



News · Release

The Housing Authority of the City of Austin · P.O. Box 6159 · Austin, Texas 78762

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HACA RECEIVES RENTAL ASSISTANCE VOUCHERS TO UNIFY FAMILIES

WHAT: AUSTIN, Tex. – August 31, 2010 -- The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) was recently awarded additional housing choice vouchers via the U.S. Housing and Urban Development’s Family Unification Program. The 85 vouchers are worth approximately \$708,706 annually.

The Family Unification Program is a partnership between public housing authorities (PHAs) and local child welfare agencies across the country. It will provide housing choice vouchers to youth between 18 and 22 who are leaving the foster care system and are at risk of homelessness. The program will also serve families whose inadequate housing is the primary cause of separation from their children.

Eligible youth may receive a voucher and supportive services for a maximum of 18 months, while services and housing for families are not time-limited.

The last time Austin received the Family Unification Program vouchers was in 1992 and only 15 vouchers were issued at that time. Grants Manager, Eileen Schrandt, says, “The award of the Family Unification Program vouchers indicates HACA’s commitment to effectively partnering with other public service agencies to bring critical resources to the Austin community.” Additionally, HACA was one of only two PHAs to receive the vouchers in the state of Texas.

The Family Unification Program is scheduled to begin serving families in November 2010.

ABOUT HACA: The Housing Authority of the City of Austin is a public agency whose business is to ensure that safe, quality affordable housing opportunities exist for families of low income; break the poverty cycle by serving as a catalyst for our residents to become economically self-sufficient; create meaningful partnerships to maximize available community resources for our residents; and efficiently and effectively meet federal, state and local mandates. For more information, please visit www.hacanet.org.

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