

# **Exhibit 11-10**

## **Foster Youth to Independence Initiative (FYI) Voucher Program**

Rental assistance for youth under the Foster Youth to Independence Initiative Voucher Program (FYI-TPV) was authorized in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019 (2019 Appropriations Act; Public Law 116-6, approved February 15, 2019). The FYI Voucher Program at AHFC combines rental assistance with services overseen by the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services.

AHFC signed Amendment One to the Memorandum of Agreement for the Making A Home Program. In this Amendment AHFC and DHSS agreed to expand the number of youth served by incorporating FYI into the referral process. AHFC agrees to administer the housing assistance and DHSS agrees to identify eligible youth and oversee the social service providers.

### **1. Voucher Increments**

These vouchers are governed by the rules set forth in [Public & Indian Housing Notice 2020-28](#), October 6, 2020 and Housing Choice Voucher Program regulations at 24 CFR 982. Under the PIH Notice, AHFC is limited to a maximum of 25 FYI vouchers in a fiscal year<sup>1</sup>. AHFC received FYI vouchers in the following increments.

- HUD funded 21 vouchers effective [November 1, 2019](#).
- HUD funded 25 vouchers total effective [December 1, 2020](#).

#### **1.A Administration**

AHFC will administer FYI vouchers under the same rules as a Moving to Work Setaside Program Voucher except as described in the sections below. In general,

1. FYI vouchers are issued to DHSS referrals only.
2. FYI vouchers returned to AHFC must be offered to the next, eligible FYI referral.
3. FYI vouchers has its own monthly budget report as these vouchers have a separate funding stream. These vouchers are in addition to each office's regular voucher allocation.
4. FYI families may transfer to another AHFC voucher area by following AHFC's current policy in the Family Moves exhibit.
5. FYI vouchers are eligible for portability out of the state of Alaska by following AHFC's current policy in the Family Portability exhibit.
6. These vouchers are reported to HUD. This means staff is required to follow EIV procedures.

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<sup>1</sup> AHFC can request an additional increment of 25 FYI vouchers if the initial allocation of 25 FYI vouchers has a utilization rate of 90 percent.

## **1.B Eligible Population**

FYI vouchers are reserved for those families who meet HUD's definitions stated in the Definitions section of this exhibit.

- Eligible Household
- Homeless or At Risk of Homeless Youth.

DHSS will perform these verifications and keep the documentation in its file records.

## **1.C FYI Term**

These vouchers are limited to 36 individual months of subsidy (Central Office will track this). When adult household members are added, the new adult household member's participation will end on the same schedule established at the family's initial participation even if all of the original adult household members leave the family.

## **1.D Program Locations**

FYI assistance is available in all AHFC voucher communities. Because these vouchers are awarded to a specific individual, the individual may choose the AHFC voucher community where they wish to live.

## **1.E DHSS Information Requests**

Families interested in this program must be referred through DHSS.

## **2. Waiting Lists**

AHFC will not run a waiting list for FYI applicants. When an FYI voucher becomes available, AHFC will request the next eligible referral from DHSS.

### **PIH Notice 2021-26<sup>2</sup>**

Any youth certified by the PCWA as eligible and not on the HCV waiting list must be placed on the waiting list (pending HCV eligibility determination). If the PHA has a closed HCV waiting list, it must reopen the waiting list and place on the waiting list an FYI applicant youth who is not currently on the PHA's HCV waiting list. The PHA may reopen the waiting list to accept an FYI eligible youth without opening the waiting list for other applicants.

These families may apply for other open AHFC rental assistance programs such as the Public Housing (PH) program while participating in the FYI program. All applicants for

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<sup>2</sup> [Public and Indian Housing Notice 2021-26](#), *Foster Youth to Independence Initiative*, issued September 3, 2021; amends PIH Notice 2020-28 and remains in effect until amended, superseded, or rescinded.

AHFC's programs are placed on waiting lists in accordance with AHFC's policy and eligibility requirements at the time of application.

### **3. Applicant Screening**

FYI applicants are subject to the same criteria as other voucher families. Applicant families that are ineligible will receive the Ineligibility Notice along with the Applicant Informal Review. AHFC will copy the service provider point of contact with the Ineligibility Notice so they may assist the family.

### **4. Program Operations**

All opportunities available to MTW voucher families are available to FYI families. The following sections detail exceptions to HCV Administrative Plan operations.

#### **4.A 50058 Coding**

All FYI 50058s created must have code "FYI" in line 2n. These vouchers will be reported in the Voucher Management System in category "Family Unification - Non MTW."

#### **4.B Enterprise Income Verification (EIV)**

These vouchers are reported to HUD. Therefore, rules regarding Enterprise Income Verification (EIV) apply.

#### **4.A Briefing and Voucher Issuance**

See the Applicant, Participant, and Owner Briefing exhibit for briefing materials. See the Issuance and Shopping exhibit for the voucher term and extensions.

#### **4.B Examinations**

All FYI families will be subject to annual income and composition examinations. Families are not required to maintain supportive services in order to remain eligible for FYI continuing assistance.

#### **4.C Inspection Requirements**

FYI vouchers will follow the inspection requirements as set forth in the Housing Quality Standards Inspections chapter.

#### **4.D Moves and Ports**

For families with less than 12 months of assistance that wish to move to a new unit, see section How Many Moves in the Leasing chapter. Families are eligible:

- To move their FYI voucher to any AHFC community with a voucher program.

