# **Arlington Housing Authority**

A Division of Community Development and Planning

### 2018 Multi-Family Training Workshop

Jesse Lopez, MBA

Housing Coordinator - Housing Choice Voucher Program



#### Housing Choice Voucher Program

- AHA currently serves approximately 3,370 families each year
  - ▶ 45% of our families are elderly and/or disabled
  - ▶ 50% of our families have children under that age of 18
  - ▶ 93% have income
- ▶ We cannot use all of our vouchers due to rising costs. As a tenant income increases, so does their portion of rent.
- We re-certify eligibility annually
- In fiscal year 2018, AHA received a budget of \$25.8MM to provide rental assistance
- ► Tenants pay 30% of their monthly income toward rent, AHA pays the difference by direct deposit to the landlord
- Currently, 810 landlords participate
- On any given day, approximately 100 families are holding a voucher, looking for a place to live

#### Family Self-Sufficiency Program

- ► Voluntary program for HCV clients
- ▶ 5 year contracts includes action plan managed by their caseworker
- ➤ Coordinate with employer, non-profits and other social service agencies to assist participants in achieving their goals.
- ▶ Participant goal increase income; improve employability, education and credit score; complete other established goals; become self sufficient and no longer need rental assistance

#### **Boutique Programs**

- Veterans rental assistance
  - ► Clients are homeless veterans
  - Receive case management from VA
- Family Nurse Partnership
  - Clients are female, age 18-24, pregnant, unmarried and homeless
  - Receive case management for 2 years from RN
- Family Unification Program
  - Clients are referred by Department of Family and Protective Services
  - Designed to keep families together

- Shelter Plus Care
  - Clients are homeless and disabled
  - Receive case management from AHA
- Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
  - Transitional program for clients that are homeless and/or low income
  - Receive case management from AHA
- Homeless Housing & Services Program (HHSP)
  - Clients are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless
  - Prevents eviction & can provide temporary hotel stay

#### What are our families looking for?

- ► Safe, decent and sanitary housing
- ▶ Better opportunities for their children
- Close proximity to employment and amenities, family and friends
- ► Housing in areas of low poverty concentrations
- ► Availability of 1 and 2 bedroom units

# Types of units we are looking for









#### What to expect from an Inspection

- ► AHA enforces HUD's Housing Quality Standards (HQS) which are minimum standards to ensure unit is safe, decent and sanitary. HQS is the Federal Standards set by HUD.
- Common fail items
  - ► Smoke detectors
  - ► Windows that do not stay open
  - ► Keyed locks on interior doors
- ➤ Our HQS team completes inspections for Moves, Annual Recertifications, and Reasonable Accommodations.
- ► Approximately 10,000 inspections are completed annually

# Benefits to working with Arlington Housing Authority

- ▶ Direct deposit of our rent portion on the first of the month
- Weekly payments deposits for mid-month lease up
- Online portal for landlords to view payments, download documents, request rent increases, and to contact AHA electronically.
- ► Enforcement of the Family Obligations policy
- Perform criminal background checks on all new participants, but landlords are still encouraged to complete their own background checks also.
- Ensure that tenant's don't have outstanding debt to a landlord in a federally assisted program
- ► Landlords will need to enforce the terms of their lease
- ► Bi-annual and courtesy inspections

# Survey Question How have you personally benefited from being a landlord in the HCV Program?

Less turnover and repair - A. Bowden

Rent arrives like clockwork - G. Marshall

Able to relax when it comes to the rent payment – P. Johnson

Have long term renter – M. Young

It has decreased tenant turnover – K. Berkhof

Get rental payment on time – M. Zhu

Getting to work with some really good people - H. Evans

Q & A