

# HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM WAITING LIST UPDATE

Housing Authority September 27, 2021 Rebecca Lane

Manager, Housing and Community Services

## WAITING LIST PURPOSE

- The Housing Choice Voucher program is a federally funded rental assistance program administered through local Public Housing Authorities (PHA)
- Each PHA has a contract with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for a specific number of vouchers
- There are generally not enough vouchers in the contract to meet local need
- Waiting Lists are established and managed by the PHAs for their local programs

## WAITING LIST STRUCTURE

- The Waiting List is organized by date of application and by lottery within application year
- Limited Preferences apply for specific target populations
  - Homeless referred through Coordinated Entry
  - Disaster survivors referred through recovery center
- Current Waiting List: 2,988 households
  - Separate Waiting Lists are established for Project-Based Voucher sites by surveying all Waiting List households for eligibility and interest in the projects

## WAITING LIST PROCEDURES

- Generally, Waiting List opens for new applicants every two years; updated in the alternate years
- Historical process: paper applications distributed through community partners and in office
- COVID-19 pandemic impacted timeline and procedures

### NEW ONLINE WAITING LIST

In-house program in development since 2019

Allows greater access to wider audience

Reduces administrative burden

Alternate access available for those who request it



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### WAITING LIST OPENING **OUTREACH AND MARKETING**

City of Santa Rosa Community Engagement September 1 at 9:09 AM · 🚱

Waiting List Opening for Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program

Apertura de la lista de espera para el Programa de Vales de Elección de Vivienda de la Sección 8

See Translation







City of Santa Rosa 🥝 @CityofSantaRosa

Starting 9/1, SR Housing Authority is opening the lottery for Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program Waiting List. Residents who wish to be added to the lottery for a chance at placement on the waiting list must apply online between 9/1-10/31. Read more: srcity.org/Waitlist



9:08 AM · Sep 1, 2021 · Twitter Web App

LISTA DE ESPERA APERTURA DE LOTTERÍA SE ABRE - SEPTIEMBRE 1, 2021 SE CIERRA - OCTUBRE 31, 2021

### WAITING LIST OPENING MARKETING AND OUTREACH

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## **ONLINE OPENING STATISTICS**

- 3,303 lottery applications successfully submitted in the first 15 days of opening
- Technical support available 5 days per week
- Alternate access available
- Multiple community partners engaged
- Marketing and outreach will continue through October
  - Radio, social media, press release, interviews
  - Outreach to bilingual and monolingual communities through Community Engagement

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# Questions?

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