

## **Chapter 4 – Establishing Preferences and Maintaining a Waiting List**

### **Section D HCV Local Preferences**

1. In-Place Preference (page 4-3). This preference is being deleted in its entirety. Upon review, it was determined that providing this limited preference may result in a disparate impact.
2. In-Place Homeless Prevention Preference (page 4-4). Minor modifications are being made to clarify eligibility requirements
3. Homeless Preference (page 4-4 & 4-5). This change removes the requirement that households be referred by the Coordinated Entry System and allows for direct referrals from supportive service providers. Clarifies that referrals of persons who have successfully participated in transitional housing, interim housing, or emergency shelter programs within Sonoma County may be referred for the voucher program by a supportive service provider. Implements the expectation that the referring supportive services provider provides housing navigation assistance and one year of housing stabilization services for those referred for assistance through the Housing Authority.
4. Move-On Allocation (page 4-5). Minor clarifying changes related to eligibility requirements and availability of funding
5. Housing Access and Reentry Program (page 4-5 & 4-6). Changes the program from a pilot program to an ongoing program. Makes minor clarifying changes related to eligibility requirements.
6. Limited Preference for Households Experiencing Chronic Homelessness (page 4-6 & 4-7). This is a new preference being added in order to make housing vouchers available to chronically homeless households. Referrals for this preference must come from the Sonoma County Coordinated Entry System and will only be accepted when funding to provide housing search assistance, case management and post-housing stabilization services are available through the Sonoma County Continuum of Care.

### **Section E, Initial Determination of Local Preference Qualification**

1. Preference Denial (page 4-7). Clarifies that if a person does not meet a preference that was claimed on their initial application, their name will be returned to the waitlist position they would have been assigned without the preference.

## **Chapter 13 – Establishing Preferences and Maintaining a Waiting List**

**Section B, Restrictions on Moves** (pages 13-1 & 13-2). Clarifies reasons that a request to move may be denied to include only those violations of Family Obligations that may result in termination of assistance and delinquency on repayment agreements.

### **Section D, Portability**

1. **Restrictions on Portability, Participants** (page 13-3). Provides that a portability request may be denied if the requesting family is subject to a repayment agreement with the Housing Authority.

## **Chapter 21 – Project Based Voucher Program**

### **Section D, Application Review and Award Process for Competitive PBV Awards**

1. **Tied Applications** (page 21-7). Modifies criteria for award when two or more applications have a tied score after ranking. Considerations will include the application with the greatest number of homeless-dedicated one and two bedroom units.

### **Section G, Other Program Guidelines**

1. **Utilizing Coordinated Entry System as a Waitlist** (pages 21-13 & 21-14). Provides clarifications on the expectations of the property when the proposer seeks to provide homeless-dedicated PBV units. Changes include:
  - a. The owner or their staff will enter into an MOU with the Sonoma County Coordinated Entry System (CES)
  - b. The owner or their staff will provide the projects eligibility criteria to the CES to be posted on a publicly-facing webpage
  - c. Unless another funding stream predetermines the vulnerability range for referrals, the owner, CES staff, and Housing Authority will together come to agreement on the vulnerability range of the referrals to the project based on CES policies
  - d. Provides that it is the owner's responsibility to participate in CES case conferencing and to make all CES required efforts to locate CES applicants.
  - e. Provides that applicants referred from CES may only be rejected by the owner for the designated CES reasons
  - f. Provides that if multiple referrals are received, the owner or their designated staff must process applications in the order they appear on the referral list.
  - g. Provides that if the owner, or designated staff, reject a referral, the reasoning must fit within the CES guidelines and the property's tenant selection plan and be documented in the Homeless Information Management System (HMIS).

- h. Clarifies that the referral individuals on the referral list will be ordered in accordance with who is determined to be the most vulnerable based upon the CES prioritization process
- i. Adds in additional PBV projects which are utilizing CES as a waitlist