

5-Year PHA Plan (for All 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, 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-50075-5Y** is to be completed once every 5 PHA fiscal years by all PHAs.

A.	PHA Information.					
A.1	PHA Name: HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT			PHA Code: CA086		
PHA Plan for Fiscal Year Beginning: (MM/YYYY): 01/2022 The Five-Year Period of the Plan (i.e. 2019-2023): 2022-2026 PHA Plan Submission Type: <input type="checkbox"/> 5-Year Plan Submission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revised 5-Year Plan Submission						
<p>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 on 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 each Asset Management Project (AMP) and main office or central office of the PHA. PHAs are strongly encouraged to post complete PHA Plans on their official websites. PHAs are also encouraged to provide each resident council a copy of their PHA Plans.</p>						
<input type="checkbox"/> PHA Consortia: (Check box if submitting a Joint PHA 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 PHA:					PH	HCV

B.	Plan Elements. Required for <u>all</u> PHAs completing this form.
B.1	<p>Mission. State the PHA’s mission for serving the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families in the PHA’s jurisdiction for the next five years.</p> <p>The mission of the Housing Authority of the County of Humboldt (HACH) is to assist low-income families with safe, decent, and affordable housing opportunities as they strive to achieve self-sufficiency and improve the quality of their lives. HACH will achieve this mission by providing Housing Choice Vouchers, including VASH, Mainstream, and EHV vouchers, and Project Based Vouchers, as options to our clients and community, as well as other assistance opportunities that may come along from time to time. The Housing Authority is committed to operating in an efficient, ethical, and professional manner, and treating all clients with dignity and respect. The Housing Authority will create and maintain partnerships with its clients and appropriate community agencies in order to accomplish this mission.</p>
B.2	<p>Goals and Objectives. Identify the PHA’s quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families for the next five years.</p> <p>See attached 5-year Plan Goals & progress report.</p>
B.3	<p>Progress Report. Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan.</p> <p>See attached 5-year Plan Goals & progress report.</p>
B.4	<p>Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals. Provide a statement of the PHA’s goals, activities, objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.</p> <p>The Administrative Plan for the Housing Choice Voucher Program of the Housing Authority of the County of Humboldt prohibits the denial of admission to an otherwise qualified applicant on the basis that the applicant is or has been a victim of domestic violence. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), addition to the Administrative Plan, was approved by the Board of Commissioners, on December 14, 2009, Resolution #386 (and updated subsequently). Additionally, the PHA maintains a preference for families that include victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking who have either been referred by a partnering service agency or consortia or is seeking an emergency transfer under VAWA from the PHA’s public housing program or other covered housing program operated by the PHA.</p>
C.	Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.
C.1	<p>Significant Amendment or Modification. Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan.</p> <p>A Significant Amendment or modification is defined as an action that will have a financial impact of at least \$500,000 in any fiscal year.</p>

<p>C.2</p>	<p>Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Comments.</p> <p>(a) Did the RAB(s) have comments to the 5-Year 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 5-Year PHA Plan. PHAs must also include a narrative describing their analysis of the RAB recommendations and the decisions made on these recommendations.</p> <p>Note: The RAB met on June 29, 2023. No comments or recommendations were made by the RAB specific to the 5-Year PHA Plan.</p>
<p>C.3</p>	<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>
<p>C.4</p>	<p>Required Submission for HUD FO Review.</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>(b) If yes, include Challenged Elements.</p>
<p>D.</p>	<p>Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).</p>

D.1

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. (Non-qualified PHAs are only required to complete this section on the Annual PHA Plan. All qualified PHAs must complete this section.)

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.

Fair Housing Goal:

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal

Note: completion of this part not required as of 8/7/2023

Fair Housing Goal:

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal

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Instructions for Preparation of Form HUD-50075-5Y - 5-Year PHA Plan for All PHAs

A. **PHA Information.** All PHAs must complete this section. (24 CFR § 903.4)

- A.1** Include the full **PHA Name**, **PHA Code**, **PHA Fiscal Year Beginning** (MM/YYYY), **Five-Year Period** that the Plan covers, i.e. 2019-2023, **PHA Plan Submission Type**, and the **Availability of Information**, specific location(s) of all information relevant to the hearing and proposed PHA Plan.

