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Housing Vouchers - FY 1999 Awards

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Aboard Air Force One)

For Immediate Release October 1, 1999

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The Department of Housing and Urban Development yesterday released $280 million in rental assistance vouchers to help 50,000 families in 35 states move from welfare to work. These housing vouchers are an integral part of our efforts to reform welfare, reward work, and provide affordable housing for low-income families. They will help families move closer to a job, reduce a long commute, or secure more stable housing that will help them get or keep a job.

Today, our economy is strong, incomes are up, and poverty is at the lowest rate in 20 years. But there are still more than 5 million low-income families who need affordable housing. That is why I have asked Congress for an additional 100,000 rental assistance vouchers to meet the critical housing needs of families moving from welfare to work, the homeless and the elderly. As Members of the House and Senate meet in conference to debate this year's budget for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, I want to underscore my strong commitment to this initiative. Congress should not turn its back on families that are playing by the rules and moving from welfare to work. A budget without new vouchers would shortchange the American Dream.

###

f: Housing within
f: FY 99 award
f: Time limits

The Blade
10/2/99

Area housing agencies get federal assistance

FROM BLADE STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Putting dollars behind the effort to guide welfare recipients to employment, the federal government yesterday awarded $280 million in vouchers to help about 50,000 families pay for housing — including 200 in Lucas County.

Andrew Cuomo, secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, announced the vouchers as well as $23.8 million in grants to 669 small public housing agencies, including the Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority, the Allen Housing Authority in Lima, O., the Bowling Green Housing Authority, and the Hancock Housing Authority in Findlay.

No grants were awarded to public housing agencies in Monroe, Lenawee, or Hillsdale counties, said Ken Barnard, HUD spokesman in Detroit.

LMHA will receive $636,030, which will pay for 200 vouchers to subsidize the rents of low-income families receiving welfare or who have left welfare, allowing them to live near their jobs or schools.

"It really is great for northwest Ohio," said Dennis Morgan, LMHA executive director. "Part of the concern [is] that as families continue to transition off of welfare, that because of a lot of the [jobs] they'll be going to, a little above minimum wage, they'll not have the resources to pay for housing or other benefits."

Another concern is that those who need jobs are not able to live near their work.

"Our economy is booming, and many suburban employers can't find all the workers they need," Mr. Cuomo said in a statement.

The grants of $23.8 million were divided among 669 small public housing agencies so each can hire a "self-sufficiency coordinator" to help people who receive rental subsidies to get jobs by helping them get education and job training.

LMHA will get $38,464; the Allen authority will get $29,010; the Bowling Green authority will get $30,705, and the Hancock authority will get $19,496.

Welfare deadline protested

BLADE STAFF WRITER

About 30 protesters smashed clocks with sledgehammers in front of Government Center yesterday as part of a demonstration against an upcoming deadline in Ohio's welfare reform laws.

On Oct. 1, 2000, thousands of Ohioans will be taken off the state's welfare rolls. In 1996, President Clinton signed into law a welfare-reform package allowing states to limit the amount of time citizens can receive benefits. Ohio set that limit at three years, which means that the first recipients will be denied benefits in one year.

The protesters called for the state to extend the limit from three years to five, as other states have done. The clocks were smashed to symbolize their displeasure with the deadline.

Most of the protesters were students in a class on welfare law at the University of Toledo taught by Terry Cluse-Tolar, director of UT's social work program. The class's major project this semester is to try to get the five-year period enacted, she said.

"Many of the people who have gotten off welfare are in very low-paying jobs, and they still need help," said Ms. Cluse-Tolar.

Among the speakers at the protest was Councilwoman Tina Skeldon Wozniak.

451 7TH STREET, SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20410
(202) 708-0744 X4021
FAX: (202) 708-0233
MELUSAN_BELL@HUD.GOV

CUSTOMER SERVICES AND AMENITIES DIVISION

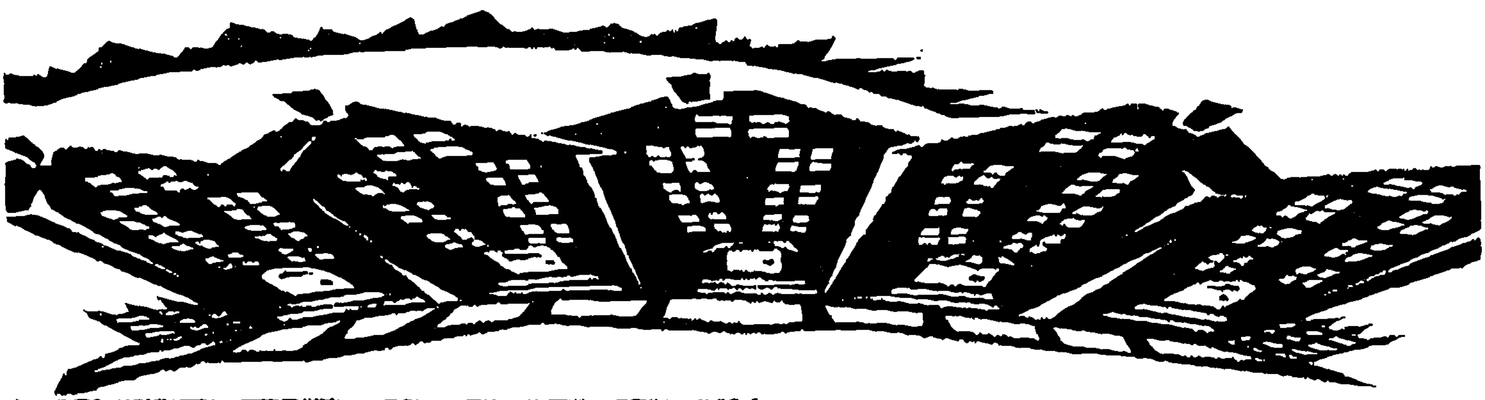
February 18, 2000 Andrea Kane

ATTN: ~~Charlie Meredith~~

RE: WELFARE TO WORK VOUCHERS: PARTNERSHIPS TO SUCCESS NATIONAL CONFERENCE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING YOU MAY REGISTER BY CALLING QUADEL CONSULTING AT (202) 789-2500 OR BY EMAIL AT WWW@QUADEL.COM.

Sincerely,

MELOSAN BELL
HOUSING PROGRAM SPECIALIST



6-7431

Welfare to Work Vouchers: Partnerships to Success
National Conference Agenda

Wednesday, February [illegible], 2000		Meeting Room
8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	**Registration**	
9:00 - 9:45 a.m.	**Welcome and Introduction** *Harold Lucas,* Assistant Secretary, Public and Indian Housing, HUD *Gloria Cousar,* Deputy Assistant Secretary, Public and Assisted Housing Delivery, HUD *Paula Blunt,* Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary, Public and Assisted Housing Delivery, HUD	Regency Ballroom
9:45 - 10:30 a.m.	**Welfare to Work Vouchers: The Basics** *Kathryn Greenspan,* Housing Management Specialist, Customer Service and Amenities Division, HUD *Deborah Greenstein,* Program Analyst *or Jill Khadduri,* Director, Policy Development & Research, HUD *Stephen Yank,* Welfare-to-Work Specialist, HUD	Regency Ballroom
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	**Morning Break**	
10:45 - 12:00 Noon	**Focus on Jobs/Lessons Learned** *Garland Allen,* Policy Development & Research, HUD *Roy Priest,* President and Chief Executive Officer, National Congress for Community Economic Development *Art Corrales,* Xerox Corporation *Jovanni Fulcher,* Senior Project Manager, Marriott Corporation	Regency Ballroom
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	**Working Lunch and Keynote Address** *Father Joseph Hacala,* Director, Center for Community and Interfaith Partnerships, HUD	Regency Ballroom
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.	**Families: Outreach, Selection and Termination Criteria** *Mary Ann Piekost,* Senior Public Housing Revitalization Specialist, MI HUD *Ulysses Pollard,* Section 8 Director, Monterey County (CA) Housing Authority *Gloria Carney,* Monterey County Department of Social Services *Yvette Byrd,* Director of Leased Housing, Raleigh (NC) Housing Authority	Regency Ballroom
2:30 - 2:45 p.m.	**Afternoon Break**	

