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Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records

Subgroup/Office of Origin: Domestic Policy Council

Series/Staff Member: Andrea Kane

Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 20330

FolderID:

Folder Title:
CLASP [Center for Law and Social Policy] Call on Housing Vouchers

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
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Questions and Responses for CLASP audio call on Welfare to Work Housing Vouchers for Andrea Kane, DPC

Q: The President has requested funding for 50,000 new housing vouchers as one of several initiatives to help welfare reform efforts in the states succeed. Why is there a need for these vouchers? Why does the Administration view housing assistance as an important component of welfare reform efforts?

A: As the President said in the State of the Union, we can be proud of the tremendous accomplishments in implementing welfare reform to date, but we still have more to do, including helping families move closer to where the jobs are. To help address this, the President proposed two related initiatives in the 99 budget--$283 M for 50,000 welfare to work housing vouchers we're discussing today and $100 million a year for a welfare to work transportation initiative called Access to Jobs. Now Congress needs to fund these two initiatives.

The wtw housing vouchers will provide states and communities with a flexible tool to help families who need housing assistance in order to make a successful transition from welfare to work. They can be used to help people get a job, for example by moving closer to areas with job opportunities. Equally important, they can be used to help people keep a job, by reducing some of the challenges that can interfere with someone's success in the workplace such as a very long commute or unstable housing arrangements. We believe this retention issue is very important. For this reason, the vouchers could be used not just for families who are currently eligible for or receiving TANF, but also those who received within the last year.

We know most people want to work and there are many challenges they face including transportation, housing, and child care. We also know that low income working families often pay a high percentage of their income for rent and this can limit their choices about where they can live. Nationwide, only about one-quarter of families on welfare nationwide receive some form of housing assistance. HUD's recent report on worst case housing needs showed that 70% of renters who do not receive housing assistance and had very low incomes paid more than 50% of their income toward rent or lived in substandard housing.

Q: Are you aware of states or counties other than New Jersey that have committed their own resources to a housing allowance program for families transitioning from welfare back to work?

I'd say that the connection between housing and welfare reform is a cutting edge issue--it was not the first thing many states and communities focused on, but it is increasingly being recognized as an important challenge that calls for creative solutions. We know that Connecticut has developed a housing subsidy for people who are working and reach the state's time limit (profiled in a CLASP update). San Mateo County in California has an innovative parthership between housing, welfare, private foundation, and non-profit sector to address this issue. San Mateo provides rental assistance scholarships for up to one year for current or former welfare recipients who are participating in a welfare to work program or are working. They also coordinate their Family Self Sufficiency and Moving to Work demonstration. We also know that a communities in AL, MA, DE, OH, NE, MN, WI are using the flexibility afforded by HUD's Moving to Work demonstration to better coordinate housing and welfare reform policies. Paul may want to address this further.

Q: If states such as New Jersey and Connecticut are willing to put up their own money for such a housing allowance program, is this a program that states should be called upon to fund on their own, without additional federal help?

A: We encourage states to use their existing resources for a wide range of innovative solutions to accomplish the goals of welfare reform and the President has urged states to reinvest savings they realize as a result of caseload reductions in supports for those moving to work. At the same time, we also recognize that a relatively modest amount of federal funds can serve as a powerful catalyst for local partnerships and initiatives. These new vouchers can build on creative approaches such as those in NJ, CT, and CA. We believe these vouchers provide a lot of flexibility to design approaches that make sense in the local areas. At the same time, the voucher proposal has some basis parameters that we think are important such as requiring the local housing authority to work together with entities responsible for welfare reform and welfare to work. + must be critical to getting + keeping a job.

and In addition, the number of housing vouchers has not increased at all in recent years, and we believe that expanding the supply of portable housing vouchers, tied to supporting families making the transition from welfare to work, makes a lot of sense. I should also point out that states who use federal TANF funds or their own MOE funds for housing are of course subject to the rules that apply to those funding streams. [Finally, as Paul can attest, there has been relatively little experimentation with housing assistance--these vouchers would be very flexible and allow local applicants to try a variety of approaches to support families moving to work, from which we will all learn a lot.]

Q: Tell us more about what is known abut where entry-level jobs are being created in comparison with where welfare recipients live.

