

Streamlined Annual PHA Plan (HCV Only PHAs)	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Public and Indian Housing	OMB No. 2577-0226 Expires 03/31/2024
--	---	---

Purpose. The 5-Year and Annual PHA Plans provide a ready source for interested parties to locate basic PHA policies, rules, and requirements concerning the PHA’s operations, programs, and services, including changes to these policies, and informs HUD, families served by the PHA, and members of the public of the PHA’s mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families

Applicability. The Form HUD-50075-HCV is to be completed annually by **HCV-Only PHAs**. PHAs that meet the definition of a Standard PHA, Troubled PHA, High Performer PHA, Small PHA, or Qualified PHA do not need to submit this form. Where applicable, separate Annual PHA Plan forms are available for each of these types of PHAs.

Definitions.

- (1) **High-Performer PHA** – A PHA that owns or manages more than 550 combined public housing units and housing choice vouchers, and was designated as a high performer on both the most recent Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) and Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) assessments if administering both programs, or PHAS if only administering public housing.
- (2) **Small PHA** - A PHA that is not designated as PHAS or SEMAP troubled, that owns or manages less than 250 public housing units and any number of vouchers where the total combined units exceed 550.
- (3) **Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Only PHA** - A PHA that administers more than 550 HCVs, was not designated as troubled in its most recent SEMAP assessment and does not own or manage public housing.
- (4) **Standard PHA** - A PHA that owns or manages 250 or more public housing units and any number of vouchers where the total combined units exceed 550, and that was designated as a standard performer in the most recent PHAS and SEMAP assessments.
- (5) **Troubled PHA** - A PHA that achieves an overall PHAS or SEMAP score of less than 60 percent.
- (6) **Qualified PHA** - A PHA with 550 or fewer public housing dwelling units and/or housing choice vouchers combined and is not PHAS or SEMAP troubled.

A. PHA Information.					
A.1	PHA Name: <u>Housing Authority of Washington County</u> PHA Code: <u>MD028</u> PHA Plan for Fiscal Year Beginning: (MM/YYYY): <u>07/2025</u> PHA Inventory (Based on Annual Contributions Contract (ACC) units at time of FY beginning, above) Number of Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) <u>593</u> PHA Plan Submission Type: ☒ Annual Submission ☐ Revised Annual Submission				
	Availability of Information. In addition to the items listed in this form, PHAs must have the elements listed below readily available to the public. A PHA must identify the specific location(s) where the proposed PHA Plan, PHA Plan Elements, and all information relevant to the public hearing and proposed PHA Plan are available for inspection by the public. Additionally, the PHA must provide information on how the public may reasonably obtain additional information of the PHA policies contained in the standard Annual Plan but excluded from their streamlined submissions. At a minimum, PHAs must post PHA Plans, including updates, at the main office or central office of the PHA. PHAs are strongly encouraged to post complete PHA Plans on their official website.				
	Copies of the FY25 Annual PHA Plan, 2025-2029 5-Year PHA Plan, and the FY25 Housing Choice Voucher Program Administrative Plan are made available at our main office, 319 East Antietam Street, 2 nd Floor, Hagerstown, MD 21740 and on our website, www.hawcmd.org .				
	☐ PHA Consortia: (Check box if submitting a joint Plan and complete table below)				
	Participating PHAs	PHA Code	Program(s) in the Consortia	Program(s) not in the Consortia	No. of Units in Each Program
	Lead HA:				