- To port their FYI voucher to any housing authority outside Alaska that administers a voucher program. AHFC will administer portability under standard HUD regulations.

#### **4.E Data Monitoring**

The Central Office will produce a report monthly for staff use. This report will be shared with DHSS to assess current budget usage, status of shopping vouchers, number of vouchers leased, and number of available vouchers.

### **5. Archiving**

Staff will follow archiving procedures for HCV when archiving FYI files. This includes ineligible and withdrawn applicant and participant files.

### **6. HUD Application Process**

AHFC will adhere to the requirements as stated in PIH Notice 2020-28.

### **7. Definitions**

#### **7.A Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA)**

PCWA means the agency that is responsible under applicable State law for determining that a child is at imminent risk of placement in out-of-home care or that a child in out-of-home care under the supervision of the public agency may be returned to his or her family, or that a youth is at least 18 years and not more than 24 years of age and left foster care, or will leave foster care within 90 days, in accordance with a transition plan described in section 475(5)(H) of the Social Security Act, and is homeless or is at risk of becoming homeless at age 16 or older.

For purposes of this program, the PCWA is the State of Alaska Office of Children's Services.

#### **7.B Eligible Household**

A youth certified by a PCWA as meeting the following conditions:

- a) Has attained at least 18 years and not more than 24 years of age;
- b) Has left foster care, or will leave foster care within 90 days, in accordance with a transition plan described in section 475(5)(H) of the Social Security Act at age 16 or older; and
- c) Is homeless or is at risk of becoming homeless at age 16 or older.

Eligibility is not limited to single persons. Youth may be pregnant or have custody of minor children.

### **7.C Homeless**

Homeless (24 CFR 578.3) means:

- (a) An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:
  - (i) An individual or family with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground;
  - (ii) An individual or family living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals); or
  - (iii) An individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution;
- (b) An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:
  - (i) The primary nighttime residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
  - (ii) No subsequent residence has been identified; and
  - (iii) The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, needed to obtain other permanent housing;
- (c) Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:
  - (i) Are defined as homeless under section 387 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a), section 637 of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832), section 41403 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2), section 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)), section 3 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012), section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)), or section 725 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a);
  - (ii) Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during the 60 days immediately preceding the date of application for homeless assistance;

- (iii) Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during the 60-day period immediately preceding the date of applying for homeless assistance; and
  - (iv) Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities; chronic physical health or mental health conditions; substance addiction; histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect); the presence of a child or youth with a disability; or two or more barriers to employment, which include the lack of a high school degree or General Education Development (GED), illiteracy, low English proficiency, a history of incarceration or detention for criminal activity, and a history of unstable employment; or
- (d) Any individual or family who:
- (i) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member, including a child, that has either taken place within the individual's or family's primary nighttime residence or has made the individual or family afraid to return to their primary nighttime residence;
  - (ii) Has no other residence; and
  - (iii) Lacks the resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, and faith-based or other social networks, to obtain other permanent housing.

**7.D At Risk of Becoming Homeless (24 CFR 576.2)**

- (a) An individual or family who:
- (i) Has an annual income below 30 percent of median family income for the area, as determined by HUD;
  - (ii) Does not have sufficient resources or support networks, e.g., family, friends, faith-based or other social networks, immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place described in paragraph (1) of the "homeless" definition in this section; and
  - (iii) Meets one of the following conditions:
    - (A) Has moved because of economic reasons two or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for homelessness prevention assistance;
    - (B) Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship;
    - (C) Has been notified in writing that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance;
    - (D) Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost of the hotel or motel stay is not paid by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals;

- (E) Lives in a single-room occupancy or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than two persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than 1.5 persons reside per room, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau;
  - (F) Is exiting a publicly funded institution, or system of care (such as a health-care facility, a mental health facility, foster care or other youth facility, or correction program or institution); or
  - (G) Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient's approved consolidated plan;
- (b) A child or youth who does not qualify as "homeless" under this section, but qualifies as "homeless" under section 387(3) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a(3)), section 637(11) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9832(11)), section 41403(6) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6)), section 330(h)(5)(A) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b(h)(5)(A)), section 3(m) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2012(m)), or section 17(b)(15) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b)(15)); or
- (c) A child or youth who does not qualify as "homeless" under this section, but qualifies as "homeless" under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)), and the parent(s) or guardian(s) of that child or youth if living with her or him.

## **7.E Required Supportive Services**

The services listed in (A) through (E) below must be provided for a period of 36 months to FUP-eligible youth receiving rental assistance through this notice. A FUP-eligible youth cannot be required to participate in these services as condition of receipt of the voucher.

- A. Basic life skills information/counseling on money management, use of credit, housekeeping, proper nutrition/meal preparation; and access to health care (e.g., doctors, medication, and mental and behavioral health services).
- B. Counseling on compliance with rental lease requirements and with HCV program participant requirements, including assistance/referrals for assistance on security deposits, utility hook-up fees, and utility deposits.
- C. Providing such assurances to owners of rental property as are reasonable and necessary to assist a FUP-eligible youth to rent a unit with a voucher.
- D. Job preparation and attainment counseling (where to look/how to apply, dress, grooming, and relationships with supervisory personnel, etc.).

- E. Educational and career advancement counseling regarding attainment of general equivalency diploma (GED); attendance/financing of education at a technical school, trade school or college; including successful work ethic and attitude models.

**Numbered Memo**

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