall discuss the discrepancy with the tenant and the tenant shall be given the opportunity to resolve the discrepancy. Such discussion shall be either verbally or in writing.
 - a. Although the tenant shall be given the opportunity to resolve the discrepancy, the final authority shall be either third-party verification or EIV data, whichever is accurate, unless the tenant can provide documentation that one or both parties' data is incorrect.
 - b. If the tenant is able to produce sufficient documentation of incorrect third party and/or EIV data, tenant shall be instructed to contact the proper staff person in charge of this data for resolution.

XI. Adverse Actions

Should the Housing Authority find, after a review of all of the information, that the tenant has failed to fully disclose all family income, the Housing Authority will:

1. Offer the tenant the opportunity to repay all retroactive rent overpayments/charges in accordance with Housing Authority established repayment policies.

AND/OR

2. Seek eviction or termination of the housing assistance.

The Housing Authority is required to determine the retroactive rent as far back as the existence of complete file documentation to support such retroactive rent. All tenant shall be provided an opportunity to contest the Housing Authority's determine of tenant rent underpayment. HUD regulations require the Housing Authority to promptly notify tenant in writing of any adverse findings made based on information verified through the aforementioned income discrepancy resolution process. The tenant may content the findings in accordance with the Housing Authorities' established Grievance Procedures Policy. The Housing Authority will not terminate, deny, suspend, or reduce the family's assistance until the expiration of any notice or grievance period.

XII. Reports Schedule

The following reports shall be utilized to monitor compliance of residents. The Housing Authority shall maintain a "Master File" (MF) for each property which shall be kept in a secure location. The Housing Authority shall document the MF when the records are destroyed. The MF is not intended to serve as a resource for documenting detailed actions but rather as a tool to ensure that resident compliance is reviewed periodically. The Housing Authority shall make notes on the reports in the master file, but copies of notices, verification documents, new certifications, etc. are maintained in the resident files. The master files for the New Hires Report,

Identity Verification Reports, Multiple Subsidy Report and Deceased Tenants Report must be retained for three years.

Report	Frequency	Details	Retention
Existing Tenant Search	When Processing an application	Verify if the applicant (all members of the household) are currently residing in subsidized housing. Must be resolved and documented prior to occupancy	Term of Tenancy plus 3 years in tenant file if applicant is admitted. 3 years in tenant file if applicant is not admitted.
Income Reports	 Within 120 days of a new move in Annual recertification Interim Recertification As needed to verify income discrepancies, new hires and failed verification information 	Provides information on the new employment, quarterly wages, unemployment, insurance benefits, social security benefits and Medicare premiums.	Term of Tenancy plus 3 years in tenant file.
Income Discrepancy Report / Income Validation Tool (IVT)	 Within 120 days of a new move in Annual recertification Interim Recertification As needed to verify income discrepancies, new hires and failed verification information 	Provides information on unreported or underreported income	Term of Tenancy plus 3 years in tenant file.
New Hires Report	At least Quarterly	Identifies tenant who started new jobs within the last 6 months	Details in tenant file for term of tenancy plus 3 years, summary in MF
Identity Reports- Failed EIV Pre- Screening Report & Failed Verification Report	Monthly	Identifies missing or invalid personal identifiers (Social Security Number, Date of birth, Incorrect last name)	Details in tenant file, summary in MF for corresponding property
Multiple	At least Quarterly	Identifies tenant who	Details in tenant file

Subsidy Report		maybe receiving multiple rental subsidies	for term of tenancy plus 3 years, summary in MF
Deceased Tenant Report	At least Quarterly	Identifies tenant who are reported deceased by SSA	Details in tenant file for term of tenancy plus 3 years, summary in MF
Adverse Termination/ Outstanding Debts to PHA	When processing an applicant or when entering information about participant.	Identifies tenant who owe debts to other PHAs and/or were adversely terminated	Details in tenant file
Immigration Report	At least Quarterly	Identifies tenant immigration status	Details in tenant file for term of tenancy plus 3 years

Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) System Security and Procedures Policy

Independent Public Auditors Non-Disclosure Oath

The Housing Authority of Gloucester County

Use of Enterprise Income Verification Data

Independent Auditors Non-Disclosure Oath

The data in **Enterprise Income Verification** (EIV) contains personal information on individual tenants which is protected under the Federal Privacy Act. The information in EIV may only be used for limited official purposes, as noted below.

A. Official Purposes Include:

- 1. Public Housing Agencies (PHA), in connection with the administration of PIH programs, for verifying employment and income at the time of interim and annual reexaminations.
- 2. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) staff for monitoring and oversight of PHA compliance with HUD program requirements.
- 3. Independent Auditors (IA) hired by the PHA or HUD to perform a financial audit for use in determining the PHA's compliance with HUD program requirements, including verifying income and determining the accuracy of the rent and subsidy calculations.