Well, we know that in general, about two-thirds of the new jobs are being created in the suburbs, but 3/4 of welfare recipients live in central cities or rural areas. Studies have documented this 'spacial mismatch' in cities such as Cleveland, Atlanta and Boston. A number of studies have also documented the link between job access and lower welfare utilization--for example, a study in Los Angeles found direct evidence that access to neighborhood jobs increases the likelihood that welfare recipients will work closer to home [Ong and Blumenberg, UCLA] . This in turn reduces commute costs and increases retention. I want to be clear however that this is not just about helping people move to suburban areas--even within cities people often take multiple bus routes and long commutes to get from where they live to their job--these vouchers would allow them to move to an apartment closer to their job. Similarly, in areas such as Dallas, there are many jobs being created out near the airport, but families may not be able to locate or afford housing in this area without some assistance.

Q: This sounds like a transportation problem: why try to solve it with housing assistance?

Transportation and housing go hand in hand--as a recent editorial in the Chicago Tribune pointed out (March 30). In some instances transportation alone may solve the problem, but in other cases, it simply makes more sense for someone to move closer to the job. While it varies by area, few welfare recipients own cars and public transit often does not run to where the jobs are, and does not work well during off-peak hours. Also, for those in unstable housing situations, transportation will not solve the problem. For example, if a parent is afraid to leave her children in an unsafe housing situation when she goes to work, or if there is no suitable child care near her current apartment, or she herself is afraid to take an evening or night job because it means traveling back and forth to an unsafe area late at night, having the flexibility to move to a better housing situation may make all the difference.

Q: How high are welfare to work housing vouchers on the President's agenda for this session of Congress?

well as for HUD
& for the agencies involved
in

A: These welfare to work housing vouchers are a very high priority for the President, both as part of his overall commitment to a broader housing agenda and to ensuring the success of welfare reform. We very much hope Congress will also see this as a high priority as they go through the appropriations process

facsimile
TRANSMITTAL

Name: Andrea Kane, Domestic Policy Council, 202-456-7431 ✓
Cathy Pennington, Cleveland Housing Network, (216) 574-7130
Fred Kramer, Marriott Corporation, (301) 380 2111.
Paul Leonard, HUD, 202-708-0309
Roy Ziegler, NJ DCA, 609-633-8084

From: Barbara Sard

Date: May 1, 1998

Subject: May 1st Audioconference on Welfare to Work Vouchers

Pages: 4, including cover.

Thanks to all of you for your participation and contributions on the audio-conference today. I've gotten positive feedback; I hope you have too.

On second thought, I decided it was easier for me to send you the questions I had received by fax, as one of you had requested. I think we did a good job of answering the questions that were relevant. Obviously, anyone that wants to separately respond should feel free to do so.

From the desk of...

Barbara Sard
Director, Housing Policy
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Local Address: 33 Thorndike St.
Brookline, MA 02146
Phone: 617-232-0573
Fax: 617-232-2903
e-mail: sard@cbpp.org

Subject: **Proposed questions regarding Section 8 Vouchers Targeted to Movin g to Work Families**
Date: Tue, 28 Apr 1998 13:18:53 -0400
From: Major Galloway <MGalloway@NAHRO.org>
To: Barbara Sard <sard@gis.net>
CC: Connie Campos <CCampos@NAHRO.org>, Rick Nelson <RNelson@NAHRO.org>, Julio Barreto <JBarreto@NAHRO.org>, helen dunlap <helen@nlihc.org>, jeff lubell <lubell@cbpp.org>, Major Galloway <MGalloway@NAHRO.org>

Attached are questions and issues for the panel to consider as they discuss the President's Section 8 Welfare to Work proposal on May 1, 1998 at 1:00 p.m.

(1.) In certain states and localities across the nation, coordination among Local Housing Agencies (LHAs), local government, welfare agencies, Private Industry Councils, and social service agencies is good. However, in other localities, housing agencies are not always included in a significant way in planning efforts to develop plans to facilitate the delivery of self-sufficiency services to welfare to work families living in public communities or receiving Section 8 tenant-based assistance. Even though significant numbers of welfare families receive this housing assistance.

