



## Demonstration Program and Special Initiatives

### Survivors of Human Trafficking (Approved July 2016)

#### Overview

In 2012 President Obama created an Interagency Task Force to monitor and combat trafficking in persons. As a result, a federal strategic plan on services for victims of human trafficking in the United States was created 2013-2017. The Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) and the Administration for Children and Families (ACF, part of Health & Human Services) joined efforts on one of the strategic objectives of the plan– **Objective 8: Improve access to victim services by removing systemic barriers (p41)**. Specifically, this objective seeks to pilot a housing demonstration to evaluate the appropriateness and feasibility of housing.

In Chicago, regional HUD and ACF offices have joined together and approached both the Chicago Housing Authority and the Housing Authority of Cook County to pilot housing programs that would be the first in the nation to intentionally address the housing issues for those who have experienced human trafficking.

CHA will set aside 60 housing choice vouchers over a 3-year period to provide housing assistance to those who are referred from agencies providing comprehensive social services to survivors of human trafficking under the Health and Human Services/Office of Refugee Resettlement-funded Trafficking Victim Assistance Program or under the Department of Justice-funded Office for Victims of Crime.

#### Purpose Why was this program created?

Human Trafficking is considered a modern day form of slavery and is a crime. It impacts both domestic and foreign born persons and children. Currently funding to provide services to those in programs receive only 12 months and are required to establish non-citizen eligibility within that time, although depending on the situation, may take longer. This pilot program will serve those who are able, due to eligibility and appropriateness for independently living to receive a housing choice voucher.

#### Eligibility Who can participate?

Eligibility for participation will include meeting the criteria as established in CHA's Administrative Plan and must be referred from an agency as defined under the selection criteria. Ideally participants should be those who will not require intensive services.

#### Selection How are potential participants selected?

Agencies in Chicago who receive federal funding to provide services to victims/survivors of human trafficking will make direct referrals based on an agreed to process. CHA will work with these agencies to set up a system of referring to the program. Other non-federally funded assist agencies may refer participants to the identified federally funded agencies.



**Housing** Where and how will CHA house participants?

---

Participants will be housed in the private market using a Housing Choice Voucher. This demonstration program is not for Public Housing.

**Responsibilities** What do participants have to do?

---

Participants must comply with their lease and with all HCV requirements as outlined in the CHA's Administrative Plan and under Family Obligations. Participants will be encouraged to participate in CHA's Family Self-Sufficiency program.

**Timeline** When will the program take place?

---

July 2016	Board of Commissioners Approval
Aug 2016	Meeting with providers to establish referral process
Aug 2016	Referrals for program participation begins