

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
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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>City of North Tonawanda, PHA</u> PHA Code: <u>NY405</u> PHA Plan for Fiscal Year Beginning: (MM/YYYY): <u>01/2024</u> PHA Inventory (Based on Annual Contributions Contract (ACC) units at time of FY beginning, above) Number of Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) <u>657</u> PHA Plan Submission Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual Submission <input type="checkbox"/> 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.				
	Once approved this plan will be uploaded to our agency website for easy access to the public.				
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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	<p>Revision of Existing PHA Plan Elements.</p> <p>a) Have the following PHA Plan elements been revised by the PHA since its last Annual Plan submission?</p> <p>Y N</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deconcentration and Other Policies that Govern Eligibility, Selection, and Admissions.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Financial Resources.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rent Determination.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operation and Management.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informal Review and Hearing Procedures.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Homeownership Programs.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Self-Sufficiency Programs and Treatment of Income Changes Resulting from Welfare Program Requirements.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantial Deviation.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant Amendment/Modification.</p> <p>(b) If the PHA answered yes for any element, describe the revisions for each element(s):</p> <p>Statement of Housing Needs and Strategy for Addressing Housing Needs:</p> <p>The availability of affordable and high-quality rental housing options in North Tonawanda, Erie, and Niagara Counties is becoming increasingly scarce. The housing stock in Niagara Falls, Lockport, and North Tonawanda, which has been accessible to low-income renters, is deteriorating rapidly and will soon become substandard unless owners invest in revitalization efforts. To afford these efforts, owners have had to increase the rent as the market allows. There is currently a waitlist of approximately 2,162 people, mostly low-income families, in need of 2- and 3-bedroom units. It's worth noting that about 77 percent of those on the waitlist report an income of less than 30 percent of the area's median income.</p> <p>The PHA's strategy for addressing this affordability issue has been to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set regular payment standards above 100 percent of FMR • Employ exception payment standards (at or near 110 percent of FMR) in higher-cost areas • Approve individual exception payment standards as necessary to enable persons with disabilities to access housing and make use of the voucher program, utilize the 120 percent standard where necessary • Discourage rent inflation through the diligent determination of rent reasonableness • Encourage landlord participation through clear communication, timely inspection, reasonable rent negotiation, timely rent payments, and seeking additional vouchers whenever available. • Evaluate and be amenable to receiving PBV and reviewing the possibility of utilizing existing vouchers as such
B.2	New Activities. – Not Applicable
B.3	<p>Progress Report.</p> <p>PHA intends to apply for tenant protection vouchers if and when available.</p> <p>PHA is preparing inspectors for the new NSPIRE inspection requirements and will be Nan McKay NSPIRE Certified.</p> <p>PHA provides a wide selection of housing opportunities to clients through Housing Resource Center, equipped with PCs, phones, internet access</p> <p>PHA offers housing/rental counseling, financial education, and homebuyer education/support groups.</p> <p>PHA offers Landlord (LL) Webinars to increase LL participation in the Section 8 HCV Program.</p> <p>PHA employs Exception Payment Standards to increase affordability in higher-cost areas of the City and County.</p> <p>PHA offers the Section 8 Homeownership option.</p> <p>PHA offers homebuyers matched savings opportunities and referrals for down-payment and closing cost grants.</p> <p>PHA facilitates tenant moves to areas outside its jurisdiction,</p> <p>PHA promotes self-sufficiency by conducting ongoing follow-ups with FSS participants to encourage training and employment.</p> <p>PHA provides fair housing information and advocacy to tenants, landlords, staff, and the general public.</p> <p>PHA supports the work of fair housing organizations such as Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME).</p> <p>PHA continues to facilitate a Tenant Voice Committee comprised of clients and staff to help bridge communication and work together to enhance services.</p> <p>PHA will establish texting options and promote client portal usage to remove barriers in communication and recertification.</p> <p>PHA will place a kiosk at a local service provider (Heart, Love, and Soul-Day Break) to provide a secondary location for clients to submit paperwork and download needed forms.</p>
B.4	Capital Improvements. – Not Applicable

B.5	<p>Most Recent Fiscal Year Audit.</p> <p>(a) Were there any findings in the most recent FY Audit?</p> <p>Y N N/A <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(b) If yes, please describe:</p>			
C. Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.				
C.1	<p>Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Comments.</p> <p>(a) Did the RAB(s) have comments to the PHA Plan?</p> <p>Y N <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(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.</p>			
C.2	<p>Certification by State or Local Officials.</p> <p>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.</p>			
C.3	<p>Civil Rights Certification/ Certification Listing Policies and Programs that the PHA has Revised since Submission of its Last Annual Plan.</p> <p>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.</p>			
C.4	<p>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.</p> <p>(a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?</p> <p>Y N <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, include Challenged Elements.</p>			
D. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).				
D.1	<p>Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).</p> <p>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.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="167 1434 1433 1896"> <tr> <td data-bbox="167 1434 1433 1476">Fair Housing Goal:</td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="167 1476 1433 1896"><u>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</u></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="167 1906 1433 1944"> <tr> <td>Fair Housing Goal:</td></tr> </table>	Fair Housing Goal:	<u>Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal</u>	Fair Housing Goal:
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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 or 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