Wednesday, February [illegible] — **Meeting Room**

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	**LANDLORD OUTREACH AND HOUSING SEARCH** *Gerald Benoit*, Director, Real Estate and Housing Performance, HUD *Jennifer O'Neil*, Deputy Director, CHAC, Inc. *Edwina Mouning*, Section 8 Director, Portland (OR) Housing Authority *Erik Sundsted*, Owner Outreach Specialist, Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership *Guy Citro*, Owner Outreach Specialist, Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership *Sonny Covington*, Executive Director, I CAN America	**REGENCY BALLROOM**
3:45 – 5:00 p.m.	**MOVING FROM WELFARE TO WORK: SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, CASE MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE** *Stephen Yank*, Welfare-to-Work Specialist, HUD *Kathryn Greenspan*, Housing Management Specialist, Customer Service and Amenities Division, HUD *Donna Cook*, Deputy Director, City of Kenosha (WI) Housing Authority *Ed Kamin*, Economic Support Program Manager, Kenosha County (WI) Department of Human Services *Mary Maher*, Section 8 Assistant Director, City of Los Angeles Housing Authority *Judy Weddle*, Dir. Strategic Planning, LA Cnty Dept. Public Social Services *Patty Zatarion Menard*, San Diego Housing Authority (Invited)	**REGENCY BALLROOM**

Thursday, February 24, 2000 — **Meeting Room**

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.	**FEDERAL RESOURCES** *Patricia Arnaudo*, Senior Program Manager, Customer Services and Amenities Division, HUD *Stephen Yank*, Welfare-to-Work Specialist, HUD *Ron Ashford*, Office of Public Housing Investments, HUD *Dennis Lieberman*, U.S Department of Labor *Mack Storrs*, Director, Division of Self-Sufficiency Programs, DHHS *Maria Kniesler*, Work Force Investment, U.S. Department of Labor (Invited)	**DIPLOMAT ROOM**
10:15 – 10:30	**MORNING BREAK**	
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.	**FOCUS ON IMPLEMENTATION: OVERVIEW** *Katherine Dahlem*, Abt Associates	**DIPLOMAT ROOM**
11:00 – 12:00 Noon	**FOCUS ON IMPLEMENTATION: NJ FIELD OFFICE OF HUD** *Carmen Valenti*, Director, Office of Public Housing, NJ HUD *Gene Murtorony*, Deputy Director, Division of Family Development, State of NJ Department of Health and Human Services *Jack D'Ambrosio*, Executive Director, Bergen County (NJ) Housing Authority *Robert DiVincent*, Executive Director, West New York (NJ) Housing Authority *Marilsa Hernandez*, Section 8 Coordinator, Perth Amboy (NJ) Housing Authority *Phil Siciliano*, Section 8 Director, Monmouth County (NJ) Housing Authority	**DIPLOMAT ROOM**

Thursday, February 2[illegible], 2000 (cont[illegible]) [illegible] Meeting Room

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.	**Working Lunch and Keynote Address** *Paula Blunt,* Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary, Public and Assisted Housing Delivery, HUD *Alvin Collins,* Director, Office of Family Assistance, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services *Rodney Carroll,* The Welfare to Work Partnership (Invited)	**Diplomat Room**
1:30 - 2:50 p.m.	**How Will We Know If We're Successful in Moving from Welfare to Work: Monitoring Progress** *Pat Arnaudo,* Senior Program Manager, Customer Service and Amenities Division, HUD *Kathleen Rotondaro,* President, Quadel Consulting Corporation *Paul Dornan,* Social Science Analyst, Policy Development & Research, HUD *Deborah Hernandez,* Director, Section 8 Finance Division, HUD *Susan Loritz,* Real Estate and Housing Performance, HUD *Lori Feller,* MTCS Team, HUD	**Diplomat Room**
2:50 - 3:30 p.m.	**Wrap Up and Next Steps** *Gloria Cousar,* Deputy Assistant Secretary, Public and Assisted Housing Delivery, HUD *Pat Arnaudo,* Senior Program Manager, Customer Service and Amenities Division, HUD *Kathryn Greenspan,* Housing Management Specialist, Customer Service and Amenities Division, HUD *Stephen Yank,* Welfare-to-Work Specialist, HUD *Deborah Hernandez,* Acting Director, Section 8 Finance Division, HUD *Bernice Unland,* Director, Section 8 Financial Management Center, HUD *Gerald Benoit,* Director, Real Estate and Housing Performance, HUD *Marcy Fisher,* Manager, Quadel Consulting Corporation	**Diplomat Room**

CC: Cynthia

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410-0001

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

FROM: Jacquie Lawing, Deputy Chief of Staff

TO: Andrea Kane

Number of Pages (including cover): 3

NOTE: If you have problems receiving this fax, please contact me at 202-708-2236.

Andrea-
Pls call if you have any questions ——

Scott

708 0614 x ~~6571~~ 6971

received 467 applications, funding 92
requested over 125,000 vouchers = $869 m
funding $283 m funding ~~40,324~~ 50,000
Get ~~asked for~~ 700 or 1/2 current voucher allocation

How did its change?

01/05/2000 19:49 HUD/REH → 94567431 NO.224 P01

CC: UR

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

FAX TRANSMITTAL # of pages ▸ 4

To ANDREA KANE	From STEVE YANK
Dept./Agency DPC	Phone # 708-1537 x 4582
Fax #	Fax #

NSN 7540-01-317-7368 5099-101 GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

CLEVELAND, NOVEMBER 7, 1999

HUD money to subsidize poor families goes unused

Agency lost track of billions intended for rent vouchers

By STEPHEN KOFF
PLAIN DEALER BUREAU CHIEF

WASHINGTON — While complaining about a lack of money to provide housing for poor people, HUD and the housing agencies it oversees have allowed billions of dollars to go unused, government records and interviews show.

The money was supposed to pay the rent for low-income tenants in privately owned apartments. But at least $14.2 billion has gone unspent since 1997, according to the General Accounting Office and members of Congress. They offer a variety of reasons, including faulty projections, red tape and poor oversight at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and management problems at the local housing agencies that HUD oversees.

Housing officials "can't look you in the eye and say, 'You haven't given us enough money,'" said Republican Rep. Bob Ney of St. Clairsville, Ohio, vice chairman of a congressional subcommittee that oversees housing issues. "Because we can say, 'Yeah, we have. You just haven't used it.'"

The unused money would have been enough to provide hundreds of thousands of low-income families with vouchers or certificates that would have helped pay their rent — 2.3 million vouchers if issued all at once.

That, however, is no longer an option. Since the housing money was not used as intended, Congress over the last three years diverted $10.8 billion of it to other programs — including flood and hurricane relief, peacekeepers in Bosnia and military intervention in Kosovo.

SEE HUD/15-A

HUD's buried treasure

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development whined that the sky was falling not long ago when Congress gave it $26.1 billion instead of the nearly $28 billion it wanted. More than likely, the only thing falling was just a chunk of plaster.

