



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES

Housing Task Force 2017 Report

HUD Section 811 Project-Based Rental Assistance (PRA) Demonstration Program

Funding for the HUD Section 811 PRA program continued to be a major priority for the Housing Task Force in 2017. For FY 2017, Congress allocated \$146 million for the program – an amount sufficient to renew all of the existing project-based rental assistance contracts (PRACs) associated with the program’s 30,000+ existing units, but no funding for new 811 PRA units. For FY 2018, the Trump Administration requested only \$121 million for the 811, a \$25 million cut, and an amount insufficient to renew all current PRACs. Fortunately, both the House and Senate FY 2018 Transportation-HUD Appropriations bills (HR 3353 & S 1655) restore this proposed cut – up to \$147 million (again, to the level needed to renew all existing PRACs).

Progress continues on leasing up the new 811 PRA units that Congress funded in FY 2012, FY 2013 and FY 2014. Funding for these PRA subsidies go through 30 state housing finance agencies that successfully competed for the program. Additional information can be found at: <http://811resourcecenter.tacinc.org/>

Funding for the Section 811 “Mainstream” Voucher Program

For the first time in nearly 15 years, in 2017 Congress allocated funding for new tenant-based rental assistance under the 811 “mainstream” program – vouchers targeted to non-elderly people with disabilities. Congress funded this program between FY 1996 and FY 2002. In the FY 2017 Omnibus Appropriations bill, \$10 million was allocated for new 811 mainstream vouchers. As of January 2017, HUD has yet to publish a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). For FY 2018, the Trump Administration proposed a \$14 million cut the program, a level insufficient to renew all existing vouchers. By contrast, the House T-HUD Appropriations bill includes \$30 million for new 811 mainstream vouchers (boosting overall funding to \$150 million). The Senate T-HUD bill allocates \$10 million for new mainstream vouchers.

Priced Out 2016

In December, the Task Force, in collaboration with the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) published our latest Priced Out report comparing SSI monthly cash assistance to HUD Fair Market Rents (FMRs) in all available local rental housing markets. Once again, it remains virtually impossible for a single adult receiving SSI to obtain decent and safe housing in the community without rental assistance. Among the key findings:

- In 2016, the average annual income of a single individual receiving SSI payments was \$9,156 — equal to only 20% of the national median income for a one-person household and about 22% below the 2016 federal poverty level,
- The national average rent for a modest one-bedroom rental unit was \$861, equal to 113% of the national average monthly income of a one-person SSI household, and
- The national average rent for a studio/efficiency unit in 2016 was \$752, equal to 99% of monthly SSI (in 13 states and the District of Columbia, areas with the highest housing costs, the average studio/ efficiency rent exceeded 100% of SSI income).

The full report can be found at:

<http://www.tacinc.org/knowledge-resources/priced-out-v2/>

Comments on HUD Regulatory Reform

On June 14, the Housing Task Force submitted comments to HUD on Executive Order 13777. This EO tasked all federal agencies to examine ways in which the overall regulatory burden in their programs could be reduced. HUD published its response to the EO on May 15 with a solicitation for comments. The Task Force comments can be viewed at:

<http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/CCD-Housing-TF-Regulatory-Reform-06-14-17.pdf>

Comments on HUD's Proposal for Expansion of the "Moving to Work" (MTW) Demonstration

On January 23, 2017, HUD published plans for the congressional mandated expansion of the MTW demonstration program. MTW is status that is granted to Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) allowing them to engage in broad flexibility for targeting of public housing units and rental assistance in order to promote work and tenant self-sufficiency. The Task Force comments can be viewed at:

http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/Comment_Submitted_by_TJ_Sutcliffe_Consortium_for_Citizens_with_Disabilities_Housing_Task_Force.pdf

Comments on the HUD Notice on the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016 (HOTMA)

On January 18, HUD published a Notice implementation of the Section 8 voucher provisions in the HOTMA law that was passed by Congress in 2016. The Task Force submitted comments on March 17. The comments can be viewed at:

<http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/CCD-Comments-to-HOTMA-Notice-03-17-17.pdf>

Comments on Treasury Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Section 504

On March 6, the Task Force submitted comments to the Treasury Department on its NPRM entitled “Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Disability in Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance” that was published on January 3. The comments can be viewed at: <http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/CCD-Comments-on-Treasury-504-NPRM-03-06-17.pdf>

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