B.	Plan Elements.
B.1	Revision of Existing PHA Plan Elements. a) Have the following PHA Plan elements been revised by the PHA since its last Annual Plan submission? Y N ☐ ☒ Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs. ☒ ☐ Deconcentration and Other Policies that Govern Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions. ☐ ☒ Financial Resources. ☐ ☒ Rent Determination. ☒ ☐ Operation and Management. ☐ ☒ Informal Review and Hearing Procedures. ☐ ☒ Homeownership Programs. ☐ ☒ Self Sufficiency Programs and Treatment of Income Changes Resulting from Welfare Program Requirements. ☐ ☒ Substantial Deviation. ☒ ☐ Significant Amendment/Modification. (b) If the PHA answered yes for any element, describe the revisions for each element(s): The following changes were made to the 2025 Administrative Plan for the Housing Authority of Washington County: 1. Chapter 4-II.F Updating the Waiting List (Page 4-8) a. HAWC will send an electronic notification to each family on the waiting list to determine whether the family continues to be interested in, and to qualify for, the program, rather than sending the update request via first class mail. b. The family's response must be processed on their online application portal but will also be accepted so long as it is in writing and delivered in person, by mail, by email, or fax. 2. Chapter 4-III.C. Selection Method (Page 4-12) a. Victim of Domestic Violence Preference i. The PHA will work with the following partnering service agencies, as well as accept referrals from social service agencies outside of the PHA's jurisdiction on a case-by-case basis. 1. Added Horizon Goodwill Industries to partnering service agencies 2. Added Commission on Aging to partnering service agencies 3. Chapter 5-II.E. Voucher Term and Extensions (Page 5-15) a. Extensions of Voucher Term i. Extensions are in 60-day increments, rather than 30. 4. Chapter 7-I.A. Family Consent to Release of Information (Page 7-2) a. Family members turning 18 years of age between annual recertification will be required to sign the Consent of Release of Information Form HUD-9886 at the family's next annual or interim reexamination, whichever is earlier. 5. Chapter 7-I.E. Level 5 and 6 Verification: Up-Front Income Verification (Page 7-14) a. Upfront Income Verification Using Non-HUD Systems i. Added Yardi Asset Verification System 6. Chapter 12-I.E. Mandatory Policies and Other Authorized Terminations (12-8) a. Other Authorized Reasons for Termination of Assistance i. A family member has engaged in or threatened violence or abusive behavior towards PHA personnel 1. Includes verbal as well as physical abuse or violence, as well as excessive use of profanity or vulgar language.
B.2	New Activities. – Not Applicable

B.3	Progress Report. Provide a description of the PHA's progress in meeting its Mission and Goals described in its 5-Year PHA Plan. <i>Current 5-Year Plan Goal - Increase the availability of decent, safe, and affordable housing:</i> - Developed 12 additional units in November 2024 at the Blue Mountain Estates project in Smithsburg, MD, serving 12 additional seniors in the community. - Received funding for 10 additional Mainstream Vouchers in 2023. - HCV Department staff attended the local Landlord Association meeting and gave a presentation on the program to prospective landlords. <i>Current 5-Year Plan Goal - Promote self-sufficiency and asset development of families and individuals:</i> - Updated FSS Program Action Plan in October 2022. - Hired a part-time FSS program coordinator in October 2023 to increase program participation. - FSS coordinator completed a financial social work certification in October 2024 to assist families with managing finances and increasing financial literacy. <i>Current 5-Year Plan Goal - Strengthen organizational and financial infrastructure to support mission and goals:</i> - HAWC engaged with Quadel Consulting Services in June 2023 to assess current organizational infrastructure, resulting in updates to staffing, policies and procedures, and improved performance. - HAWC hired a new Executive Director in April of 2024. - HAWC hired three HCV staff members in September of 2023 to improve program administration and utilization of the Yardi software system. - HAWC participated with numerous audits <i>Current 5-Year Plan Goal - Continue to improve processes and performance:</i> - Converted to new and improved software system in July of 2021 to better support program administration. - Engaged with Quadel Consulting Services in June 2023 to assess current organizational infrastructure, resulting in updates to staffing, procedures, and improved performance. - Improved SEMAP score from "troubled" to "high performer." - Completed annual program audits with no or minimal findings. <i>Current 5-Year Plan Goal – Review and Revise the Administrative Plan Annually</i> - HAWC revised the Administrative Plan annually, reviewed the proposed changes with the Resident Advisory Board and the agency's Board of Directors, and ensured consistent program administration and compliance with HUD's updated regulations each fiscal year. <i>Current 5-Year Plan Goal – Utilize All Vouchers</i> - Met with HUD staff monthly during TYT call to monitor program administration and spending to create an informed leasing plan. - Added new preference points to waitlist populations. - Engaged in case management efforts with new voucher holders to assist in their housing search prior to their expiration dates. - Engaged in landlord outreach efforts to create new partnerships and housing opportunities for voucher participants.
B.4	Capital Improvements. – Not Applicable
B.5	Most Recent Fiscal Year Audit. (a) Were there any findings in the most recent FY Audit? Y N N/A ☒ ☐ ☐ (b) If yes, please describe: During the testing of the 40 HCV tenant files for eligibility, one instance was noted where the income was not calculated correctly during annual examination. During the testing of the 40 HCV program tenant files for the Annual HQS, one instance was noted where the HQS inspection was not done within the 24-month regulatory period.
C.	Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.
C.1	Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Comments. (a) Did the RAB(s) have comments to the PHA Plan? Y N ☐ ☒ (b) If yes, comments must be submitted by the PHA as an attachment to the PHA Plan. PHAs must also include a narrative describing their analysis of the RAB recommendations and the decisions made on these recommendations.
C.2	Certification by State or Local Officials. Form HUD 50077-SL, <i>Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan</i>, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.