All this Chicken Little really needed was a calculator and a couple of math lessons. It turns out that since 1997, HUD has had about $14.2 billion in unspent funds, according to a Sunday story by The Plain Dealer's Stephen Koff.

That would have been enough money for HUD to quietly fund the $2 billion worth of vouchers it couldn't get from Congress with plenty left over for Congress, frustrated by HUD's glacial spending habits, to put to other use.

Poor accounting practices and a culture of inertia and incompetence got HUD into this morass. Indeed, for years the department didn't know how much money it had or even, it seems, how to spend it. For example, none of the 50,000 vouchers approved last fall has been used, because, as HUD has explained, distributing them to public housing authorities is "no easy task."

HUD's delays extend down the line to housing authorities (which may do their own sleepwalking) and finally into the hands of the poor who await the chance to tramp from landlord to landlord looking for someone to accept their vouchers.

Still, HUD's top officers can deflect some of the blame. Some of the money was unspent because housing authorities, including the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, failed to use all of their vouchers in the past. CMHA often failed to process the paperwork, a problem that supposedly is being mended.

The agency also reports that it has new financial management and is poring over its books to account for all of its funds. Better late than never.

But there's no excuse for the years HUD misled the public about its so-called dire straits, while poor people got hurt. HUD's incompetence in rudimentary accounting meant that fewer vouchers were distributed, that some cities didn't get enough of them and that vouchers for high-cost-of-living cities like San Francisco and Washington never kept pace with the housing market.

It also means that Chicken Little's audience for its annual doom-and-gloom pronouncements should shrink radically.

THE PLAIN DEALER • NATIONAL • SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1999 15-A

Billions in HUD money for rent subsidies goes unused

Since 1997, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has found more than $14.2 billion in taxpayer money that went unspent. The "recaptured" money was supposed to help pay the rents of low-income tenants in privately owned apartments. Congress, needing money for other programs and annoyed that money is going unused, has been taking away some of the unspent money each year.

YEAR	RECAPTURED	TAKEN FOR OTHER PROGRAMS*
1997	$7.85 billion	$3.65 billion
1998	$1.75 billion	$2.9 billion
1999	$2.6 billion	$2 billion
2000**	$2 billion	$2.3 billion

* Some funds came from previous year's recapture.
** The 2000 fiscal year started Oct. 1, 1999. HUD expects to find more than money as it analyzes last year's spending.

SOURCE: Department of Housing and Urban Development PLAIN DEALER

The unspent money has embarrassed HUD and helped keep the agency on the General Accounting Office's list of government departments at high risk for waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement.

"My friends at HUD tell me they are finally at the bottom of the barrel; there will be no more rabbits to pull out of the barrel next year," said Conrad Egan, a housing advocate in Washington. "But they say that every year."

That's exactly what happened in September, after HUD told reporters that Congress was being unfair in its 2000 budget by not paying for new vouchers. Then HUD quietly found $2 billion available in unspent funds, providing enough money for 60,000 new vouchers and other programs.

Vouchers delayed

HUD wanted even more new vouchers — yet failed to issue $280 million worth, or enough to house 50,000 families, on time the previous year. Congress, though miffed, allowed the agency to award the $280 million to communities on the last day of the 1999 fiscal year. But the new vouchers, specifically for people leaving welfare, won't be in the hands of tenants until 2000.

"None of the 50,000 vouchers we approved last fall have been used," Sen. Christopher Bond of Missouri, chairman of the Senate subcommittee that approves funding for HUD, said in late September. "None. Zero. Zip. Nada."

HUD maintains it took a year to work out procedures for issuing new vouchers and to take applications from housing agencies that wished to issue them. The money was not simply "sitting out there," said Jacquie Lawing, HUD deputy chief of staff. "Running these programs is no easy task. You have to do national competitions, you take in literally thousands of applications, you have a team of 30 or 40 employees who review these applications."

But former Rep. Louis Stokes of Cleveland, who chaired the House subcommittee that funded HUD when Democrats ran Congress, does not buy HUD's explanation. "That's nonsense," he said. "Even if it's a new program, they've got specialists over there who take care of hundreds of very complicated, very involved programs. There is no reason for a program to take that long. If it was for middle- or upper-middle-class people, it wouldn't take that long."

Stokes was among those surprised when, after a 1997 GAO audit, HUD acknowledged it had more than $10 billion sitting unused. Congress demanded that $7.85 billion of it be "recaptured" for HUD programs the next year, but then put $3.65 billion aside for other government uses.

Before 1997, poor record-keeping made it impossible to determine how much of HUD's budgets had not been used, GAO and congressional staff members said.

Then, HUD installed a new chief financial officer — and kept finding more unspent money in its coffers each subsequent year: $1.75 billion in 1998, $2.6 billion in 1999 and at least $2 billion going into 2000; HUD is still analyzing last year's accounts and acknowledges it may find more.

Meantime people across the country are on waiting lists, wishing more HUD money were available for vouchers. Robin Johnson, whose $7-an-hour job at a Euclid auto license bureau supports her and two teenage children, says she first applied for one about 10 years ago. She pays $450 a month for an apartment in Cleveland's Glenville neighborhood, and takes the bus to work. The Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, which manages the voucher program in Cleveland, recently told her she may get a voucher soon.

"It's been a long, dragged out process," she said. "It's just like child support — I'm still waiting for that."

Part of HUD's problem has been caused by local housing agencies like CMHA, which, even with a limited supply, failed until recently to distribute all its available vouchers. Because would-be tenants could not get CMHA to perform housing inspections, and CMHA lost or misplaced paperwork, 1,700 vouchers were unfilled in October 1997. CMHA wound up forfeiting $50 million in unused voucher money to HUD, according to CMHA spokeswoman Dorothy Noga.

Under new management, CMHA is now using nearly all its vouchers, she said.

But HUD's huge unspent reserves have other causes, too. For years, HUD put money into its voucher program as if its tenants would pay none of their own money for rent. Federal rules, however, require low-income tenants to pay up to 30 percent of their salaries for rent, with HUD paying the rest. If the rent was $500 a month, HUD made the whole $500 available, even if a working tenant could, and did, contribute toward it. The excess funding piled up.

Tenants frustrated

Then there were, and still are, problems with vouchers that are issued but cannot be used. While voucher holders have the right to live wherever they want, some landlords do not want to rent to poor people and turn them away.

And in cities where the real estate market is tight, such as Washington and San Francisco, landlords can charge rents that are so high that vouchers are useless. HUD has refused to pay above what it considers the fair market rate, and as a result, vouchers are returned by frustrated would-be tenants.

"In some markets, you have landlords who are fighting over each other just to get into the program," said Julio Barretto, of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, which represents public housing administrators. "And in others, some landlords just can't be bothered."

Housing advocates and HUD cite the agency's past inability to forecast inflation as another reason money has gone unspent. HUD promised some building owners with long-term contracts a steady stream of tenants and rent that kept up with inflation. The projections, made 20 to 25 years ago, turned out to be wrong, and HUD set aside more than it needed. At Congress' urging it has taken back $3.6 billion, while still maintaining some reserves.

Is HUD really to blame for the vagaries of the real estate market, the false assumptions and the practices of the 3,400 housing authorities that help carry out its mission?

Congressional overseers and the GAO say yes, because HUD ought to be able to say with better accuracy how its budget is being spent and how vouchers are used.

"It's the idea that we should know how much we have, and then be able to appropriately allocate that," said Stan Czerwinski, the GAO associate director for housing and community development.