The following restriction on disclosure requirements for IA apply:

- A. IA may only access EIV income information within family files and only within the offices of the PHA or PHA-hired management agent;
- B. IA may not transmit or transport EIV income information in any form;
- C. IA may not enter EIV income information on any portable media;
- D. IA must sign non-disclosure oaths that the EIV income information will be used only for the audit; and
- E. IA may not duplicate EIV income information or re-disclose EIV income information to any user not authorized by 5 U.S.C. 552a(b) of the Privacy Act to have access to the EIV income data.

I agree that am an Independent Auditor (IA) hired by the PHA or HUD to perform a financial audit for use in determining the PHA's compliance with HUD program requirements. I agree to be bound by the above restriction on disclosure of EIV data.

<u></u>		
Name:	Date:	

RESOLUTION #18-120

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ORDER TO DISCUSS MATTERS FALLING UNDER EXEPTIONS TO THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT

WHEREAS, While the Sen. Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act (OPRA, NJSA 10:4-6et seq.) requires all meetings of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County to be held in public, NJSA 10:4-12(b) sets forth nine (9) types of matters that may lawfully be discussed in "Executive Session", i.e. without the public being permitted to attend and:

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County has determined that issues are permitted by NJSA 10:4-12 (b) to be discussed without the public in attendance shall be discussed during an Executive Session to be held on December 19, 2018 at 4:30 P.M. and;

WHEREAS, the nine (9) exceptions to public meetings set forth in NJSA 10:4-12(b) are listed below with the number of issues and any additional information shall be written:

shall be rendered confidential or excluded from public discussion" the legal citation to

and the

the provision at issue is____

confidentiality is				
from the fede	n which the release of inceral government." The without undermining	nature of the mat	ter, described	
such as any re educational, to rehabilitation program or i individual add limited to inform and any mater of any individual incompetent,	I the disclosure of which cords, data, reports, records, data, reports, records and service, and training, social service, and defenses, welfare institution operated by mitted to or served by sormation relative to the intrial pertaining to admissionally and the individual, unless the individual, unless the individual his guardian) shall reconstructed the matter, description of the matter of the	mmendations, or medical, healthy, e, housing, relocation a public body uch institution of adividual's person on, discharge, treat concerned (equest in writing	cother personal custodial, characteristics, insurant pertaining reprogram, in the case that the same	al material of an nild protections nild protections nild protections to any specific cluding but no circumstances ress or conditions of a minor one be disclose

and	DENTAL			PLAN	15		
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that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting."

Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under South
Jersey Publishing Co. vs New Jersey Expressway Authority, 124 NJ 478, the employee(s) and
nature of the discussion, described as specifically as possible without undermining the need for
confidentiality

officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing

)	"Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in
	the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension
	or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of
	omission for which the responding party bears responsibility." The nature of the matter,
	described as specifically as possible without undermining the need for confidentiality
	is

WHEREAS, the length of the Executive Session is estimated to be <u>15</u> minutes after which the public meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County shall (circle one) reconvene and immediately adjourn or reconvene and proceed with business.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County will go into Executive Session for only the above stated reasons;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary, at the present public meeting, shall read aloud enough of this resolution so that members of the public in attendance can understand, as precisely as possible, the nature of the matters that will privately discussed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary, on the next business day following this, shall furnish a copy of this resolution to any member of the public who requests one at the fees allowed by NJSA 47:1A-1 et seq.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF THE RESOLUTION APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY AT ITS PUBLIC MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 19, 2018.

ADOPTED at the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners held on the 19th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2018.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

RV.

WILLIAM W BAIN, IR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY DATED: DECEMBER 19, 2018

RESOLUTION # 18-121

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY AND AFSCME, AFL-CIO DISTRICT COUNCIL 71, LOCAL 1847

WHEREAS, the Housing Authority of Gloucester County ("HAGC") entered into a collective bargaining agreement with AFSCME, AFL-CIO District Council 71, Local 1847 ("Union"), for the period January 1, 2016 to

December 31, 2018 ("CBA"); and

WHEREAS, Article 21 of the CBA provides that HAGC shall contribute toward the dental and vision plan provided by South Jersey Public Employees Health and Welfare Fund ("SJPEHWF") the sum of \$720.00 for each year of the CBA for each employee covered by the CBA; and

WHEREAS, SJPEHWF will no longer provide dental and vision plans to the Union employees effective January 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Union requested that HAGC provide dental and vision insurance plans to all Union employees effective January 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, HAGC and the Union desire to amend the CBA whereby HAGC shall provide dental and vision plans to all Union employees of HAGC effective January 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, HAGC shall provide dental plans to the Union employees through Delta Dental, and vision plans through VSP, both effective January 1, 2019.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County that the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners be and hereby is authorized to execute an amendment to the CBA whereby HAGC agrees to provide dental and vision plans to the Union employees effective January 1, 2019.

ADOPTED at the Regular Meeting of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County, held on the 19th of December, 2018.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY

BY:

WILLIAM W. BAIN, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

KIMBERLY GOBER, SECRETARY

DATED: December 19, 2018