PHA Consortia: Check box if submitting a Joint PHA Plan and complete the table.

B. Plan Elements.

- B.1 Mission.** State the PHA's mission for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families in the PHA's jurisdiction for the next five years. ([24 CFR § 903.6\(a\)\(1\)](#))
- B.2 Goals and Objectives.** Identify the PHA's quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families for the next five years. ([24 CFR § 903.6\(b\)\(1\)](#))
- B.3 Progress Report.** Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5- Year Plan. ([24 CFR § 903.6\(b\)\(2\)](#))
- B.4 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals.** Provide a statement of the PHA's goals, activities objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. ([24 CFR § 903.6\(a\)\(3\)](#)).

C. Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.

C.1 Significant Amendment or Modification. Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan. For modifications resulting from the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, refer to the 'Sample PHA Plan Amendment' found in Notice PIH-2012-32, REV 2.

C.2 Resident Advisory Board (RAB) comments.

- (a) Did the public or RAB have comments?
- (b) If yes, submit 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 § 903.17\(b\)](#), [24 CFR § 903.19](#))

C.3 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.

C.4 Required Submission for HUD FO Review.

Challenged Elements.

- (a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?
- (b) If yes, 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.

(Non-qualified PHAs are only required to complete this section on the Annual PHA Plan. All qualified PHAs must complete this section.)

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 5-Year PHA Plan. The 5-Year PHA Plan provides the PHA's mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families and the progress made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 1.64 hours per year per response or 8.2 hours per response every five years, 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.

PHA 5 Year Plan Goals

Housing Authority of the County of Humboldt

Progress Report – July 2023

Goal One: **Maximize Voucher Utilization**

The Housing Authority of the County of Humboldt (“The PHA”) makes every effort to utilize up to 100% of the Annual Contributions Contract, or more as allowed based on draws of HUD-held reserves.

To achieve this, the PHA shall maintain a waiting list of size sufficient to issue vouchers and lease-up clients to utilize at least 96% of our Annual Contributions Contract funding. The PHA will advertise in at least one local publication quarterly, as long as the wait list is open, in order to make the public aware of our open waitlist. Additionally, the PHA will seek opportunities with other local agencies to do outreach and education about our housing programs to diverse populations, at minimum once a month, with the goal of furthering voucher utilization.

Update:

As of May 2023, our most recent completed reporting period, overall utilization of CY funding is at 105.69%, with all programs utilizing 96% or more of their annual funding. Exceeding 100% of our annual contributions contract is possible by drawing on our HUD-held reserves to fund any HAP expenses above 100%.

The agency continues to advertise regularly and to do periodic outreach events promoting our voucher programs. Additionally, our Housing Advocate has established strong working relationships with social service agencies and landlords, which helps support both a continued stream of applicants for the programs as well as a source of new landlords/units to support increased program participation.

Goal Two: **Increase Landlord Participation**

When adequate funding is available, the PHA will offer landlord incentives in order to bring in new landlords and/or new units to the HCV program. Additionally, the PHA will continue to enhance and encourage communication with landlords via periodic newsletters, and work to maintain regular contact with landlords via outreach and education that promotes the participation of rental property owners in Humboldt’s voucher assistance payment program.

1. Landlord Newsletter will go out at minimum twice a year.
2. A minimum of 20 landlord contacts will be made monthly with both existing and prospective landlords.
3. A landlord orientation and/or appreciation event will be held at least once annually to acknowledge the landlords' critical role, share client success stories that promote the program, and educate current and prospective landlords about the HCV program.
4. An annual landlord survey will be done via USPS mail with an online response option, seeking input/feedback from landlords. Any relevant feedback will be used to improve operations.

Update:

1. *Landlord newsletter issue 2023-01 sent in April 2023. Second newsletter to be issued in Q3/Q4.*
2. *Housing Advocate routinely calls current and prospective landlords to discuss our programs, answer questions, and seek new units for participants. We have added 20 new landlords since 1/3/2023.*
3. *Landlord appreciation luncheon is scheduled for July 20th, 2023, at the Wharfinger, to acknowledge current landlords, introduce potential new landlords, and share news/updates.*

Goal Three: **Utilize Project Based Vouchers to Expand the Supply of Assisted Housing**

The PHA's Project Based Voucher (PBV) program will continue to seek opportunities to release further PBV's to the community and partner with local agencies and/or developers to allocate PBV's that increase affordable housing units in Humboldt County. RFPs will be published as needed and when determined to be consistent with the financial and programmatic goals of the agency.

The PHA may administer vouchers for the City of Eureka Housing Authority ("City") in support of the City's repositioning of its Public Housing stock and retaining or increasing affordable units. A resolution of support for the City of Eureka Housing Authority's Repositioning Plan was approved at a regularly scheduled board meeting on July 11, 2022.

Update:

1. *25 PBVs live in 2020, Bayview Heights (veterans), Eureka*
2. *5 PBVs live in 2022, Sorrel Place (30% AMI), Arcata*
3. *35 PBVs expected 8/2023, Laurel Canyon (seniors), Eureka*
4. *42 PBVs expected 12/2023, Providence Mother Bernard House (homeless), Eureka*

5. *In combination with the Housing Authority of the City of Eureka's repositioning goals, we anticipate converting additional tenant-based vouchers to project-based to support new construction.*
6. *We will continue to seek further opportunities to use project based vouchers to bring new permanent housing to Humboldt County.*

Goal Four: **HUD Performance Evaluation & Quality of Assistance**

In its last scored year for SEMAP (based on 2019 operations), the PHA maintained a SEMAP rating of High Performer. The PHA aims to continue receiving the highest possible score under Section 8 Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) and strives to maintain "High Performer" status.

1. The PHA will continue to perform quality control checks on tenant files, income calculations, and inspections as allowed.
2. Upon receipt of HUD certified SEMAP scoring, results will be presented to the Board of Commissioners.
3. For any score less than "High Performer" a remediation plan will be implemented and presented with the scoring.

Update:

2022 was the first year that SEMAP scoring has been done by HUD since the COVID-19 pandemic was declared. For 2022, HACH received a "standard" rating with a score of 88%. This was due to noncompliance with the requirement to perform Quality Control Inspections (QCIs). These QCIs have restarted in 2023, with a certain percentage of inspections being redone for quality control purposes, and it is anticipated that HACH will receive "High Performer" status in 2024 once the 2023 SEMAP assessment is done.

Goal Five: **Compliance**

Management will periodically review internal controls to verify appropriate policies and procedures remain in place, up to date, and operating effectively. The PHA will ensure full compliance with all applicable standards and regulations including generally accepted accounting practices (GAAP) and governmental accounting standards board (GASB), with a goal of zero findings in annual audits, with audit report, including any findings, to be made available and presented annually.

1. Completed audit for FYx1 will be presented at a regular board of commissioners' meeting before the end of FYx2.
2. Completed audit report will be posted on agency website.

Update:

The 2022 audit is still in process and will be presented at a future board meeting; no findings are expected at this time. The 2021 audit was presented to the board in Q4-2022 and had no findings.

Goal Six: **Employee Morale**

The PHA will promote and maintain a motivating work environment that attracts highly talented applicants and acknowledges a capable team of employees.

1. Budget will be allocated, approved and available to send appropriate staff to training seminars that will allow employees to gain new knowledge and/or enhance staff skills for their particular job classification and responsibilities.
2. On-demand training will be available to all staff and periodically assigned by management through a contract with HTVN.
3. Management will review training progress quarterly to identify possible opportunities for training that align with agency needs and support gaps in employee skills or knowledge.
4. The PHA will acknowledge staff monthly for their achievements by providing an employee recognition award to an employee selected by the management team.

Update:

1. *Staff have attended both online and in-person trainings as relevant opportunities have become available.*
2. *Due to increased costs of training and travel, it is anticipated that the per-employee training budget will be increased in 2024, to continue allowing staff access to the best training opportunities relevant to our niche market.*
3. *Quarterly training updates reports are provided for management to review utilization of training budgets; it is anticipated the budget will be 100% utilized for 2023.*
4. *Management continues to select and recognize an employee each month for recognition of their contributions to the agencies.*

Goal Seven: **Technology and Accessibility**

The PHA will add to our selection of resources available online in order to remove barriers to accessibility, better meet our client's needs to access and complete paperwork remotely, and offer multiple methods to successfully communicate with agency staff.

We will periodically assess the need to add data to the website. The following documents will be available online, at a minimum:

1. Application
2. Notice of Change

3. Recertification paperwork
4. Board meeting agendas
5. Administrative Plan
6. PHA Plan

Update: The above noted documents continue to be available and updated as necessary on our website. We also post general announcements such as job openings, waitlist openings, and other updates to our website as they come up.

Goal Eight: **Mainstream Vouchers**

The Mainstream Vouchers program was added in 2020 to bring more opportunity to the disabled community. A limited preference was added which allows for voucher placement based on referrals from Continuum of Care participating agencies for up to 50 active vouchers for people/families who are non-elderly, disabled, formerly homeless and participating in a Permanent Supportive Housing or Rapid Re-Housing program.

Per HUD's program requirements, the PHA aims to have at least 80% of these vouchers leased annually. This will be accomplished by:

1. Monthly or more frequent (as needed) meetings and communications with partner agencies to discuss, review and encourage referrals;
2. Housing Advocate working as liaison between the PHA and partner agencies to facilitate completion of paperwork, education of social workers and program participants, and continued outreach to landlords to add new units/landlords; and
3. Regularly pulling eligible applicants from the waitlist for screening/briefing and issuance of vouchers.

Update:

1. *Though partner agencies have been more focused on providing referrals for EHV's (see goal #9), the Housing Advocate is still working with them to also obtain referrals for Mainstream vouchers.*
2. *PHA continues to work with partner agencies to help complete paperwork, educate staff, and add landlords/units for Mainstream clients.*
3. *As of 7/1/2023, there are both referral clients and waitlist clients searching for housing with Mainstream vouchers. It is anticipated that this program will be at least 80% utilized by 12/31/2023.*

Goal Nine: **Emergency Housing Vouchers**

The Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) program was added in 2021 to bring more opportunity to community members most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This program requires that referrals for the 182 vouchers be made from the local Continuum of Care, Humboldt Housing and Homeless Coalition (HHHC), or by a domestic violence service provider, Humboldt Domestic Violence Services (HDVS), to the PHA, for voucher issuance. A dedicated EHV Housing Specialist works with the clients and referring partners to process paperwork, help find potential housing, make referrals to other agencies for supportive services, and generally support the success of the client in the EHV program. Vouchers may be issued until 9/30/2023. Thereafter, the existing vouchers will be funding through at least 2030, but EHV's can no longer be issued.

With the assistance of the HHHC, the PHA aims to utilize at least 80% of these vouchers, or 146 vouchers, by 9/30/2023. This will be accomplished by :

1. Monthly analysis of program success, including statistical reports, tracking:
 - a. Referrals received
 - b. Monthly vouchers issued (searching)
 - c. Monthly vouchers leased up (housed)
 - d. Total Vouchers issued and outstanding (searching)
 - e. Total Vouchers leased up
 - f. Program dollars used and available (monthly and program to date)
 - g. Landlord contacts and results
 - h. Other metrics as determined relevant
2. Caseworker outreach to landlords and actively seeking opportunities to pair voucher holders with open units in the rental market.

Update:

1. *Program metrics continue to be reviewed monthly. The dedicated EHV caseworker participates in CoC weekly case conferencing to help coordinate referrals for EHV's.*
2. *As of 7/1/2023, 70% of vouchers are leased up and providing assistance. Another 18% are actively searching for housing to lease-up in and utilize EHV assistance.*
3. *EHV caseworker continues to work in office as well as in the field, meeting with landlords and other social service agencies to get referrals completed, assist participants with locating housing, and educating landlords about the program and various EHV incentives, in order to increase utilization.*

Goal Ten

Customer Feedback

In order to provide for continuous improvement, the PHA will use various methods to invite feedback from interested parties, including voucher clients, landlords, community members, and staff.

We will provide an annual survey to clients to ask for their feedback and input on specific areas of focus.

We will implement a standard feedback process for any parties concerned for reporting issues, suggesting changes, and otherwise seeking answers.

Update:

An online survey has been made available so feedback can be provided 24/7. Go to

<https://eurekahumboldt.org/PHACustomerSurvey>.