"Somebody has to be accountable for that money," said Wayne Struble, director of the House Budget Committee staff.

"Now did another agency screw up? Possibly. But I would think then that HUD needs to change its policies or practices to deal with that."

Accounting faulted

Housing advocates are reluctant to criticize HUD — the agency they say does the most to help poor Americans — but acknowledge there are problems. They praise Housing Secretary Andrew Cuomo for implementing better financial controls in 1997 and trying to find unspent funds.

"They're finding money that they don't need to use right away.

LONNIE TIMMONS III / PLAIN DEALER PHOTOGRAPHER

Robin Johnson first applied for a housing voucher 10 years ago. She is supporting herself and two teenage children with a $7-an-hour job at a Euclid auto license bureau. The Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, which manages the voucher program in Cleveland, recently told her she may get a voucher soon.

they're finding money in reserve accounts, they're finding money they may have been a little slow in getting out, they're finding money that frankly just isn't being used," said Egan, policy director for the National Housing Conference, which represents property owners that deal with HUD.

"I don't think it's a matter of these funds lying in a wasteful condition. I think it's just a matter that the HUD accounting systems aren't as precise or aggressive as they might be in identifying opportunities to squeeze down the amount of funds that might be available."

The fact that vouchers go unused in some cities, advocates say, points to the need for a more comprehensive approach to affordable housing, one that emphasizes not just vouchers but also new construction.

"The answer is to keep putting more vouchers into the system and to make the vouchers work better," said Sheila Crowley, president of the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

HUD, on orders of Congress, is drawing up rules that would make it easier to transfer money from a city where vouchers are going unused to another location. It also is establishing policies that increase the value of vouchers in cities where rents have risen. Sunia Zaterman, executive director of the Council of Large Public Housing Authorities, says the rules are a fair solution.

"We expect because of that, that much of the problem that occurred in the past will disappear and that we will not be having recaptures . . . of any kind of magnitude, other than the sort of normal vacancy rate you expect, 5 percent or something like that," said David Gibbons, HUD's chief financial officer.

"At some point," he said, "there will be no recapture at all."

But HUD can't say precisely when. Until that happens, the skeptics will keep watching.

"As we've looked at multiple things at HUD, the bottom line with us is, the proof is in the pudding," said the GAO's Czerwinski. "And it's not quite there yet."

e-mail: skoff@plaind.com
Phone: (216) 999-4212

"Stephen J. Yank" <Stephen_J._Yank@HUD.GOV>
12/07/99 02:49:52 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Andrea Kane/OPD/EOP

cc: Deborah Greenstein <Deborah_Greenstein@HUD.GOV>, Xavier Briggs <Xavier_Briggs@HUD.GOV>, "Kathryn L. Greenspan" <Kathryn_L._Greenspan@HUD.GOV>

Subject: Re: FW: Welfare-to-Work Housing Voucher Program

Katherine and I also presented a workshop on the program with 30 or so W2W Voucher awardees attending at Quadel's Section 8 Conference in October.

Andrea Kane

Record Type: Record

To: Deborah_Greenstein@hud.gov @ inet, Stephen_J._Yank@hud.gov @ inet
cc: Xavier_Briggs@hud.gov @ inet
Subject: FW: Welfare-to-Work Housing Voucher Program

This email through CBPP's list serve makes me wonder whether HUD is doing any kind of TA, or helping to share information among WTW voucher sites, to faciliate implementation. Please advise. thanks

--------------------- Forwarded by Andrea Kane/OPD/EOP on 12/07/99 09:31 AM ---------------------------

"Doherty, Terry" <Terry.Doherty@vhda.com>
12/07/99 08:53:18 AM

Please respond to "Doherty, Terry" <Terry.Doherty@vhda.com>

Record Type: Record

To: '"housingwelfare@lists.cbpp.org"' <housingwelfare@lists.cbpp.org>
cc:
Subject: FW: Welfare-to-Work Housing Voucher Program

> The Virginia Housing Development Authority applied and received funding
> for
> 860 wtw vouchers to be divided amongst ten of our local administrative
> agents. On December 14th, we will host a roundtable workshop for these
> agents and their community partners for the purpose of moving the agents
> towards completion of three written wtw program policies:
>
> * clear cut criteria for selecting participants for wtw vouchers
> * specific wtw program criteria which can be used to measure each
> participant's program success or failure;
> * termination policies which will identify what event or series of
> events will lead to termination of program assistance, what documentation
> program staff must have collected along the way and any required
> notification and appeals procedures.
>
> VHDA staff will also be working to develop the reporting and evaluation
> mechanisms to be used in monitoring our agents' performance.
>
> I would appreciate the opportunity to review samples of any of the above
> policies and/or reporting/evaluation mechanisms that other housing
> agencies
> may have developed. Since we are scheduled to meet in just one week, I'd

> appreciate anything that could be sent
> prior to the 14th via e-mail to: Terry.Doherty@vhda.com or to
> VAAHMA@aol.com
>
> Thanks.
>

The above message has been posted to the listserve on the intersection of affordable housing policy and welfare reform sponsored by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

To reply to the sender of the message, press reply. To send a message to the entire subscription list, send your message to housingwelfare@lists.cbpp.org.

To remove your name from the listserve, send a message to majordomo@lists.cbpp.org with the following command in the body of your e-mail message: unsubscribe housingwelfare

To subscribe to the listserve, send a message to majordomo@lists.cbpp.org with the following command in the body of your e-mail message: subscribe housingwelfare

Please send any questions by e-mail to housing@cbpp.org.

404203

HOWARD DEAN, M.D.
Governor

State of Vermont
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Montpelier 05609

Tel.: (802) 828-3333
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TDD: (802) 828-3345

November 3, 1999

To: Mickey Ibarra
Ray Martinez
Cynthia Rice
Andrea Kane 210
Maria Mohib-DOL
From: Todd Bledsoe

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Subject: Welfare-To-Work Vouchers

Dear Mr. President,

I recently learned that you awarded $280 million in rental assistance vouchers to help 50,000 families in 35 states move from welfare to work. While I strongly applaud your efforts, I am very disappointed to hear Vermont was not among those states selected to receive an award.

As you know, Vermont has been a leader in welfare reform, and has developed a wide range of programs and services to help its citizens achieve self-sufficiency. Until now, however, an effective housing assistance component has been absent from the mix. Accordingly, many families have been unable to fully avail themselves of the opportunities that might otherwise be available to them.

As of December 1998, there were approximately 6,600 Vermont households receiving TANF assistance. Thirty-three hundred are currently participating in the state's "Reach-Up" Welfare-to-Work program, and would most likely qualify for participation in the Welfare-to-Work Voucher program. The Vermont State Housing Authority's waiting list currently contains 1112 TANF participants.

The need for the Welfare-to-Work Voucher program in Vermont is urgent. Even though Vermont has received time-limit waivers for its TANF program, the Vermont economy is stronger now than it has ever been, and now is the best time for families to make their move from welfare to work. However, not many families move directly from TANF to a steady, livable wage; and the initial steps toward self-sufficiency may be more difficult than they appear.

The Welfare-to-Work Voucher program, by providing affordable housing for families who are taking these first steps, would help families moving from welfare to work stabilize their housing situation so that they can continue on the path to self-sufficiency. I hope you will consider Vermont's status as a leader in welfare to work, and the tremendous need in Vermont when considering future distribution of vouchers.