What is the intent of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that welfare to work families receiving Federal housing assistance are properly served with self-sufficiency and job-placement services? What is the plan to improve welfare reform and community coordination at the community level? no

(2.) What is the Administration's plan to support job-creation efforts nationally and particularly in cities, states, and communities that have not experienced the benefits of the robust economy? no

(3.) In light of income treatment provisions in 12 State welfare reform plans, welfare benefits are reduced for TANF families receiving public housing or tenant-based assistance. This situation exists in states including Virginia, Minnesota, Florida, Connecticut, Wisconsin, New Jersey, potentially New Mexico when their state welfare reform plan is approved by their state legislature), etc. ask HHS no

(a.) What is the Administration and HUD's intent to provide adequate Section 8 funding and operating subsidy to offset this loss in rental revenues that results in a significant additional subsidy requirement due to the State's reduction in housing assistance payments to these welfare to work families? no

(4.) This is an important issue because Local Housing Agencies (LHAs) use operating subsidy and Section 8 fees to pay for the facilitation or delivery of self-sufficiency services. At the same time, it should be recognized that in many states local non-profit service providers that receive TANF funding charge housing agencies fees in the event these service providers provide services to welfare recipients that live in public or assisted housing. no

(a.) In light of the fact that operating subsidies and Section 8 fees are used to pay for the facilitation and delivery of self-sufficiency services, what is the HUD and the Administration's position on this matter? How are HUD and the Administration considering no supporting housing agencies with facilitating these self-sufficiency services to welfare to work families?

(b.) A fiscal burden is placed on housing subsidies for Section 8 and public housing when limited Federal funding for housing assistance is used to pay for self-sufficiency services being provided by a local entity that is the recipient of Federal funding from the Department of Health and Human Services' TANF program. How would HUD and the Administration intend to avoid this type of situation and provide offsetting financial support for self-sufficiency services for this Section 8 Voucher: welfare to work effort?

(5.) To make welfare reform a success and provide support to housing agencies and welfare to work families, we would suggest that HUD, HHS, and the Administration review the programmatic issues listed above. We also would suggest that HUD develop strategies to improve coordination in providing housing assistance and self-sufficiency services. However, in doing so the housing industry would suggest to HUD that Private Industry Councils, welfare agencies, and non-profit service providers share the burden of facilitating self-sufficiency services to welfare to work families. Undue fiscal pressures should not be placed on housing agency Section 8 or public housing budgets without offsetting financial support.

- they do. They already have resources to provide services; these vouchers are strictly for housing

Major Galloway
NAHRO

Subject: Audio Conference Questions
Date: Tue, 28 Apr 1998 19:05:16 EDT
From: McAuley1 <McAuley1@aol.com>
To: sard@gis.net

Dear Ms. Sard,

I hope that it is not too late to submit questions for the May 1st audioconference. I am very pleased that CLASP is focusing on the intersection between housing and welfare reform. I work for McAuley Institute, a national, nonprofit, housing intemediary dedicated to providing affordable housing options for low-income people, especially women and their families. So my questions look at the connections between housing and welfare, especially as they pertain to women.

Five Questions:

1. NEW VOUCHERS V. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS CUTS: With the left hand, the FY'99 Administration request for 100,000 new vouchers for Section 8 vouchers includes 50,000 for families moving from welfare to work--the first new Section 8 funding since FY'94. With the right hand, Congress passes an FY'98 Supplemental Appropriations Bill that takes $2.2 billion from Section 8 reserves to offset payments for disaster relief and military activities in Bosnia and the Persian Gulf, an amount that covers about 400,000 vouchers. (Actually, there are rumors that the amount to be taken from HUD may go as high as $2.7 billion, almost the entire amount of the $2.8 billion offset!!!!) How will HUD be able to plan for the impact of welfare reform when Congress keeps taking funds away from HUD programs? During the past several years, HUD has borne close to $15 billion of cuts due to rescissions for other programs. Even if Congress approves the 100,000 new vouchers for FY'99, these are not really additional funds if HUD loses the equivalent of 400,000 vouchers from FY'98 rescissions.

but they're still > than would've been there otherwise + they're targeted

2. HOUSING WAIVER: Can we create an equivalent to the Family Violence Option for housing? The Family Violence Option allows victims of domestic abuse to get a 6-month waiver from welfare sanctions. This helps domestic violence survivors to be able to make the transition to living on their own away from their abusers without having to worry right away about welfare sanctions or a total loss of income before they can find employment and housing in a safe neighborhood. There is also talk of some kind of income disregard for people leaving the welfare rolls who obtain jobs only to find that their housing costs rise even as they lose their health care. A similar HOUSING waiver or income disregard would be extremely helpful for families moving from welfare to work, i.e., their rent costs would not increase for 8 months from the time they left welfare and started earning incomes.

no

this cd be done under vouchers

3. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: Most of the people on welfare are women. And more than half of these are on welfare b/c of domestic violence. Are states, federal agencies, etc. making the connection between domestic violence and homelessness and/or the need for welfare assistance in the first place?

maybe

4. REDUCING HOUSING SUBSIDIES: Many states are considering linking welfare assistance and housing subsidies and penalizing families that receive both types of assistance. For example, if a family receives $400/month in welfare assistance adn $200/month in Section 8 vouchers, their $400/month welfare check would be reduced by $200/month.
a. Which states are implementing such reduced housing subsidies or have plans in the works to do so?

no follow up

5. TIME LIMITS/HOMELESSNESS: Housing is a family's largest expense. As time

limits arise, and families no longer have incomes with which to pay for their expenses, many will become homeless.

a. How are federal agencies, i.e., HHS, DOL, HUD, dealing with this overlapping issue?

b. Are these agencies joining forces to make broad funding streams available to technical assistance, social service and housing providers to deal with this problem?

