WELCOME

THE SESSION WILL BEGIN SHORTLY

1. CONNECT TO AUDIO
   Select the Phone Icon and choose call in or Call Using Computer

2. ACTIVATE CHAT OPTION
   Select the chat icon. Expand the chat box and set to chat to “All Participants”
FAMILY UNIFICATION PROGRAM HOUSING VOUCHERS:
Maximizing Opportunities for Families and Young Adults through the 2019 NOFA

Presented by CSH & CLPHA
November 21, 2019
HOST INTRODUCTIONS

CSH
- **Andrew Johnson**, Senior Program Manager

Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
- **Emily Warren**, Senior Research and Policy Analyst
PARTICIPANT POLL

Let us know what type of organization you represent.

• Housing Provider
• Homeless Service Provider
• Homeless Continuum of Care organization
• Public Housing Authority
• State or Local Health or Human Service Agency
• Other Family or Youth Service Provider
• Other (comment in chat)
About CSH

CSH (Corporation for Supportive Housing)

• National non-profit organization advancing solutions that use housing as a platform for services to improve lives, maximize public resources and build healthy communities.

One Roof

• Collaborative initiative – child welfare and housing
• Resources and Tools
• 1RoofFamilies.org
About CLPHA

The Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA)

- National non-profit organization that works to preserve and improve public and affordable housing through advocacy, research, policy analysis, and public education.

**Housing Is Initiative**

- Resources
- Collaborative Tools
- [www.HousingIs.org](http://www.HousingIs.org)
INTRODUCTIONS

Local Presenters
- **Kristen Cane**, Housing Authority of Snohomish County, WA
- **Heather Coughlin**, Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority, OH

Chat Moderators
- **Abra Lyons-Warren**, CLPHA
- **Kevin Solarte**, CSH
- **Leah Lindstrom Rhea**, CSH
TODAY’S AGENDA

- Overview of FUP
- Details of 2019 FUP NOFA
- Spotlight on Promising Practices
  - Akron, OH
  - Snohomish County, WA
- Facilitated Q&A and Discussion
Family Unification Program Overview

• Program Applicant and Administration
  • Public Housing Authorities (PHA) currently administering Housing Choice Vouchers

• Program Partners
  • PHA, in partnership with Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA) and Continuum of Care (CoC)

• Target Population
  • Families for whom the lack of adequate housing is a primary factor in:
    • The imminent placement of the family’s child or children in out-of-home care, or
    • The delay in the discharge of the child or children to the family from out-of-home care.
  • Youth ages 18 through 24 years who:
    • Left foster care at age 16 or older, or will leave foster care within 90 days, and
    • is homeless or is at risk of becoming homeless
Family Unification Program Overview

1990
- FUP for families authorized by Congress

2000
- FUP for youth authorized by Congress
- Housing Opportunities Modernization Act (HOTMA)

2016
- Authorized extension of FUP youth vouchers to 36 months
- Expanded eligibility for youth at risk of homelessness within 90 days of foster care exit
- Authorized project based voucher option
FUP-Related Activities

• Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Initiative
  • Announced in July 2019
  • Provides vouchers to FUP-eligible youth through a different HUD account (Tenant Protection Vouchers – TPVs)
  • Vouchers can be used for up to 36 months (just like regular FUP vouchers)
  • Vouchers available on demand, must be requested by the PHA
  • PHA must be current HCV administrator, not currently administer FUP, have partnership with their PWCA
  • More information available on HUD’s website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/fyi_tpv
2019 FUP NOFA

Program Goals

• Increase coordination between PHA, PCWA, and CoC
• Leverage data to strategically allocate and use resources
• Increase supportive services for families and youth
• Strengthen connections to the HUD Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) or similar programs

Applications

• Due December 17, 2019

FUP Utilization

• 90% or higher FUP utilization, or
• 12 month action plan

Required Signed Attachments

• Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
• Statement of Need
• Rating Factors Certification
FUP NOFA - Statement of Need

PHA with PCWA and CoC data

Unmet Need for FUP vouchers

Number of FUP eligible Families

Number of FUP eligible Youth

Request for vouchers needed over 12 months
FUP NOFA - MOU

- Parties - PHA, PCWA, and CoC
- Newly executed MOU required
- Clear/detailed descriptions including roles, responsibilities, services, and commitments
- Designated staff from each partner
- MOU collaborative partner meetings
Rating Factors

To qualify for 2019 FUP NOFA rating factor points, a Rating Factor Certification signed by PHA must be submitted.