Sincerely,

Howard Dean

Howard Dean, M.D.
Governor

HD/jht

NOV - 8 1999

cc: Secretary Andrew Cuomo
Senator Patrick Leahy
Senator James Jeffords
Representative Bernard Sanders

Barbara Sard <sard@gis.net>
11/23/99 12:39:25 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Andrea Kane/OPD/EOP

cc: Jeff Lubell <lubell@cbpp.org>
Subject: W2W vouchers

I just wanted to let you know that I spoke in error last week about HUD delay in getting the W2W voucher contracts out to the PHAs. I met this AM with the director of the Mass. Sec. 8 program, and they already have their new contract. HUD has given PHAs the option to begin implementation and issue vouchers as soon as they received the contracts, or to wait until January 1, 2000, but their 12 months to lease up all the subsidies begins at the latest on Jan. 1, 2000. So all the programs should be well on their way by summer of 2000, and should be able to provide reasonable descriptions of families served, although it will be too soon for "results."

Barbara Sard
Director, Housing Policy
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Local phone: 617-566-1154
Local fax: 617-232-2903

press release

HUD News

HUD No. 99-205
Further Information:
In the Washington, DC area: 202/708-0685
Or contact your local HUD office

For Release
Monday
October 4, 1999

CUOMO ANNOUNCES $9.3 MILLION IN HOUSING VOUCHERS AND OTHER FUNDS FOR CONNECTICUT, IN CALL WITH SENATORS DODD AND LIEBERMAN

WASHINGTON - Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo today announced $9.3 million in housing vouchers and self-sufficiency program grants that will help families in Connecticut find housing and move from welfare to work. He was joined in a telephone news conference by Senators Christopher Dodd and Joseph Lieberman.

Connecticut will receive $9.1 million that will fund rental assistance vouchers for 1,489 families to help them move from welfare to work. HUD is funding a total of $280 million in such vouchers in 35 states for 50,000 families.

An additional $189,130 in Family Self-Sufficiency grants will go to public housing authorities in Connecticut to hire coordinators who will help get jobs for adults receiving HUD rental assistance. HUD is funding a total of $23.8 million in such grants to 669 small public housing agencies in all 50 states.

"We're helping members of struggling families get jobs so they can work their way out of poverty and build better lives," Cuomo said.

Senator Dodd said: "This assistance can help lift people out of the shadow of unemployment into the bright light of economic renewal and recovery. It recognizes that people don't want a 'hand out' but rather a 'hand up' as they grapple with the challenges of moving from welfare to work."

Senator Lieberman said: "Despite our booming national economy, more than one million Americans are languishing on waiting lists for public housing or Section 8 vouchers. On average, the waiting list for Section 8 help in Connecticut is 41 months - and that is simply too long. This crucial funding will allow us to take a sizable step forward in our mission to provide shelter and security for Connecticut's poorest families."

WELFARE-TO-WORK VOUCHERS

The welfare-to-work vouchers - which are being provided for the first time - will subsidize rents of low-income families receiving welfare assistance or recently off welfare, to enable them to rent apartments near available jobs, transportation or child care.

"Our economy is booming, and many suburban employers can't find all the workers they need," Cuomo said. "When we help unemployed people get housing closer to these unfilled jobs, we enable them to move off the welfare rolls and onto payrolls."

President Clinton has proposed funding for 100,000 additional rental assistance vouchers for welfare recipients and others in the Fiscal Year 2000 Budget that he submitted to Congress. However, the House and Senate have not approved funding for new vouchers, even though more than 5 million low-income families are in need of housing assistance.

A House-Senate Conference Committee is now considering the HUD budget and the issue of funding new vouchers.

"The vouchers we're awarding will help 50,000 families move into housing they desperately need," Cuomo said. "At this time of record prosperity and a budget surplus, we have the ability to do the same for 100,000 more families. Those of us blessed with good housing and good jobs shouldn't turn our backs on those left behind."

- Many of the families who will receive new vouchers now live in substandard conditions, doubled up with friends or relatives, in central cities or in rural neighborhoods where jobs are scarce. Because many of these families are too poor to afford cars, it is difficult and sometimes effectively impossible for adults to reach available jobs in suburbs.

For example, a mother of two young children in a central city might have to travel for hours and take several buses to get from her home to a child-care center, and then to her job in a suburb - if bus connections exist. When mass transit is unavailable, the cost of cab fare can be more than a day's wage for an entry level job.

Currently, about two-thirds of new jobs are being created in the suburbs. However, three-fourths of welfare recipients live in rural areas or central cities.

Cuomo is awarding voucher funds to 121 state and local housing agencies, Indian tribes and tribally designated housing entities. Most of the funding was awarded on a competitive basis, but the eight largest awards were designated by Congress. These went to: Anchorage, AK; San Bernardino County, CA; Miami-Dade County, FL; Prince Georges County, MD; Kansas City, MO; Charlotte, NC; New York City; and Cleveland, OH.

Housing agencies will select 50,000 eligible families who need the tenant-based Section 8 rental assistance vouchers to get or keep jobs. Families with such vouchers pay about a third of their income to rent an apartment, and the vouchers pay the remainder of the rent.

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY GRANTS

The $23.8 million in Family Self-Sufficiency Program grants from HUD will provide funds to 669 small public housing agencies in all 50 states to each hire one self- sufficiency coordinator.

The coordinator will help people receiving HUD Section 8 rental assistance subsidies to get jobs, by helping them get education, job training, child care, counseling, transportation, job placement and other services.

Some participants in the program are on welfare, and others are in low-wage unskilled jobs and seeking to move up to better paying jobs so they can support their families.

Participants sign a contract saying the head of the household will get a job and no one in the family will be receiving welfare assistance within five years.

During the term of the contract, as a family's income rises with new employment, about a third of the increased income goes to an interest-bearing escrow account. Normally, the same portion of the increased income would be used to pay higher rent payments in HUD-subsidized housing.

If a family fulfills its contract requiring employment and independence from welfare, it can use its escrow account for such things as a downpayment on a home purchase, starting a business, paying back debts, and paying educational expenses. If a family fails to fulfill the contract, it does not get the funds in the escrow account.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Public and Indian Housing FY 1999 Section 8 Programs Welfare to Work and Family Self-Sufficiency Programs - Approved for Funding

	Applicant Name	Funded	Vouchers
CONNECTICUT			
Family Self-Sufficiency			
1	Ansonia Housing Authority	$44,785	
2	Meriden Housing Authority	$46,332	
3	Middletown Housing Authority	$30,400	
4	Milford Housing Authority	$36,000	
5	Torrington Housing Authority	$31,613	
Welfare to Work			
1	Department of Social Services	$9,139,184	1,489
STATE TOTAL		$9,328,314	1.489

COMMUNITIES HOMES AND

HOME FAQ SITE TOUR SEARCH/INDEX E-MAIL

press release

HUD News

HUD No. 99-203
Further Information:
In the Washington, DC area: 202/708-0685
Or contact your local HUD office

For Release
Friday
October 1, 1999

CUOMO AWARDS $280 MILLION IN HOUSING VOUCHERS TO HELP 50,000 FAMILIES IN 35 STATES MOVE FROM WELFARE TO WORK

Read President Clinton's statement
See list of grants by state
See full list of grants in PDF format
A PDF Reader is necessary to view this file.
PDF reader options for the **visually impaired.**

WASHINGTON - Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo today awarded $280 million in rental assistance vouchers to help 50,000 families in 35 states move from welfare to work.

In addition, Cuomo awarded another $23.8 million in grants to 669 small public housing agencies in all 50 states to hire coordinators who will help get jobs for about 35,000 adults receiving HUD rental assistance.

"We're helping members of struggling families get jobs so they can work their way out of poverty and build better lives," Cuomo said.

WELFARE-TO-WORK VOUCHERS

The welfare-to-work vouchers - which are being provided this year for the first time - will subsidize rents of low-income families receiving welfare assistance or recently off welfare, to enable them to rent apartments near available jobs, transportation or child care.

"Our economy is booming, and many suburban employers can't find all the workers they need," Cuomo said. "When we help unemployed people get housing closer to these unfilled jobs, we enable them to move off the welfare rolls and onto payrolls."

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For example, a mother of two young children in a central city might have to travel for hours and take several buses to get from her home to a child-care center, and then to her job in a suburb - if bus connections exist. When mass transit is unavailable, the cost of cab fare can be more than a day's wage for an entry level job.

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The coordinator will help people receiving HUD Section 8 rental assistance subsidies to get jobs, by helping them get education, job training, child care, counseling, transportation, job placement and other services.

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COMMENTS ON HUD WELFARE-TO-WORK VOUCHERS

Shirley Marcus Allen, Acting Co-Director of the Child Welfare League of America: "Over 100,000 children whose parents are moving from welfare dependency to self sufficiency will now be able to live in safe, decent housing with the assistance of HUD's Welfare-to-Work Section 8 Tenant Based Assistance Program. Affordable housing is vital to families, particularly those headed by single mothers, as they work to become self-sufficient. These vouchers will encourage and enable families to work toward self-sufficiency and raise their children in healthy, strong communities across the country."

Denise B. Muha, Executive Director, National Leased Housing Association: "I believe the success of welfare reform will hinge on the availability of decent and safe affordable housing. These special housing vouchers will offer low-income families a hand up as they climb from poverty toward self-sufficiency."

Barbara Sard, Director, Housing Policy Center on Budget and Policy Priorities: "These awards of funding for 50,000 new Welfare to Work housing vouchers are important for two reasons: first, this new initiative recognizes the importance of affordable housing as a foundation for families' transition from welfare to employment. In addition, this program provides the first significant increase in the number of families receiving federal housing assistance in five years. Despite a strong economy, there is still a substantial shortage of housing affordable to low-and moderate-income families. The Center looks forward to the implementation of these innovative state and local programs to advance welfare reform efforts."

HUD WELFARE -TO-WORK VOUCHERS

STATE	RECIPIENT	AMOUNT	VOUCHERS
ALABAMA			
	Housing Authority of City of Prichard	$2,593,879	525
	Housing Authority of Walker County	$152,469	69
	State Total	**$2,746,348**	**594**
ALASKA			
	Alaska Housing Finance Corp. (Anchorage)	$4,000,000	652
	State Total	**$4,000,000**	**652**
ARIZONA			
	Phoenix Housing Authority	$331,821	50
	State Total	**$331,821**	**50**
CALIFORNIA			
	Alameda City Housing Authority	$689,835	100
	Anaheim Housing Authority	$3,946,239	700
	City and County of Fresno	$5,333,938	1400
	Culver City	$353,696	75
	Los Angeles City	$4,850,684	700
	Los Angeles County	$4,358,125	700
	Marin Housing Authority	$598,317	60
	Merced Housing Authority	$2,086,811	400
	Monterey Housing Authority	$2,240,073	450
	Norwalk Housing Authority	$563,947	100
	Plumas Co.	$200,331	60
	Sacramento Co. Housing Authority	$3,318,718	700
	San Bernardino Housing Authority	$4,000,000	700
	San Joaquin Housing Authority	$2,543,047	700
	San Jose City Housing Authority	$3,861,432	366
	Santa Clara Housing Authority	$7,395,824	700
	Tulare Housing Authority	$1,300,303	400
	Vallejo Housing Authority	$3,653,401	639
	State Total	**$51,294,721**	**8950**
COLORADO			
	Colorado Dept. of Human Services	$1,095,885	160
	Colorado Springs Housing Authority	$630,976	125
	Jefferson County	$1,023,253	200
	State Total	**$2,750,114**	**485**

CONNECTICUT			
	Department of Social Services	$9,139,184	1489
	State Total	**$9,139,184**	**1489**
FLORIDA			
	Broward County Housing Authority	$3,702,988	575
	Lakeland Housing Authority	$1,195,353	373
	Miami-Dade Housing Agency	$4,000,000	581
	Tampa Housing Authority	$2,725,197	450
	State Total	**$11,623,538**	**1979**
GEORGIA			
	Atlanta Housing Authority	$3,372,579	450
	Augusta Housing Authority	$1,961,301	700
	Georgia Dept of Community Affairs	$8,242,737	2000
	State Total	**$13,576,617**	**3150**
HAWAII			
	Hawaii Co Housing Authority	$909,974	200
	Hawaii Housing Community Development Commission (Honolulu)	$7,043,055	1108
	Maui County Housing Authority	$3,326,754	370
	State Total	**$11,279,783**	**1678**
ILLINOIS			
	Champaign Housing Authority	$1,322,983	200
	Chicago Housing Authority	$6,227,103	1025
	State Total	**$7,550,086**	**1225**
KENTUCKY			
	Housing Authority of Pike County	$620,501	185
	Housing of Hopkinsville	$241,658	60
	State Total	**$862,159**	**245**
MARYLAND			
	Baltimore County Department of Social Services	$2,047,776	700
	Housing Authority of Baltimore City	$4,120,895	700
	Housing Authority of Rockville	$411,952	50
	Housing Opportunities Commission	$1,586,185	200
	Prince George's Co. Housing Authority	$4,000,000	469
	St. Mary's County Housing Authority	$1,024,513	200
	State Total	**$13,191,321**	**2319**
MASSACHUSETTS			
	Boston Housing Authority	$3,337,263	300
	MA Dept. of Housing & Community Dev.	$13,041,671	2000
	State Total	**$16,378,934**	**2300**
MICHIGAN			
	Ann Arbor Housing Commission	$1,361,970	250

	(Washtenaw)		
	Grand Rapids Housing Commission	$914,187	250
	Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) - Benton Harbor	$66,206	20
	MSHDA - Grand Rapids (non-metro)	$1,984,861	500
	MSHDA - Jackson	$65,639	20
	MSHDA - Lansing	$213,031	50
	MSHDA - Muskegon/Holland	$601,069	160
	Plymouth (Wayne)	$2,831,688	408
	Wyoming	$783,934	175
	State Total	**$8,822,585**	**1833**
MINNESOTA			
	Metropolitan Council Housing Redevelopment Agency	$646,278	150
	St. Paul Housing Authority	$250,533	45
	State Total	**$896,811**	**195**
MISSOURI			
	Housing Authority of Kansas City	$4,000,000	700
	State Total	**$4,000,000**	**700**
MONTANA			
	Billings Housing Authority	$449,801	115
	State Total	**$449,801**	**115**
NEVADA			
	Las Vegas Housing Authority	$4,713,157	700
	State Total	**$4,713,157**	**700**
NEW HAMPSHIRE			
	New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority	$2,571,740	500
	State Total	**$2,571,740**	**500**
NEW JERSEY			
	Bergen County Housing Authority	$4,809,722	700
	Monmouth County Housing Authority	$3,624,354	500
	Newark Housing Authority	$5,271,130	700
	Perth Amboy Housing Authority	$1,326,589	160
	West New York Housing Authority	$955,780	146
	State Total	**$15,987,575**	**2206**
NEW MEXICO			
	Albuquerque Housing Authority	$3,155,326	700
	State Total	**$3,155,326**	**700**
NEW YORK			
	Albany NY Housing Authority	$2,196,332	497
	City of Niagara Falls Housing Authority	$277,302	100
	Geneva Housing Authority	$222,724	50
	New York Housing Authority	$5,767,747	700

