

**HOUSING AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
ANNUAL MEETING  
DECEMBER 7, 2021**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-27**

**WHEREAS**, the Code of Federal Regulations at 24 CFR Part 982.52 require the development of an Administrative Plan for the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP); and,

**WHEREAS**, HANO has been provided the authority to implement individualized policies in the Administrative Plan to meet its local and regional needs, Notice PIH 2013-15 allows HANO to create limited local preferences for individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, and HANO's award of 106 Emergency Housing Vouchers required that the agency establish policies related to these special purpose vouchers; and

**WHEREAS**, communities in Louisiana were devastated by Hurricane Ida, which rendered many individuals and families homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; and

**WHEREAS**, many individuals and families were already facing homelessness or were at risk of becoming homeless due to the global pandemic, resulting in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) establishing the EHV program; and

**WHEREAS**, HANO is committed to assisting these vulnerable population and will target individuals and families who are living in temporary shelters and will create a limited local preference to assist the population through the Hurricane Ida vouchers; and

**WHEREAS**, HANO will target individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, or recently homeless with the EHV program and will establish an appendix to the Administrative Plan to address its policies under this program; and

**WHEREAS**, HANO was not required to complete the Public Hearing process due to the fact that a preference of 100 Hurricane Ida vouchers and 106 EHV does not equate to a substantial deviation from its plan as it will affect fewer than ten percent of applicants on the HCVP Waiting List;

**WHEREAS**, HANO informally adopted these changes to the Administrative Plan effective September 30, 2021 utilizing the COVID-19 waivers provided by HUD and adopted by HANO;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners hereby adopts HANO's policy changes to the HCVP Administrative Plan.

Executed this 7th day of December, 2021.

**APPROVAL:**

  
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**DEBRA JOSEPH  
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



**December 7, 2021**

**MEMORANDUM**

**To: Board of Commissioners  
President Debra Joseph, Vice President Isabel Barrios,  
Commissioner Avery Foret, Commissioner Sharon Jasper,  
Commissioner Carol Johnson, Commissioner Monika McKay,  
Commissioner Kim Piper and Commissioner Bill Rouselle**

**Through: Evette Hester  
Executive Director**

**From: Nyssa LeBeau  
Director, Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP)**

**Re: Approval Policy Change to add a Hurricane Ida Disaster Preference to the  
HCVP Administrative Plan and an Appendix for the Emergency Housing  
Voucher Program**

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The Code of Federal Regulations at 24 CFR Part 982.52 requires the nation's housing authorities to develop a written Administrative Plan, which is a supporting document to the PHA Plan. Federal regulations require that certain subjects be covered in the Administrative Plan and also provide local housing authorities the authority to craft individualized policies within the framework of the Federal regulations.

HANO's current Administrative Plan was amended utilizing a waiver to streamline operations during the global pandemic and the changes were informally adopted effective September 30, 2021. These changes did not require a public notice process, as they do not represent a substantial deviation..

In order to address the natural disaster of Hurricane Ida and to assist the large number of displaced individuals, HANO is adding a disaster preference to its Administrative Plan. The preference will allow for admission of up to 100 individuals or families who have been displaced by Hurricane Ida and are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Through this preference, HANO will prioritize individuals and families that are currently living in shelters and then other categories of homelessness. In order to qualify for the preference, the individual or family must submit a pre-application to be added to the HCVP waiting list during the time period prescribed and publicized by HANO. These pre-applications must be received as part of a direct referral package from the Multi-State Shelter Transition Team (MASTT). The individual or family must also provide verification that they lived in the affected area at the time that Hurricane Ida made landfall in the affected areas of Louisiana. Verification of homelessness or being at risk of becoming homeless must be provided, as well. Eligible individuals and families will receive HCVP vouchers to search for suitable housing in Orleans Parish. After a year of living in Orleans Parish, the individuals and families may choose to port their vouchers to another parish or state, which will provide an opportunity to return to the affected areas.

Additionally, HANO was awarded 106 Emergency Housing Vouchers as part of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021. These vouchers will serve individuals and families who are (1) homeless, (2) at risk of homelessness, (3) fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, or (4) recently homeless. Throughout the term of the EHV program, HANO will maintain a separate waiting list dedicated solely to EHV applicants. Access to this waiting list and to these EHV's are gained by direct referral to HANO by UNITY. As part of the EHV program, \$3,500 per voucher is allocated to help individuals and families locate and secure an assisted unit throughout the term of the program. These services were decided upon as a collaborative effort between HANO and UNITY and include housing search assistance; security deposit, utility deposit, and rental application fee reimbursements; and reimbursement of expenses related to moving and obtaining necessary household items. As part of this award of vouchers, HANO created an Appendix in the Administrative Plan to address its policies and customized approach to the EHV Program.