- Housing Search Assistance in Low Poverty Areas
  - neighborhood tours, unit viewings, landlord intros
- Financial Assistance
  - moving costs, security deposits, utility startup/arrears
- Previous Coordination – PHA, PCWA, CoC
- Post-Move Counseling
- Case Management for FUP Families
- FSS or other Self-Sufficiency Programs
- Supportive Services for FUP Youth to 36 Months
Building Blocks of Successful Implementation

FUP and Supportive Housing

Housing

Supportive Services
Spotlight on FUP
Promising Practices
AKRON METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY, OH

Background

- AMHA was awarded 12 FUP vouchers effective 1/1/2019
- AMHA has been giving housing preference points to emancipated youth since 2009
- The Emancipated Youth Work Group meets monthly to discuss status and any issues with housed youth
- Resident Services role
- Summit County Children Services role
Current Collaboration - The Players

AMHA
- Heather Coughlin, Resident Services
- Valerie Kirkland, Housing Placement
- Shary Page, Housing Choice Voucher Program
- Debbie Barry, Deputy Director

Children Services
- Tracy Mayfield, Protective Specialized Services
- Sara Woolridge, Social Services
- Cheyenne Boyd, Social Services
- 90 Protective Services case workers

Continuum of Care
- Mar-quetta Boddie, CoC Manager
Collaboration: Regular Meetings

• FUP meetings held 1-2 times per month with all partners attending
• Discuss strategies and troubleshoot obstacles to:
  Getting referrals
  Getting clients processed
  Getting clients housed
  Addressing client needs/next steps
Referral Process - Families

• All referrals come from Children Services
  • Family case workers submit referral to Tracy for eligibility pre-screening
  • Tracy submits referrals to Valerie in AMHA Housing Placement
  • Valerie processes the housing application and communicates to Tracy and/or the Children Services case worker if any documentation is missing
• Referral updates are discussed in FUP partner meetings
Referral Process - Youth

- Already streamlined due to giving preference to Emancipated Youth for the past 10 years
- 1 worker at Children Services (Cheyenne) providing services
- Cheyenne sends referral to Valerie
- Valerie processes housing application and communicates any issues to Cheyenne
- Cheyenne works with the youth to find housing, security deposit, and helps reinforce housing rules
- Cheyenne and Resident Services staff meet monthly to discuss the Emancipated Youth housed by AMHA
Getting families and youth processed for vouchers

- Families and youth often have a difficult time looking for and being approved for housing.
- For FUP Youth: Cheyenne Boyd works closely with the youth and coaches them on housing search: what to say, what not to say.
- For FUP Families: Individual case workers link families to housing options as needed.
- New FUP voucher holders are encouraged to seek housing via [http://summithousingsearch.org/](http://summithousingsearch.org/)
Follow up services to families and youth

- AMHA Resident Services reaches out to all new FUP participants to let them know about our Family Self-Sufficiency Program and Early Childhood programming

- As more families are housed, case management/service coordination needs will be discussed in FUP partner meetings

- For FUP Youth: Cheyenne continues to provide services as needed.

- For Emancipated Non-FUP Youth: Cheyenne provides services as needed until age 24, in collaboration with AMHA Resident Services staff
Housing Preference Points: making room for more FUP participants

- AMHA will offer a preference to obtain a traditional Housing Choice Voucher after FUP Youth voucher reaches 36 month limit.
- Even before FUP, we have been giving preference points to Emancipated Youth (up to 50 slots since 2009).
Future Goals

• Implement a tracking process between agencies to measure our goals and standards of success in administering the program, as outlined in our MOU

• Foster communication between SCCS and AMHA frontline staff to ensure family success (this is already being done with youth)
Family Unification Program

Housing Authority of Snohomish County, WA

Kristen Cane
Director of Development & Policy
Snohomish County, WA

• In Seattle Metro Area
• 800,000 residents
• 2nd fastest growing county in WA
• $31/hour living wage for single parent
• $2,099 2-bedroom FMR
FUP Phase I

- Program started in 2011 with FY2010 award
- 50 FUP vouchers:
  - 40 families
  - 10 youth

HASCO (PHA)

DCYF (PCWA)
- Youthnet

County (CoC)
- Volunteers of America
- Catholic Community Services
### FUP Phase I: Workflow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Client Identification and Referral</th>
<th>Housing Search and Lease-up</th>
<th>Housing Stabilization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Families</strong></td>
<td>DCYF</td>
<td>County / NPs</td>
<td>County / NPs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth</strong></td>
<td>Youthnet</td>
<td>Youthnet</td>
<td>Youthnet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Youthnet and DCYF are critical for the initial stages of the FUP Phase I workflow, focusing on client identification and referral. Following this, County / NPs take over for housing search and lease-up, ensuring a smooth transition to housing stabilization managed by Youthnet.
FUP Phase I: Lessons Learned

