

Attachment: pa008b01
Harrisburg Housing Authority
Deconcentration Policy

**DE-CONCENTRATION AND INCOME TARGETING POLICY
FOR THE
HARRISBURG HOUSING AUTHORITY
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**

Adopted by Board of Commissioners

Resolution No.: _____

Date of Adoption: _____

DE-CONCENTRATION AND INCOME TARGETING POLICY
(of the Public Housing Admissions and Occupancy Policy)

Sub-Title A, Section 513 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (QHWRA), establishes two interrelated requirements for implementation by Public Housing Authorities: (1) Economic De-concentration of public housing developments and (2) Income Targeting to assure that families in the “extremely low” income category are proportionately represented in public housing and that pockets of poverty are reduced or eliminated. In order to implement these new requirements the PHA must promote these provisions as policies and revise their Admission and Occupancy policies and procedures to comply.

Therefore, the Harrisburg Housing Authority, Harrisburg, PA(hereinafter referred to as PHA) hereby affirms its commitment to implementation of the two requirements by adopting the following policies:

A. Economic De-concentration:

Admission and Continued Occupancy Policies are revised to include the PHA’s policy of promoting economic de-concentration. Implementation of this program may require the PHA to determine the median income of residents in each development, determine the average income of residents in all developments, compute the Established Income Range (EIR), determine developments outside the EIR, and provide adequate explanations and/or policies as needed to promote economic de-concentration.

Implementation may include one or more of the following options:

- Skipping families on the waiting list based on income;
- Establishing preferences for working families;
- Establish preferences for families in job training programs;
- Establish preferences for families in education or training programs;
- Marketing campaign geared toward targeting income groups for specific developments;
- Additional supportive services;
- Additional amenities for all units;
- Flat rents for developments and unit sizes;
- Different tenant rent percentages per development;
- Different tenant rent percentages per bedroom size;
- Saturday and evening office hours;
- Security Deposit waivers;
- Revised transfer policies;
- Site-based waiting lists;
- Mass Media advertising/Public service announcements; and
- Giveaways.

B. Income Targeting

As public housing dwelling units become available for occupancy, responsible PHA employees will offer units to applicants on the waiting list. In accordance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, the PHA encourages occupancy of its developments by a broad range of families with incomes up to eighty percent (80%) of the median income for the jurisdiction in which the PHA operates. Depending on the availability of applicants with proper demographics, at a minimum, 40% of all new admissions to public housing **on an annual basis** may be families with incomes at or below thirty percent (30%)(extremely low-income) of the area median income. The offer of assistance will be made without discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap or familial status.

In order to implement the income targeting program, the following policy is adopted:

- < The PHA may select, based on date and time of application and preferences, two (2) families in the extremely low-income category and two (2) families from the lower/very low-income category alternately until the forty percent (40%) admission requirement of extremely low-income families is achieved (2 plus 2 policy).
- < After the minimum level is reached, all selections may be made based solely on date, time and preferences. Any applicants passed over as a result of implementing this 2 plus 2 policy will retain their place on the waiting list and will be offered a unit in order of their placement on the waiting list.
- < To the maximum extent possible, the offers will also be made to effect the PHA's policy of economic de-concentration.
- < The PHA reserves the option, at any time, to reduce the targeting requirement for public housing by no more than ten percent (10%), if it increases the target figure for its Section 8 program from the required level of seventy-five percent (75%) of annual new admissions to no more than eighty-five percent (85%) of its annual new admissions. (Optional for PHAs with both Section 8 and Public Housing programs)

NOTICE

Although The Nelrod Company has made its best efforts to comply with regulations, laws, and Federal/local policies The Nelrod Company does not offer advice on legal matters or render legal opinions. We recommend that this policy be reviewed by the Housing Authority's general counsel and/or attorney prior to approval by the Board of Commissioners.

The Nelrod Company is not responsible for any changes made to these policies by any party other than The Nelrod Company.