	NYC Dept. of Housing Preservation and Dev.	$4,340,700	700
	Rochester Housing Authority	$1,875,010	450
	Town of Colonie Housing Authority	$174,563.00	50
	State Total	**$14,854,378**	**2547**
NORTH CAROLINA			
	Charlotte Housing Authority	$4,000,000	700
	Laurinburg Housing Authority	$290,229	100
	Northwestern Regional Housing Authority (Wilkes)	$354,580	100
	Raleigh Housing Authority	$3,942,569	700
	State Total	**$8,587,378**	**1600**
OHIO			
	Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority	$348,854	100
	Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority	$4,000,000	700
	Hamilton Metropolitan Housing Authority	$420,445	100
	Licking Housing Authority	$411,459	100
	Lucas Metropolitan Housing Authority	$836,030	200
	Zanesville Metropolitan Housing Authority	$147,647	50
	State Total	**$6,164,435**	**1250**
OKLAHOMA			
	Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation	$3,054,381	638
	Norman Housing Authority	$390,872	100
	Tulsa Housing Authority	$2,267,702	400
	State Total	**$5,712,955**	**1138**
OREGON			
	Central Oregon Regional Housing Authority	$448,102	100
	Confederated Tribes of Siletz	$214,677	37
	Douglas County Housing Authority	$139,194	35
	Housing Authority of the City of Salem	$931,180	225
	Mid-Columbia Housing Authority	$383,878	100
	Washington County Housing Authority	$7,502,877	1400
	State Total	**$9,619,908**	**1897**
PENNSYLVANIA			
	Butler Co. Housing Authority	$1,180,584	300
	Chester County Housing Authority	$329,636	50
	Easton Housing Authority	$245,500	50
	Montgomery County Housing Authority	$309,204	50
	State Total	**$2,064,924**	**450**
SOUTH CAROLINA			
	Aiken Housing Authority	$812,113	165
	State Total	**$812,113**	**165**
TENNESSEE			

	Chattanooga Housing Authority	$2,631,924	650
	State Total	**$2,631,924**	**650**
TEXAS			
	Austin Housing Authority	$3,593,260	700
	City of Amarillo, Community Service Div.	$422,905	100
	Hidalgo County Housing Authority	$322,844	100
	Houston Housing Authority	$3,596,301	700
	Texoma Council of Govts (Fanning Co.)	$161,761	50
	Texoma Council of Govts (Grayson Co.)	$376,453	100
	State Total	**$8,473,524**	**1750**
UTAH			
	Salt Lake City	$988,722	200
	Salt Lake County Housing Authority	$2,411,669	400
	St. George Housing Authority	$292,083	80
	State Total	**$3,692,474**	**680**
VIRGINIA			
	Chesapeake Housing Authority	$1,507,277	350
	Virginia HAD (Bedford, Culpepper)	$6,401,365	860
	State Total	**$7,908,642**	**1210**
WASHINGTON			
	Bellingham/Whatcom County	$1,961,427	430
	City of Wala Wala Housing Authority	$252,722	75
	Everett City Housing Authority	$7,887,596	1275
	Island County Housing Authority	$203,323	35
	King County Housing Authorities	$8,871,101	1400
	Spokane Housing Authority	$2,468,483	700
	Thurston County Housing Authority	$1,279,537	250
	State Total	**$22,924,189**	**4165**
WEST VIRGINIA			
	Parkersburg Housing Authority	$655,040	233
	State Total	**$655,040**	**233**
WISCONSIN			
	Kenosha	$746,495	200
	State Total	**$746,495**	**200**
	Grand Totals	**$280,000,000**	**50,000**

Michael Deich
09/30/99 12:36:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Andrea Kane/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc: weinstein_p@a1@cd@vaxgtwy, cynthia a. rice/opd/eop@eop
Subject: Re: Timing of housing voucher release

today is the last day of the fiscal year. the vouchers need to be out the door by the end of the day. the republican va/hud clerks are saying that no new vouchers should be provided for fiscal 2000 because hud hasn't even released the vouchers made available for 99. they argue that if vouchers receive zero funding in '00, any of the 50k wtw vouchers that are released after today should be regarded as 'incremental vouchers in 2000.' to counter this line of attack, the vouchers absolutely, positively must go out by the end of the day or we will be at a terrible disadvantage as the preconferencing continues.

Jacquie -
regarding congressmembers this a.m. →
have legally obligated.
Michael now knows -

Cynthia A. Rice 10/01/99 10:05:21 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Andrea Kane/OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: fyi the email i sent jackie and Scott S

---------------------- Forwarded by Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP on 10/01/99 10:05 AM ---------------------------

Cynthia A. Rice 10/01/99 08:52:27 AM

Record Type: Record

To: scott_sherman@hud.gov @ inet

cc: Jacquie_m._lawing@hud.gov @ inet

Subject: Pls call me re housing voucher statement 456-2846 (Andrea won't be in til 10)

Here's our concern about your alls edit. My understanding is that we acted yesterday to thwart criticism from the Hill that we needed to get these out by the end of the fiscal year. Our press paper can't contradict that. See below for my specific question. We can't clear the President's statement until we get an answer.

---------------------- Forwarded by Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP on 10/01/99 08:50 AM ---------------------------

Cynthia A. Rice 09/30/99 08:42:31 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Jacquie_m._lawing@hud.gov @ inet

cc:

Subject: Andrea won't be in til 10 Fri am so call me 456-2846

re the housing vouchers.

I think she left you a message -- we need to clarify the wording of the first line of the statement.

Originally it read

Yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded $280 million in rental assistance vouchers to help 50,000 families in 35 states move from welfare to work.

I understand you all wanted to say "The Department... is awarding"

However, we think it's important to underscore the yesterday (since we did it to ward off criticism] so we would like to say

Yesterday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development _______ $280 million in rental assistance vouchers to help 50,000 families in 35 states move from welfare to work.

Please just give us the verb that works. Thanks.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

9/27/99

TO: Charles Burson, OVP #276
from: Andrea Kane, DPC

Here's a description of the welfare to work housing vouchers you discussed with Bruce Reed.

There are 7 grants going to various places in NY state.

Feel free to contact me at 6-5573 if you have questions.

Andrea Kane

Record Type: Record

To: Cynthia A. Rice/OPD/EOP@EOP, Paul J. Weinstein Jr./OPD/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: WTW housing vouchers update

Just talked to Jacquie. They are ready to announce these as soon as possible. She thought if the President were to participate in the roll-out, a radio address might be good, with Cuomo doing amplification and with a strong regional press-strategy in key districts highlighting new grantees. She also said Eli Segal has expressed willingness to help with amplification/roll-out. She doesn't advise holding these past mid Sept (which would mean either 9/10 or 9/18), but she also said this week is hell for Cuomo.

Since I imagine the chance of a radio address just on vouchers is slim, we could certainly roll the announcement into a more general budget radio addresss or speech. Jacquie's getting me a list of awardees with # of vouchers, key contact info, and WTW and TANF partners. This must be held very close under HUD reform provisions. She'll also provide info about # of vouchers and $ requested compared to the number awarded, and identify key validators. They'd need to do congressional notification either the day before or morning of an announcement. Note that the "approximately 40,000" vouchers referred to in the memo she sent on 8/26 reflects only the competitive vouchers and the fact that the same amount of money buys different numbers of vouchers in different places. She'll get us the exact number, including the 8 earmarked sites.