C.3	Civil Rights Certification/ Certification Listing Policies and Programs that the PHA has Revised since Submission of its Last Annual Plan. Form HUD-50077-ST-HCV-HP, <i>PHA Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and Related Laws and Regulations Including PHA Plan Elements that Have Changed</i> , must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.
------------	--

C.4	Challenged Elements. If any element of the PHA Plan is challenged, a PHA must include such information as an attachment with a description of any challenges to Plan elements, the source of the challenge, and the PHA's response to the public. (a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan? Y N ☐ ☒ If yes, include Challenged Elements.
------------	--

D.	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).
-----------	--

D.1	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH). Provide a statement of the PHA's strategies and actions to achieve fair housing goals outlined in an accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5). Use the chart provided below. (PHAs should add as many goals as necessary to overcome fair housing issues and contributing factors.) Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA is not obligated to complete this chart. The PHA will fulfill, nevertheless, the requirements at 24 CFR § 903.7(o) enacted prior to August 17, 2015. See Instructions for further detail on completing this item.			
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #cccccc;">Fair Housing Goal:</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u><i>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</i></u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 150px;"></td> </tr> </table>	Fair Housing Goal:	<u><i>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</i></u>	
Fair Housing Goal:				
<u><i>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</i></u>				
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #cccccc;">Fair Housing Goal:</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u><i>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</i></u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 150px;"></td> </tr> </table>	Fair Housing Goal:	<u><i>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</i></u>	
Fair Housing Goal:				
<u><i>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</i></u>				
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #cccccc;">Fair Housing Goal:</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 50px;"></td> </tr> </table>	Fair Housing Goal:		
Fair Housing Goal:				

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal

Instructions for Preparation of Form HUD-50075-HCV Annual PHA Plan for HCV-Only PHAs

A. PHA Information. All PHAs must complete this section. (24 CFR §903.4)

A.1 Include the full **PHA Name**, **PHA Code**, **PHA Type**, **PHA Fiscal Year Beginning** (MM/YYYY), **Number of Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs)**, **PHA Plan Submission Type**, and the **Availability of Information**, specific location(s) of all information relevant to the public hearing and proposed PHA Plan.

PHA Consortia: Check box if submitting a Joint PHA Plan and complete the table. (24 CFR §943.128(a))

B. Plan Elements. All PHAs must complete this section. (24 CFR §903.11(c)(3))

B.1 Revision of Existing PHA Plan Elements. PHAs must:

Identify specifically which plan elements listed below that have been revised by the PHA. To specify which elements have been revised, mark the “yes” box. If an element has not been revised, mark “no.”

☐ **Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs.** Provide a statement addressing the housing needs of low-income, very low-income and extremely low-income families and a brief description of the PHA’s strategy for addressing the housing needs of families who reside in the jurisdiction served by the PHA and other families who are on the Section 8 tenant-based assistance waiting lists. The statement must identify the housing needs of (i) families with incomes below 30 percent of area median income (extremely low-income); (ii) elderly families (iii) households with individuals with disabilities, and households of various races and ethnic groups residing in the jurisdiction or on the public housing and Section 8 tenant-based assistance waiting lists. The statement of housing needs shall be based on information provided by the applicable Consolidated Plan, information provided by HUD, and generally available data. The identification of housing needs must address issues of affordability, supply, quality, accessibility, size of units, and location. Once the PHA has submitted an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH), which includes an assessment of disproportionate housing needs in accordance with 24 CFR 5.154(d)(2)(iv), information on households with individuals with disabilities and households of various races and ethnic groups residing in the jurisdiction or on the waiting lists no longer needs to be included in the Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs. (24 CFR § 903.7(a)).