**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, Laura Wilson, the Director Of Community Development for the **City of North Tonawanda**,

certify that the Annual PHA Plan for fiscal year 2024 of the City of North Tonawanda PHA is consistent with the 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

City of North Tonawanda

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.

NYS's Consolidated Plan (2020-2024) identified several broad goals that address the increasing need for affordable housing as well as significant numbers of low-income renter households with cost burdens (>30% AMI). This PHA Plan addresses these same goals and populations through the use of Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers.

NYS Objective: Improve affordability by providing homeownership and rental assistance. The City of North Tonawanda PHA (CNT)-utilizes its 657 HCVs to lessen the burden of very low-income renter households. Furthermore, the PHA provides eligible households with the opportunity to use their Section 8 assistance as mortgage assistance. To date, 42 households have elected the homeownership option.

NYS Objective: Improve affordability, accessibility, and sustainability by maintaining and expanding the Continuum of Care, expanding services to prevent homelessness, and maintaining and expanding resources for those with special needs. This PHA Plan addresses the special needs of people with disabilities by using exception (higher) Payment Standards that make more housing opportunities available to them.

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:

Laura Wilson

Title:

Director of Community Development

Signature:

Laura Wilson

Date:

8/21/23

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.

**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 ___ 5-Year and/or ___ 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 _____, 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/TMS 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).

City of North Tonawanda
PHA Name

NY405
PHA Number/HA Code

 X Annual PHA Plan for Fiscal Year 2024

 5-Year PHA Plan for Fiscal Years 20 - 20

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

MICHAEL RIESEL

Name Board Chairman

Kelly Patterson

Signature

[Signature of Michael Riesel]

Date **8-21-23**

Signature

[Signature of Kelly Patterson]

Date **8/21/23**

City of North Tonawanda PHA

Annual PHA Plan: January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

PHA Plan Elements:

1. Eligibility, Selection & Admissions Policies
Administrative Plan; Chapters 2, 3 & 4
2. Financial Resources
This Section 8 Program derives its financial resources solely from HUD's Office of Public & Indian Housing. The PHA expects to have access to approximately \$2.9 million in federal funds during 2024 to make rental/mortgage assistance payments and Family Self-Sufficiency escrow deposits and to cover administrative expenses.
3. Rent Determination Policies
Administrative Plan; Chapters 5, 9 & 11
4. Operation & Management of the PHA
Administrative Plan; Chapter 1
5. Grievance Procedures
Administrative Plan; Chapter 19
6. Designated Housing for Elderly & Disabled Families
Public Housing only; not applicable
7. Community Service and Self-Sufficiency
Public Housing only; not applicable
8. Safety & Crime Prevention
Public Housing only; not applicable
9. Pets
Public Housing only; not applicable
10. Civil Rights certification
Administrative Plan; Chapter 1
11. Fiscal Year Audit; FY'21
Results available for review
12. Asset Management
Public Housing only; not applicable
13. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
Administrative Plan; VAWA Addendum

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT OF 2005

INTRODUCTION

The federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) includes important legal protections relative to housing for victims of domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. Out of recognition that domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness, and that victims of domestic violence are often discriminated against in housing because of the acts of their abusers, federal law now explicitly addresses some of these issues. Amendments to the Section 8 statute clarify that victims of domestic violence may not be evicted from or denied housing if the asserted grounds for the eviction is an instance of domestic violence. PHAs and all landlords, owners and managers participating in Section 8 Programs must comply with this law.

A. DEFINITIONS (as defined in VAWA)

Domestic Violence "includes felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other adult person against a victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies."

Dating Violence means "violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim, and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: the length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of the interaction between the persons involved in the relationship."

Stalking means "to follow, pursue, or repeatedly commit acts with the intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate; or to place under surveillance with the intent to kill, injure, harass, or intimidate another person; and in the course of, or as a result of, such following, pursuit, surveillance, or repeatedly committed acts, to place a person in reasonable fear of death of, or serious bodily injury to, or to cause substantial emotional harm to: that person, a member of the immediate family of that person, or the spouse or intimate partner of that person."