• Most vulnerable families were not being served
• Program design did not incorporate the perspectives of families with lived experience
• Client identification process resulted in racial disparities
### FUP Phase I: Racial Disparities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Families of Color</th>
<th>White Families</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Families with CPS open cases</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families in coordinated entry</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families in poverty</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families in coordinated entry + CPS</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families in FUP</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FUP Phase II: Keeping Families Together

- Pilot project
- 18 existing FUP vouchers from FY2010 award
- Regional collaboration supported by CSH
- Explicit goals to:
  - Address racial disparities
  - Serve highly vulnerable families at intersection of homeless and child welfare systems
1. Referrals and support services from Youthnet, FUP vouchers from HASCO
2. Referrals from DCYF, support services from County, FUP vouchers from HASCO
3. Referrals from DCYF, YWCA Parent for Parent Program, and Coordinated Entry; Support services from HASCO or County, FUP vouchers from HASCO
4. Referrals from Coordinated Entry, support services from County, Rapid Rehousing vouchers from County
FUP Phase II: Keeping Families Together

**Partnership Development**
- Built on previous relationships with DCYF and CoC
- Private philanthropy temporarily funding services and rapid rehousing components
- New family and nonprofit partners to increase equitable access to program

**Program Implementation**
- Developed family vulnerability assessment and new workflow
- Removed HCV non-mandatory denial criteria for FUP
- Built internal capacity for services provision
## FUP Phase II: Workflow

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Client Identification and Referral</th>
<th>Housing Search and Lease-up</th>
<th>Housing Stabilization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Families</strong></td>
<td>DCYF</td>
<td>County</td>
<td>County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KFT Families</strong></td>
<td>DCYF or Nonprofit Coordinated Entry</td>
<td>HASCO</td>
<td>HASCO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Youth</strong></td>
<td>Youthnet</td>
<td>Youthnet</td>
<td>Youthnet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FUP Phase II: Keeping Families Together

**Challenges**
- Broader decision-making structure
- Defining family vulnerability
- Aligning CE and HCV policies and practices
- Service funding sustainability

**Opportunities**
- Accessing Title IV-E and Medicaid funding for services
- Inclusion of family voice
- Improving data collection and tracking metrics
- Addressing systemic racial disparities
Thank You

Kristen Cane
Director of Development and Policy
Housing Authority of Snohomish County

kcane@hasco.org  www.hasco.org
Bringing it all together...

What questions do you have?

Do you have tips to share?
Working with Partners

• PHA, PCWA and CoC collaboration
  • Engage leadership to assess joint priorities, interest and collective capacity
  • Operationalize with key staff and liaisons from across partner agencies

• Educate partners
  • Avoid sector specific jargon and acronyms
  • Provide foundational information about goals, mandates, and programs
  • Assume positive intent, as all face resource and capacity limitations
  • Honor the sector specific expertise that each partner brings to the table

• Explore data sharing capacity
  • To develop statement of need
  • For longer term coordination, monitoring and evaluation

• Jointly develop identification, referral and prioritization strategy

• Broaden and formalize public agency and community provider partnerships
  • Create additional MOUs with Community Partners or include in FUP MOU
  • Engage and build a cross-sector network for the long term
Federal Agency Resources

HUD:
• FUP webpage - NOFA, Webinar video/slides, and FAQ
  https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/family
  • Submit questions to HUD: 2019FUPNOFA@hud.gov

HHS – ACF, Children’s Bureau:
• Building Partnerships to Support Stable Housing for Child Welfare-Involved Families and Youth
  https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/bulletins_housing.pdf
• Information Memo - Family and Youth Homelessness

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness:
• Ending Youth Homelessness https://www.usich.gov/goals/youth/
• Ending Family Homelessness https://www.usich.gov/goals/families/
CSH and CLPHA Resources

Keep up to date:

csh.org  1RoofFamilies.org  clpha.org  HousingIs.org

CSH and CLPHA will provide a webinar recording of today’s session.
Contacts

CSH
• Andrew Johnson, Senior Program Manager
  • andrew.johnson@csh.org
Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
• Emily Warren, Sr. Research and Policy Analyst
  • ewarren@clpha.org
Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
• Heather Coughlin
  • hcoughlin@akronhousing.org
Housing Authority of Snohomish County
• Kristen Cane
  • kcane@hasco.org
THANK YOU!

clpha.org

csh.org