The identification of housing needs must address issues of affordability, supply, quality, accessibility, size of units, and location. (24 CFR §903.7(a)(2)(i)) Provide a description of the ways in which the PHA intends, to the maximum extent practicable, to address those housing needs in the upcoming year and the PHA’s reasons for choosing its strategy. (24 CFR §903.7(a)(2)(ii))

☐ **Deconcentration and Other Policies that Govern Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions.** A statement of the PHA’s policies that govern resident or tenant eligibility, selection and admission including admission preferences for HCV. (24 CFR §903.7(b))

☐ **Financial Resources.** A statement of financial resources, including a listing by general categories, of the PHA’s anticipated resources, such as PHA HCV funding and other anticipated Federal resources available to the PHA, as well as tenant rents and other income available to support tenant-based assistance. The statement also should include the non-Federal sources of funds supporting each Federal program, and state the planned use for the resources. (24 CFR §903.7(c))

☐ **Rent Determination.** A statement of the policies of the PHA governing rental contributions of families receiving tenant-based assistance, discretionary minimum tenant rents, and payment standard policies. (24 CFR §903.7(d))

☐ **Operation and Management.** A statement that includes a description of PHA management organization, and a listing of the programs administered by the PHA. (24 CFR §903.7(e)).

☐ **Informal Review and Hearing Procedures.** A description of the informal hearing and review procedures that the PHA makes available to its applicants. (24 CFR §903.7(f))

☐ **Homeownership Programs.** A statement describing any homeownership programs (including project number and unit count) administered by the agency under section 8y of the 1937 Act, or for which the PHA has applied or will apply for approval. ([24 CFR §903.7\(k\)](#))

☐ **Self Sufficiency Programs and Treatment of Income Changes Resulting from Welfare Program Requirements.** A description of any PHA programs relating to services and amenities coordinated, promoted, or provided by the PHA for assisted families, including those resulting from the PHA's partnership with other entities, for the enhancement of the economic and social self-sufficiency of assisted families, including programs provided or offered as a result of the PHA's partnerships with other entities, and activities subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 (24 CFR Part 135) and under requirements for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program and others. Include the program's size (including required and actual size of the FSS program) and means of allocating assistance to households. ([24 CFR §903.7\(l\)\(i\)](#)) Describe how the PHA will comply with the requirements of section 12(c) and (d) of the 1937 Act that relate to treatment of income changes resulting from welfare program requirements. ([24 CFR §903.7\(l\)\(iii\)](#)).

☐ **Substantial Deviation.** PHA must provide its criteria for determining a "substantial deviation" to its 5-Year Plan. ([24 CFR §903.7\(r\)\(2\)\(i\)](#))

☐ **Significant Amendment/Modification.** PHA must provide its criteria for determining a "Significant Amendment or Modification" to its 5-Year and Annual Plan.

If any boxes are marked "yes", describe the revision(s) to those element(s) in the space provided.

B.2 New Activities. This section refers to new capital activities which is not applicable for HCV-Only PHAs.

B.3 Progress Report. For all Annual Plans following submission of the first Annual Plan, a PHA must include a brief statement of the PHA's progress in meeting the mission and goals described in the 5-Year PHA Plan. ([24 CFR §903.11\(c\)\(3\)](#), [24 CFR §903.7\(r\)\(1\)](#))

B.4 Capital Improvements. This section refers to PHAs that receive funding from the Capital Fund Program (CFP) which is not applicable for HCV-Only PHAs

B.5 Most Recent Fiscal Year Audit. If the results of the most recent fiscal year audit for the PHA included any findings, mark "yes" and describe those findings in the space provided. ([24 CFR §903.7\(p\)](#))

C. Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.

C.1 Resident Advisory Board (RAB) comments. If the RAB had comments on the annual plan, mark "yes," submit the comments as an attachment to the Plan and describe the analysis of the comments and the PHA's decision made on these recommendations. ([24 CFR §903.13\(c\)](#), [24 CFR §903.19](#))

C.2 Certification by State of Local Officials. Form HUD-50077-SL, *Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan*, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan. ([24 CFR §903.15](#)). Note: A PHA may request to change its fiscal year to better coordinate its planning with planning done under the Consolidated Plan process by State or local officials as applicable.