Immediate Family Member is a "spouse, parent, brother or sister, or child of the person, or an individual with whom that person stands *in loco parentis* (in place of a parent); or any other person living in the household of that person and related to that person by blood or marriage."

Where this plan references "domestic violence" it is meant to include dating violence and stalking.

B. APPLICABILITY

PHAs and all landlords, owners and managers participating in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, Project-Based Voucher Program and Moderate Rehabilitation Program must comply with this law.

The VAWA protects an individual when even one incident of domestic violence occurs against the victim, and when that incident forms the basis for the PHA's or landlord's action against the victim. The law provides that criminal activity directly relating to domestic violence, engaged in by a member of the tenant's household or any guest or other person under the tenant's control, shall not be the cause for termination of assistance or tenancy if the tenant or an immediate family member of the tenant's family is the victim or threatened victim of that abuse. The law explicitly provides that an incident of actual or threatened domestic violence does not qualify as a "serious or repeated violation of the lease."

VAWA states that a Section 8 landlord may bifurcate a lease in order to evict the offender while allowing the victim to remain in the assisted unit.

While the intent of this law is to protect victims of domestic violence from eviction and / or housing discrimination, it permits eviction if the landlord demonstrates "an actual and immediate threat to other tenants or those employed at or providing service to the property" if the tenant's lease is not terminated.

C. DOCUMENTATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

If a tenant seeks protection under VAWA, the PHA or landlord may ask the tenant to provide verification of the domestic violence before complying with the law. However, nothing in the statute requires the PHA or landlord to ask for this documentation; they may comply based solely on the individual's statement or other corroborating evidence.

VAWA allows the PHA or owner responding to an incident of domestic violence that could affect the tenant's participation in the Section 8 program to request in writing that the individual submit documentation of the domestic violence within 14 days of the request. The PHA or owner may request that the individual use HUD form 50066 but may also choose to accept other documentation. If the tenant does not submit the requested documentation within 14 days, none of the protections afforded to victims of domestic violence apply. The PHA would be free to terminate assistance and the owner would be free to evict. However, the PHA or owner may also extend the deadline at its discretion.

In lieu of or in addition to the certification form, the PHA or owner may ask the tenant to provide a police or court record of the incident or documentation signed and attested to by an employee, agent or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney or medical professional, from whom the victim has sought assistance in addressing the domestic violence.

If the PHA or owner requires the HUD certification, they must first discuss the delivery of the form with the tenant as delivering it through the mail may place the victim at risk if the abuser monitors the mail.

D. DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE PHA

Since this statute primarily addresses lease termination and eviction, it tends to impact the actions of the property owner more often than the actions of the PHA. It is the owner who is prohibited from evicting the tenant and only rarely will the PHA have to consider whether or not the tenant's assistance should be terminated. However, there may be times when the PHA will have to determine if domestic violence played a role in the tenant's offending behavior.

For example, a tenant may move in violation of the lease and claim that they had to move in order to elude an abuser. In this case and others, the PHA has to decide whether or not the tenant's assistance should be terminated due to some program violation. In cases such as these, the PHA will require the tenant to submit timely documentation of the domestic violence.

It is also certainly possible that in spite of the PHA notifying owners of their obligations under VAWA, an owner may succeed in evicting a tenant in violation of VAWA. Therefore, it will be necessary for staff to ascertain the grounds for any eviction to ensure that the PHA does not end up terminate assistance (due to the eviction) in violation of VAWA.

The tenant may fully satisfy this PHA's documentation requirements by producing a police report or court record that documents the incident. Alternatively, the tenant may provide a statement in which an employee, agent, or volunteer of a victim service provider, an attorney, or a medical professional, from whom the victim has sought assistance in addressing domestic violence issues, attests that the professional believes that the incident or incidents in question are bona fide incidents of abuse. The victim must sign and attest to the third-party documentation, and the documentation must name the offender. The victim will be provided with and encouraged to use HUD form 50066, Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking, to facilitate documentation and certification of the incident(s) of domestic violence.

Although the tenant is expected to submit documentation within 14 days of the date of request, the PHA may extend that deadline at its discretion.

E. CONFIDENTIALITY

If an individual provides certification or documentation of domestic violence, the PHA will keep that information confidential. The PHA will not share the information with any other entity unless the victim requests, in writing, that the PHA do so.

F. NOTICE TO TENANTS AND LANDLORDS

The PHA notified all participating tenants and landlords of their rights and responsibilities under VAWA by mailing each one a fact sheet.

The fact sheet has also been incorporated in the tenant and landlord handbooks to ensure that all future participants are aware of their rights and responsibilities relative to domestic violence and tenancy.

Furthermore, both handbooks provide instructions for obtaining HUD form 50066, Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking.