



New Owner Recruitment Letter

March 28, 2018

RE: Changes in the Housing Choice Voucher program

Dear Owner/Property Manager,

Beginning on **April 1, 2018**, the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program in Fort Lauderdale/Broward County will be undergoing important changes. The program, which is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and managed locally by The Housing Authority of the City of Fort Lauderdale (HACFL), provides rental assistance to help 3133 individuals and families in our area afford safe, stable housing.

Formerly, the payment standard that the PHA used to determine the maximum amount of rental assistance for each family participating in the HCV program was based on rent estimates for the entire metropolitan area. This approach often meant that families with HCVs could not afford to rent in neighborhoods with high rents. Going forward, payment standards will be based on rent estimates determined at the ZIP code level, which means that they will be more responsive to variations in local rents. The purpose of this change is to promote a more effective system that allows HCV-assisted families to access higher-cost housing in low-poverty areas.

These changes will open up new opportunities for HCV-assisted renters to access better schools and safer neighborhoods, but only if owners accept them as tenants. We encourage you to consider renting to families with HCVs. As an owner who participates in the program, you may continue to screen and accept your own tenants and enforce your own lease agreement. Advantages of participation in the Housing Choice Voucher program include:

- Guaranteed steady monthly rent payments, including protections in case of decreases in tenant income
- Support with advertising and marketing of units to voucher families through GoSection8.com
- PHA support throughout the renter's tenancy

If you would like to learn more about the HCV program, please contact **Tadessa Anderson** at **954-556-4100 Ext. 1118** tadessa.anderson@hacfl.com or attend a quarterly landlord briefing. Landlord briefings are held at **500 West Sunrise Blvd Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311**. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have. You can also learn more about the program on the PHA's website, at www.hacfl.com I hope that you will seriously consider opening your doors to qualified families.

Regards,

HACFL Section 8 Department