Thank you very much for this opportunity to submit my questions. I look forward to enjoying the audioconference.

Susheela Varky
McAuley Institute
8300 Colesville Rd., #310
Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 588-8110 x. 264
(301) 588-8154 (FAX)
HN0331@handsnet.org

Subject: question
Date: Thu, 30 Apr 1998 14:26:17 -0500 (CDT)
From: "A. Correia" <acorreia@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu>
To: sard@gis.net

I have the following question for the May 1st audio conference panel "New Housing Vouchers Could Help Families Moving From Welfare to Work"

Is it the case, that in order for a housing authority to apply for the welfare-to-work vouchers, it would need to disband federal preferences and institute local preferences? If so, would a local preference need to be established that includes participation in a welfare-to-work program? What is the public input process to developing local preferences, and is it ultimately the decision of the board or staff of the housing authority? How would this such a preference affect working low-income families (not on welfare) access to subsidized housing?

no

rel n to prefs

Thank you,
Amy Correia
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence
e-mail: acorreia@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu

FAX MEMORANDUM FROM THE DESK OF:

Linda S. Shaw, Executive Director
919.881.0350 (FAX)
919.881.0707(PHONE)

North Carolina

Low Income Housing Coalition

TO: Barbara Sard

FROM: Tamesia Wright

Re: "**New Housing Vouchers Could Help Families Moving From Welfare to Work**"

Paul re MTW?

Here are a couple of questions regarding the memo:

1. Are there model programs <u>anywhere</u> that are successfully combining housing assistance with welfare-to-work? Housing's importance in making this transition isn't even on the radar screen in our state.

2. In cities such as Chicago, there is already a high rate of return on vouchers because people can't find landlords willing to except section 8. What changes are going to be put in place to ensure people with vouchers can actually find homes using them?

?

RHODE ISLAND HOUSING
AND MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION

TO: Barbara Sard
CLASP

FROM: Judy Jones JJ
Government Affairs Liaison
Rhode Island Housing

DATE: April 30, 1998

SUBJECT: Question for panel on Housing Vouchers...Welfare-to-Work"

Question for tomorrow's audio conference panel:

Will the new vouchers be tied to the Family Self-Sufficiency Program? no

Thanks for your attention to our question.

BS

44 Washington St., Providence, RI 02903-1721 • 401 751-5566 Fax: 401 457-1136

Subject: **RE: Housing Vouchers for Welfare to Work**
Date: Wed, 29 Apr 1998 13:05:03 -0400
From: "Levin-Epstein, Jodie" <jodie@clasp.org>
To: "'gutiercl@SSA.CO.Santa-Clara.CA.US'" <gutiercl@SSA.CO.Santa-Clara.CA.US>
CC: "Barbara Sard (E-mail)" <sard@gis.net>

Corky - thanks for your questions for this week's audio conference. The host this week is Barbara Sard of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. I'm forwarding these questions on to her.

Jodie Levin-Epstein
Center for Law and Social Policy
Suite 150
1616 P Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Tel: 202 328 5174
Fax:202 328 5195

Web: www.clasp.org
e-mail: jodie@clasp.org

-----Original Message-----
From: gutiercl@SSA.CO.Santa-Clara.CA.US [SMTP:gutiercl@SSA.CO.Santa-Clara.CA.US]
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 1998 12:55 PM
To: Jodie@CLASP.org
Subject: Housing Vouchers for Welfare to Work

Jodie,

We haven't even seen the Super NOFA yet.

How do we get a copy of the Housing Welfare to Work?

Has the money already been allocated for the 50,000 vouchers?

What is the deadline?

What are the basics?

We'll be tuning in to hear. Thank you.

Corky Gutierrez
Sandi Douglas
Santa Clara County - CalWORKs and Housing Authority

Memorandum

To: Andrea Kane, Domestic Policy Council
Fred Kramer, Marriott Corporation
Paul Leonard, HUD
~~Kate Monter Durbin~~, Cleveland Housing Partnership Kathy Pennington
Roy Ziegler, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

From: Shawna Cromwell, Audio Conference Administrator

Date: April 27, 1998

Re: Speaker Call-In Procedures for May 1st CBPP/CLASP Audio Conference

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Thank you for agreeing to be a guest on the CBPP/CLASP audio conference entitled "New Housing Vouchers Could help Families Moving From Welfare to Work." Please call the speaker call-in line **[1 800 475 6890]** at **12:15 EST** on May 1st, 1998. At that time you will do a "tech" check of equipment. Please speak on a phone directly into a handset, **do not use a speaker phone** and be sure that you are in a space that is very quiet.

In addition to the "tech" check, you will briefly discuss audience, and catch up on any small issues.

The format is "talk show" with questions from Barbara as the moderator. The audience is in a listen-mode only - they are encouraged to fax their questions in advance but can not ask anything "live" during the 1 hour audio conference. We are "on air" from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm Eastern Time.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding dialog or substantive issues, you may want to contact Barbara Sard at (617) 232-0573 or sard@gis.net.

Contact me immediately at (202) 328-5194, **if you have any problems with connecting to the conference on the 1st.**

Again, thank you.

29 states 40 locations
90 individ. locations x 3 or 4.
less advocates, more state + housing authorities
lots of ?s from listeners - too specific
possible role of vouchers for DV victims!

NJ

Sec 8 + wr agency entered into a partnerships 3 yrs ago, began prioritizing sec 8 vouchers

350 families -

remarkable success

58% working for 2 yrs - 1/2 now above pov level

vouchers help stabilize even while wages go up + down.

FMR - can get people into most areas, landlords love getting a wage earner.

Accumulating escrow accts - avg is $5,000 - helps w/ home ownership.

NJ is time limited to 3 yrs.

dual approach: co welf agency refers based on pt exp. to state/co sec 8 program. Harder to serve pop. case mgmt. counseling.

Work first NJ has lots of approvals

NJ committed $1 m/yr for next 3 years

about 400 families

- Marriott - working w/ nonprofit (Jubilee Jobs?) to get vans at 10 cities Camden. Now hoping to ~~get~~ start microbusiness, to have house be self sustaining - free for 1st few mos, then begin charge $3-4/day

subsidies should not stop on day someone gets a paycheck - importance of transitional benefits/supports

Carmichael then

CC: Paul
Cynthia

facsimile TRANSMITTAL

These are questions I (+ others) will be asked on CLASP call 5/1. I'll draft answers + run past you both. Do I need to clear w/ anyone else?

Name: Andrea Kane, Domestic Policy Council, 202-456-7431
Kate Monter Durbin, Cleveland Housing Partnership, (216) 574-7130
Fred Kramer, Marriott Corporation, (301) 380 2111.
Paul Leonard, HUD, 202-708-0309
Roy Ziegler, NJ DCA, 609-633-8084

From: Barbara Sard

Date: April 20, 1998

Subject: May 1st Audioconference on Welfare to Work Vouchers

Pages: 4, including cover.

Following is my draft of the questions for the audio conference. In the interest of saving time, I drafted this without the benefit of individual conversations. So *please* if you want to have me ask you something I didn't think of, or change the questions, let me know at least a day in advance (more time would of course be appreciated). You can fax back the draft with any changes, or call or e-mail me as shown below. Please also call if you don't understand what I may be getting at. (I'll be in DC at the Center on 4/22 and 4/23, but otherwise reachable in Boston.)

Thank you again for agreeing to do this, and I look forward to our call on May 1st. Please remember to call in at the number CLASP will fax you by 12:15, so we can do last minute arrangements all together.

From the desk of...

Barbara Sard
Director, Housing Policy
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Local Address: 33 Thorndike St.
Brookline, MA 02146
Phone: 617-232-0573
Fax: 617-232-2903
e-mail: sard@cbpp.org

Draft Questions for Audio Conference May 1, 1998:
New Housing Vouchers Could Help Families Moving from Welfare to Work

Sard intro topic and panelists

to Andrea: The President has requested funding for 50,000 new housing vouchers as one of several initiatives to help welfare reform efforts in the states succeed. Why is there a need for these vouchers? Why does the Administration view housing assistance as an important component of welfare reform efforts?

To Paul: Can you explain for us how the Administration's proposed initiative would work?

Can you give us some examples of how local agencies might design programs with these vouchers?

To Fred: Why may it be in the interests of business to have these special welfare to work vouchers available? This is a unique way to deal w/ transp. issue distance, evenings/nights,

what about housing avail. in suburbs

To Kate: As I understand it, the Cleveland Housing Partnership works on local housing and economic development. How would welfare to work housing vouchers help your efforts? Sees vouchers as safety net. At least 500 of 1,500 on TANF w/o any housing assistance. Have 30 mo to find empl - what's jeopardized is their continued housing. If no job ~~losing~~ may lose housing.

housing stability

10

To Roy: From a state's perspective, is there a link between housing and welfare reform?

Why did NJ decide that the link was important?

Can you give us a brief description of the NJ program?

To Andrea: Are you aware of states or counties other than New Jersey that have committed their own resources to a housing allowance program for families transitioning from welfare back to work?

If states such as New Jersey and Connecticut are willing to put up their own money for such a housing allowance program, is this a program that states should be called upon to fund on their own, without additional federal help?

To Paul: Why should new federal funds through HUD be appropriated to assist state welfare reform efforts?

Can 50,000 new vouchers make a significant difference when more than 2 million families still on welfare lack housing assistance? [create links between housing agencies with far more resources and welfare agencies]

To Roy: Even without new funding for housing vouchers, some vouchers become available each year to aid new families as families leave rental assistance programs–what's called "turnover" in the housing business. Why allocate new resources for this welfare to work effort, rather than these turnover resources?

To Kate: Do you think the housing agencies that control rental assistance resources in your area would target turnover vouchers for a welfare/work effort?

In addition to certificates and vouchers, which are administered by public housing authorities, federal funds under the HOME block grant that goes to states and larger cities could be used for rental assistance or for developing rental housing targeted to families leaving welfare for work. Do you think states and cities redirecting HOME money for this purpose is any more likely than PHAs altering their priorities for certificates and vouchers?

To Fred: Marriott has a great deal of experience at this point with programs to assist parents on welfare to become Marriott employees. What have you learned from that experience which is relevant to today's question of the role of housing vouchers in helping families move from welfare to work? [job access and retention]

How do you think businesses could work with housing agencies to help design a program to meet their needs as well?

to Andrea: Tell us more about what is known about where entry-level jobs are being created in comparison with where welfare recipients live. [This might be answered in earlier question.]

Sounds like a transportation problem: why try to solve it with housing assistance? [include % of welfare recipients that own cars]

To Kate: The geographic separation between where welfare recipients live, where entry level jobs are located, and how long it would take on existing public transit routes to travel between them has been quite thoroughly analyzed in Cleveland. Can you tell us briefly what that analysis has shown? [Kate: can you do this? This is Claudia Coulton's work that was presented at the COHHIO conference.]

Is there rental housing available near the new jobs? Why can't families simply move if they want to be closer to work?

[if supply problem as well, explain how vouchers can help solve the supply problem]

To Paul: Nationally, what is known about housing costs in areas of job growth?

How do these housing costs compare to the wages families leaving welfare for work are likely to earn?

To Fred: Some employers are having difficulty in the current market attracting the employees they need. Can a housing allowance program for welfare recipients seeking work help meet this need?

To Roy: In the Work First New Jersey Housing Assistance Program, priority is given to families without any housing at all through no fault of their own, as well as to families at imminent risk of losing their housing, rather than on a potential need to relocate. Why did New Jersey make this policy decision?

To Andrea: Is there research on the role of housing stability in helping families retain jobs? [Andrea: are you familiar with the latest, unpublished MFIP results indicating a substantially greater increase in employment and earnings for housing assistance recipients than unassisted welfare families in Minn.?]

To Paul: Has HUD had experience with other initiatives that link housing and human service agencies? [suggest using Family Unif and not FSS, as similar type of carrot of new resources]]

Lessons/examples

Do you think that PHAs would be interested in applying for these new resources if the program is funded?

Anyone: Is there state and local support for the President's initiative? - [illegible]

Paul: What are the relevant steps in Congress regarding the housing voucher proposal? [get in key committee leaders and dates]

Andrea: How high are welfare to work housing vouchers on the President's agenda for this session of Congress?

Paul: Should states wait to see if the President's proposal is funded before initiating a housing allowance program with their own funds?

Hill -
in Pres budget
VA/HUD approps bill - will be marked up in next mo or two
House, then Sen
Lewis, Stokes Bond, Mikulski
It will begin in next mo or so, S. shortly thereafter.
ideally wd be included in Chairmans proposal from the start