C.3 Civil Rights Certification/ Certification Listing Policies and Programs that the PHA has Revised since Submission of its Last Annual Plan. Provide a certification that the following plan elements have been revised, provided to the RAB for comment before implementation, approved by the PHA board, and made available for review and inspection by the public. This requirement is satisfied by completing and submitting form HUD-50077 ST-HCV-HP, *PHA Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and Related Laws and Regulations Including PHA Plan Elements that Have Changed*. Form HUD-50077-ST-HCV-HP, *PHA Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and Related Laws and Regulations Including PHA Plan Elements that Have Changed* must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan. This includes all certifications relating to Civil Rights and related regulations. A PHA will be considered in compliance with the certification requirement to affirmatively further fair housing if the PHA fulfills the requirements of §§ 903.7(o)(1) and 903.15(d) and: (i) examines its programs or proposed programs; (ii) identifies any fair housing issues and contributing factors within those programs, in accordance with 24 CFR 5.154; or 24 CFR 5.160(a)(3) as applicable (iii) specifies actions and strategies designed to address contributing factors, related fair housing issues, and goals in the applicable Assessment of Fair Housing consistent with 24 CFR 5.154 in a reasonable manner in view of the resources available; (iv) works with jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA's involvement; (v) operates programs in a manner consistent with any applicable consolidated plan under 24 CFR part 91, and with any order or agreement, to comply with the authorities specified in paragraph (o)(1) of this section; (vi) complies with any contribution or consultation requirement with respect to any applicable AFH, in accordance with 24 CFR 5.150 through 5.180; (vii) maintains records reflecting these analyses, actions, and the results of these actions; and (viii) takes steps acceptable to HUD to remedy known fair housing or civil rights violations, impediments to fair housing choice within those programs; addresses those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available; works with the local jurisdiction to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing; and assures that the annual plan is consistent with any applicable Consolidated Plan for its jurisdiction. ([24 CFR §903.7\(o\)](#)).

C.4 Challenged Elements. If any element of the Annual PHA Plan or 5-Year PHA Plan is challenged, a PHA must include such information as an attachment to the Annual PHA Plan or 5-Year PHA Plan with a description of any challenges to Plan elements, the source of the challenge, and the PHA's response to the public.

D. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).

D.1 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. The PHA will use the answer blocks in item D.1 to provide a statement of its strategies and actions to implement each fair housing goal outlined in its accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5) that states, in relevant part: "To implement goals and priorities in an AFH, strategies and actions shall be included in program participants' ... PHA Plans (including any plans incorporated therein) Strategies and actions must affirmatively further fair housing" Use the chart provided to specify each fair housing goal from the PHA's AFH for which the PHA is the responsible program participant – whether the AFH was prepared solely by the PHA, jointly with one or more other PHAs, or in collaboration with a state or local jurisdiction – and specify the fair housing strategies and actions to be implemented by the PHA during the period covered by this PHA Plan. If there are more than three fair housing goals, add answer blocks as necessary.

Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA will not have to complete section D., nevertheless, the PHA will address its obligation to affirmatively further fair housing in part by fulfilling the requirements at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(3) enacted prior to August 17, 2015, which means that it examines its own programs or proposed programs; identifies any impediments to fair housing choice within those programs; addresses those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available; works with local jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA's involvement; and maintain records reflecting these analyses and actions. Furthermore, under Section 5A(d)(15) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, a PHA must submit a civil rights certification with its Annual PHA Plan, which is described at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(1) except for qualified PHAs who submit the Form HUD-50077-CR as a standalone document.

This information collection is authorized by Section 511 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act, which added a new section 5A to the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, which introduced the Annual PHA Plan. The Annual PHA Plan provides a ready source for interested parties to locate basic PHA policies, rules, and requirements concerning the PHA's operations, programs, and services, and informs HUD, families served by the PHA, and members of the public for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 6.02 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not collect this information, and respondents are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Privacy Act Notice. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to solicit the information requested in this form by virtue of Title 12, U.S. Code, Section 1701 et seq., and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 12, Code of Federal Regulations. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS (CONTINUED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

Section II - Financial Statement Findings

Our audit did not disclose any matters required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

2024-001

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Federal Program Name: Housing Voucher Cluster

Assistance Listing Number: 14.871 / 14.879

Award Period: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

Type of Finding: Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Compliance, Other Matters

Criteria or specific requirement: Most PHAs devise their own application forms that are filled out by the PHA staff during an interview with the tenant. The head of the household signs (a) one or more release forms to allow the PHA to obtain information from third parties; (b) a federally prescribed general release form for employment information; and (c) a privacy notice. Under some circumstances, other members of the family are required to sign these forms (24 CFR sections 5.212 and 5.230).

The PHA must do the following: As a condition of admission or continued occupancy, require the tenant and other family members to provide necessary information, documentation, and releases for the PHA to verify income eligibility (24 CFR sections 5.230, 5.609, and 982.516). For both family income examinations and reexaminations, obtain and document in the family file third party verification of (1) reported family annual income; (2) the value of assets; (3) expenses related to deductions from annual income; and (4) other factors that affect the determination of adjusted income or income-based rent (24 CFR section 982.516). Determine income eligibility and calculate the tenant's rent payment using the documentation from third party verification in accordance with 24 CFR Part 5 Subpart F (24 CFR section 5.601 et seq.) (24 CFR sections 982.201, 982.515, and 982.516). Select tenants from the HCVP waiting list (see 111.N.1, "Special Tests and Provisions - Selection from the Waiting List") (24 CFR sections 982.202 through 982.207). Reexamine family income and composition at least once every 12 months and adjust the tenant rent and housing assistance payment as necessary using the documentation from third party verification (24 CFR section 982.516).

Condition: During the testing of the HCV tenant files for eligibility, we noted one instance where the income was not calculated correctly during annual examination.

Questioned costs: \$210

Context: Out of the 40 files tested, one contained an error as noted above. The samples were statistically valid samples.

Cause: The Authority failed to provide adequate monitoring and oversight to ensure compliance with HUD rules and regulations, as well as their administrative policy.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS (CONTINUED)
JUNE 30, 2024

Section III - Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs (Continued)

2024 - 001 (Continued)

Effect: The Authority is not in compliance with federal regulations regarding the calculation of annual income for determination of eligibility for the program.

Repeat Finding: No

Recommendation: We recommend management should designate one person to review a sample of the files that have been recertified each month. The purpose of the review is to determine if the tenant files were prepared in accordance with internal policies and verify the compliance deficiencies have been corrected.

Views of responsible officials: There is no disagreement with the audit finding.

2024-002

Federal Agency: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Federal Program Name: Housing Voucher Cluster

Assistance Listing Number: 14.871 / 14.879

Award Period: July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

Type of Finding: Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Compliance, Other Matters

Criteria or specific requirement: The PHA must inspect the unit leased to a family at least annually to determine if the unit meets Housing Quality Standards (HQS) and the PHA must conduct quality control re-inspections. The PHA must prepare a unit inspection report (24 CFR sections 982.158(d) and 982.405(b)).

Condition: During the testing of the HCV program tenant files for the Annual HQS, we noted one instance where the HQS inspection was not done within the 24-month regulatory period.

Questioned costs: None

Context: Out of the 40 files tested, one contained an error as noted above. The samples were statistically valid samples.

Cause: The Authority failed to provide adequate monitoring and oversight to ensure compliance with HUD rules and regulations, as well as their administrative policy.

Effect: The Authority is not in compliance with federal regulations regarding the annual HOS.

Repeat Finding: No

Recommendation: We recommend that the housing authority designate an individual to assure HQS inspections are completed timely.

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS (CONTINUED)
JUNE 30, 2024**

Views of responsible officials: The agency feels the item in question for the inspection date is outside the scope of the audit dates which are July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. Additionally, when the agency discovered the error in March 2023 during a time of restructuring a very high turnover department, we took immediate action in correcting the inspection to be compliant.



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY

319 East Antietam Street, 2nd Floor, Hagerstown, MD 21740

(P) 301.791.3168

(F) 301.791.2755

www.hawcmd.org

Resident Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Friday January 24, 2025

1:00 – 2:00 PM

Present:

Allison Palmer, HAWC, Director of Housing Stabilization

Stephanie San Nicolas, HAWC, HCV Program Specialist/FSS Coordinator

Frank Baxter

Charlton Roberts

Rolanna Roberts

Paul Souders

Karen Souders

Lacey Thomas

Absent:

Mandy Mazza

Pamela Sirbaugh

Agenda

1. Review Progress Report on current 5-Year PHA Plan 2020-2024
 - a. No Comment
2. Review Administrative Plan Updates
 - a. No comment
3. Review PHA Annual Plan 2025
 - a. No comment
4. Review 5-Year PHA Plan 2025-2029
 - a. No comment

Enclosed

Resident Advisory Board Listing

PHA Plan Progress Report

Administrative Plan Updates 2025

Draft PHA Annual Plan 2025

Draft 5-Year PHA Plan 2025-2029

**Certification by State or Local
Official of PHA Plans Consistency
with the Consolidated Plan or
State Consolidated Plan
(All PHAs)**

U. S Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Public and Indian Housing

OMB No. 2577-0226

Expires 3/31/2024

**Certification by State or Local Official of PHA Plans
Consistency with the Consolidated Plan or State Consolidated Plan**

I, Jacob R. Day, the Secretary of MD Department of Housing and Community Development
Official's Name *Official's Title*

certify that the 5-Year PHA Plan for fiscal years 2025-2029 and/or Annual PHA Plan for fiscal
year 2025 of the Housing Authority of Washington County is consistent with the
PHA Name

Consolidated Plan or State Consolidated Plan including the Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair
Housing Choice or Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) as applicable to the

Housing Authority of Washington County

Local Jurisdiction Name

pursuant to 24 CFR Part 91 and 24 CFR § 903.15.