---

1) HUD wd do a stand up w/ Cuomo, maybe Eli, a woman in D.C. or elsewhere ~ maybe HD (?)

2) Bruce ?

3) WH statement.

4) Shop to VP or HRC or Mrs. Gore

5) do event here w/ Cuomo, example, Eli + a principal.

not much later on 15th

Under no circumstances wait til Oct — not a legal issue

should get out sooner rather than later —

House floor w/ Gephardt today

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-0001

August 26, 1999

Memorandum to: Thurgood Marshall, Jr., Secretary to the Cabinet, Cabinet Affairs

From: Jacquie Lawing, Deputy Chief of Staff JML

Re: Possible $283 Million Welfare to Work Announcement for President Clinton

This is to offer the President an opportunity to announce **$283 million in Welfare to Work Rental Assistance Vouchers** that are ready to be awarded. These vouchers are of great significance, as they are the first new housing vouchers that Congress has appropriated in the past four years. Obtaining these funds was a true victory for the Clinton Administration.

HUD will award ~~92~~ 121 grants to state agencies, Public Housing Authorities, cities and counties in ~~35~~ 36 states. Approximately ~~40,000~~ 50,000 new vouchers are targeted to families who are currently receiving, are eligible for, or who have left welfare within the last two years, and for whom the housing assistance is essential to obtaining or retaining employment. Without stable, affordable housing, their dream of self-sufficiency may never become a reality. These vouchers, therefore, will be a critical tool to help families with children move from welfare to work – successfully *and* permanently. Also, this effort addresses the desperate need for housing that many low-income families face.

For many families, decent, affordable housing must be combined with being located near employment. This can be essential to getting a job in the first place. Currently, about two-thirds of new jobs are being created in the suburbs, but three out of four welfare recipients live in central cities or in rural areas.

The welfare to work vouchers are being made available to communities on a competitive basis that requires housing authorities to develop their plans together with welfare and workforce development agencies. This will make sure the housing assistance is combined with child care and other services families need for a successful transition from welfare to work. It will also ensure that the vouchers are provided to the families for whom they will be most critical to a successful transition.

Secretary Cuomo and the Department are prepared to work with the White House on this.

Please call me at 708-0270, or Jon Cowan at 708-2713 to let us know if you would like us to work with you to prepare this announcement for the President. HUD will need to make Congressional notifications prior to this announcement. I appreciate your consideration.

cc: Bruce Reed, Domestic Policy Council
Eric Liu, Domestic Policy Council
Jon Cowan, HUD Chief of Staff

"Jacquie M. Lawing" <Jacquie_M._Lawing@HUD.GOV>
08/18/99 08:16:19 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Andrea Kane/OPD/EOP
cc:
Subject: Re: WTW vouchers

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thats right...saometime in sept...thanks.

Andrea_Kane@opd.eop.gov on 08/13/99 06:11:17 PM

To: Jacquie M. Lawing/SECY/HHQ/HUD
cc:
Subject: Re: WTW vouchers

but do you know who the winner's are (we just don;t want to be the last to know). I'm assuming at this point there'd be no release til September, right?

Resolution No.76

Submitted By:

The Honorable Gerald D. Jennings
Mayor of Albany

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ON THE PRESIDENT'S FY2000 BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

1. **WHEREAS**, the President has proposed a $28.035 billion HUD budget for Fiscal 2000; and

2. **WHEREAS**, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program would increase from $4,750 billion in fiscal 1999 to $4.775 in Fiscal 2000; and

3. **WHEREAS**, special purpose grants would once again decrease under the President's proposed budget, thereby making more CDBG funds available for entitlement allocations to cities and urban counties; and

4. **WHEREAS**, the President's FY2000 budget for the Department of Housing and Urban Development proposes $37 million dollars for the creation of America's private Investment Companies (APIC); and

5. **WHEREAS**, the Clinton Administration has shepherded one of the greatest periods of economic growth, creating 17.7 million new jobs and record highs on Wall Street, yet there are still concentrations of poverty and joblessness that continue to have a devastating impact on America's cities; and

6. **WHEREAS**, APIC is part of the President's New Market Initiative to address this problem; and

7. **WHEREAS**, the President proposes a new Regional Connections Initiative that would be funded at $50 million and expand on the historic collaboration of the USCM and NACo through the Joint Center for Sustainable Communities; and

8. **WHEREAS**, the proposed budget increases the HOME Investment Partnerships program by $10 billion from $1.6 in Fiscal 1999 to $1.610 billion in Fiscal 2000; and

9. **WHEREAS**, the budget increases homelessness assistance from $975 million to $1.020 billion; and

10. **WHEREAS**, to expand HUD's role in assisting welfare recipients find jobs, the President recommends that 25,000 of the 100,000 incremental vouchers included in his budget be designated as welfare-to-work vouchers in order to help welfare recipients find jobs close to where new jobs are being created; and

11. **WHEREAS**, the President proposes a new Regional Connections Initiative that would be funded at $50 million and expand on the historic collaboration of the U.S.,

12. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors applauds the President for providing additional program resources to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and supports full funding for the Department's FY2000 Budget request including additional funding for CDBG, HOME, homelessness assistance, housing vouchers; and

13. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors strongly supports the creation of American Private Investment Companies; and

14. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that The U.S. Conference of Mayors strongly supports the funding of Regional Connections.

Projected Cost: Unknown

WELFARE TO WORK HOUSING VOUCHERS

FY 99

The VA/HUD Appropriations bill (H.R. 4194) includes President Clinton's request for 50,000 new welfare-to-work housing vouchers for welfare recipients who need housing assistance in order to get or keep a job. Families could use these housing vouchers to move closer to a new job, to reduce a long commute, or to secure more stable housing to eliminate emergencies that keep them from getting to work every day on time and perform their best on the job. These targeted vouchers will give people on welfare a new tool to make the transition to a job and succeed in the work place.

In many places, jobs are being created far from where most welfare recipients live. Currently, about two-thirds of new jobs are being created in the suburbs, but three of four welfare recipients live in central cities or rural areas. These housing vouchers complement the new Access to Jobs transportation funding administered by the Department of Transportation to assist states and localities to develop flexible transportation alternatives for welfare recipients and other low income workers.

How Will the Vouchers Work?

These vouchers will provide States and communities with a new flexible tool to help families who need housing assistance in order to achieve self-sufficiency.

- Nearly all of the additional vouchers will be available on a ***competitive basis*** to local housing agencies, including tribes and tribally designated housing authorities. Applications must be developed in consultation with the state, local, or tribal welfare agency and the local Welfare-to-Work formula funds grantee (typically the Private Industry Council), to ensure that services are coordinated.

- The vouchers will be used where they are ***essential to a successful transition from welfare to work--that is, where housing assistance is critical for a family to get or keep a job***.

- To receive a welfare to work voucher, a family must be ***eligible for or currently receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or have received TANF within the past two years,*** and not already receiving HUD tenant-based housing assistance.

These new vouchers were included in the combined appropriations and authorization bill that funds the first new housing vouchers in five years. That bill establishes new income targeting rules for assisted housing that protect the neediest families on waiting lists while permitting more economic integration and deconcentration in our Nation's public housing. The bill also merges the housing voucher and certificate programs and encourages and rewards work by members of families receiving housing assistance.

Next Steps

The Department of Housing and Urban Development will develop and publish guidelines for the voucher competition. As part of the process, HUD will consult with a wide range of stakeholders at all levels of government and in the private sector.

11/03/98