Provide a description of how the PHA Plan's contents are consistent with the Consolidated Plan or State
Consolidated Plan.

Increase the availability of suitable, safe, and affordable housing in Washington County, focusing on
reducing homelessness and expanding homeownership opportunities.

Promote self-sufficiency of families and individuals in the local community, including financial literacy
and homeownership opportunities.

Strengthen organizational infrastructure and community standing to support mission and goals,
participating in local initiatives aimed to revitalize the community.

Strengthen organizational infrastructure to improve processes and performance to provide better
service to more people in need of affordable housing.

I hereby certify that all the information stated herein, as well as any information provided in the accompaniment herewith, is true and accurate. **Warning:** HUD will
prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802)

Name of Authorized Official:

Title:

Signature:

Date:

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to solicit the information requested in this form by virtue of Title 12, U.S.
Code, Section 1701 et seq., and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 12, Code of Federal Regulations. Responses to the collection of information
are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality. This information is collected to
ensure consistency with the consolidated plan or state consolidated plan.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 0.16 hours per year per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not collect this information, and respondents are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

**Certifications of Compliance with
PHA Plan and Related Regulations
(Standard, Troubled, HCV-Only, and
High Performer PHAs)**

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Public and Indian Housing
OMB No. 2577-0226
Expires 3/31/2024

**PHA Certifications of Compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and Related Laws and Regulations
including PHA Plan Elements that Have Changed**

Acting on behalf of the Board of Commissioners of the Public Housing Agency (PHA) listed below, as its Chairperson or other authorized PHA official if there is no Board of Commissioners, I approve the submission of the 2025-2029 5-Year and/or 2025 Annual PHA Plan, hereinafter referred to as "the Plan", of which this document is a part, and make the following certification and agreements with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the PHA fiscal year beginning 07/2025, in connection with the submission of the Plan and implementation thereof:

1. The Plan is consistent with the applicable comprehensive housing affordability strategy (or any plan incorporating such strategy) for the jurisdiction in which the PHA is located (24 CFR § 91.2).
2. The Plan contains a certification by the appropriate State or local officials that the Plan is consistent with the applicable Consolidated Plan, which includes a certification that requires the preparation of an Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice, or Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) when applicable, for the PHA's jurisdiction and a description of the manner in which the PHA Plan is consistent with the applicable Consolidated Plan (24 CFR §§ 91.2, 91.225, 91.325, and 91.425).
3. The PHA has established a Resident Advisory Board or Boards, the membership of which represents the residents assisted by the PHA, consulted with this Resident Advisory Board or Boards in developing the Plan, including any changes or revisions to the policies and programs identified in the Plan before they were implemented, and considered the recommendations of the RAB (24 CFR 903.13). The PHA has included in the Plan submission a copy of the recommendations made by the Resident Advisory Board or Boards and a description of the manner in which the Plan addresses these recommendations.
4. The PHA provides assurance as part of this certification that:
 - (i) The Resident Advisory Board had an opportunity to review and comment on the changes to the policies and programs before implementation by the PHA;
 - (ii) The changes were duly approved by the PHA Board of Directors (or similar governing body); and
 - (iii) The revised policies and programs are available for review and inspection, at the principal office of the PHA during normal business hours.
5. The PHA made the proposed Plan and all information relevant to the public hearing available for public inspection at least 45 days before the hearing, published a notice that a hearing would be held and conducted a hearing to discuss the Plan and invited public comment.
6. The PHA certifies that it will carry out the public housing program of the agency in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d-2000d-4), the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601-19), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), and other applicable civil rights requirements and that it will affirmatively further fair housing in the administration of the program. In addition, if it administers a Housing Choice Voucher Program, the PHA certifies that it will administer the program in conformity with the Fair Housing Act, title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and other applicable civil rights requirements, and that it will affirmatively further fair housing in the administration of the program.
7. The PHA will affirmatively further fair housing, which means that it will take meaningful actions to further the goals identified in the Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) conducted in accordance with the requirements of 24 CFR § 5.150 through 5.180, that it will take no action that is materially inconsistent with its obligation to affirmatively further fair housing, and that it will address fair housing issues and contributing factors in its programs, in accordance with 24 CFR § 903.7(o)(3). The PHA will fulfill the requirements at 24 CFR § 903.7(o) and 24 CFR § 903.15(d). Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA will fulfill the requirements at 24 CFR § 903.7(o) promulgated prior to August 17, 2015, which means that it examines its programs or proposed programs; identifies any impediments to fair housing choice within those programs; addresses those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available; works with local jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdiction's initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA's involvement; and maintains records reflecting these analyses and actions.
8. For PHA Plans that include a policy for site-based waiting lists:
 - The PHA regularly submits required data to HUD's 50058 PIC/IMS Module in an accurate, complete and timely manner (as specified in PIH Notice 2011-65);

- The system of site-based waiting lists provides for full disclosure to each applicant in the selection of the development in which to reside, including basic information about available sites; and an estimate of the period of time the applicant would likely have to wait to be admitted to units of different sizes and types at each site;
 - Adoption of a site-based waiting list would not violate any court order or settlement agreement or be inconsistent with a pending complaint brought by HUD;
 - The PHA shall take reasonable measures to assure that such a waiting list is consistent with affirmatively furthering fair housing; and
 - The PHA provides for review of its site-based waiting list policy to determine if it is consistent with civil rights laws and certifications, as specified in 24 CFR 903.7(o)(1).
9. The PHA will comply with the prohibitions against discrimination on the basis of age pursuant to the Age Discrimination Act of 1975.
 10. In accordance with 24 CFR § 5.105(a)(2), HUD's Equal Access Rule, the PHA will not make a determination of eligibility for housing based on sexual orientation, gender identify, or marital status and will make no inquiries concerning the gender identification or sexual orientation of an applicant for or occupant of HUD-assisted housing.
 11. The PHA will comply with the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 and 24 CFR Part 41, Policies and Procedures for the Enforcement of Standards and Requirements for Accessibility by the Physically Handicapped.
 12. The PHA will comply with the requirements of Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, Employment Opportunities for Low-or Very-Low Income Persons, and with its implementing regulation at 24 CFR Part 135.
 13. The PHA will comply with acquisition and relocation requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 and implementing regulations at 49 CFR Part 24 as applicable.
 14. The PHA will take appropriate affirmative action to award contracts to minority and women's business enterprises under 24 CFR 5.105(a).
 15. The PHA will provide the responsible entity or HUD any documentation that the responsible entity or HUD needs to carry out its review under the National Environmental Policy Act and other related authorities in accordance with 24 CFR Part 58 or Part 50, respectively.
 16. With respect to public housing the PHA will comply with Davis-Bacon or HUD determined wage rate requirements under Section 12 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.
 17. The PHA will keep records in accordance with 2 CFR 200.333 and facilitate an effective audit to determine compliance with program requirements.
 18. The PHA will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act, the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, and 24 CFR Part 35.
 19. The PHA will comply with the policies, guidelines, and requirements of 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Financial Assistance, including but not limited to submitting the assurances required under 24 CFR §§ 1.5, 3.115, 8.50, and 107.25 by submitting an SF-424, including the required assurances in SF-424B or D, as applicable.
 20. The PHA will undertake only activities and programs covered by the Plan in a manner consistent with its Plan and will utilize covered grant funds only for activities that are approvable under the regulations and included in its Plan.
 21. All attachments to the Plan have been and will continue to be available at all times and all locations that the PHA Plan is available for public inspection. All required supporting documents have been made available for public inspection along with the Plan and additional requirements at the primary business office of the PHA and at all other times and locations identified by the PHA in its PHA Plan and will continue to be made available at least at the primary business office of the PHA.
 22. The PHA certifies that it is in compliance with applicable Federal statutory and regulatory requirements, including the Declaration of Trust(s).

Housing Authority of Washington County
PHA Name

MD028
PHA Number/HA Code

☒ Annual PHA Plan for Fiscal Year 2025

☒ 5-Year PHA Plan for Fiscal Years 2025 - 2029

I hereby certify that all the information stated herein, as well as any information provided in the accompaniment herewith, is true and accurate. **Warning:** HUD will prosecute false claims and statements. Conviction may result in criminal and/or civil penalties. (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1010, 1012; 31 U.S.C. 3729, 3802).

Name of Executive Director Morgan Gower		Name Board Chairman Ronald Brezler	
Signature	Date	Signature	Date

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to solicit the information requested in this form by virtue of Title 12, U.S. Code, Section 1701 et seq., and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 12, Code of Federal Regulations. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality. This information is collected to ensure compliance with PHA Plan, Civil Rights, and related laws and regulations including PHA plan elements that have changed.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 0.16 hours per year per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not collect this information, and respondents are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.