FACT SHEET: The Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Fee

The Administrative Fee is one of two types of funding HUD provides to public housing authorities (PHAs) to administer the Housing Choice Voucher program, the largest of the Section 8 programs. The Housing Choice Voucher program provides rental assistance to nearly 2.3 million low-income families, giving them the opportunity to rent privately-owned units in the locations of their choosing. It serves a wide variety of people, including families, seniors, persons with disabilities, households displaced by disasters, homeless veterans, and children aging out of the foster care system.

There are two types of funding used to administer the Housing Choice Voucher program. Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) are solely allocated for rent payments to landlords. Administrative Fees support salaries, administrative duties, and fund many vital resident services, including:

- **Mobility Counseling** - Research has shown that children who move to areas of opportunity have higher lifetime earnings than those who do not. Pre- and post-move mobility counseling helps families find homes and adjust to their new neighborhoods.

- **Security Deposit Assistance** - Helping families with their security deposits can reduce barriers that may prevent them from moving to an area of opportunity.

- **Landlord Outreach** - Finding landlords who accept vouchers can be difficult. PHAs can use administrative fees for landlord outreach and education, and for incentives such as insurance against damages or signing bonuses to new landlords or those in low-poverty neighborhoods.

- **Connections to Jobs and Education** - Used in conjunction with programs such as the Family Self-Sufficiency program, the administrative fee can fund vital services that connect families with potential employers, learn job skills, and enroll in further education.

- **Fraud Reduction** - PHAs use administrative fees to ensure that income certifications and recertifications are properly carried out, and to make sure that only families who properly qualify for housing vouchers are able to use them. Responsible stewardship of federal resources makes sure that every dollar spent by Congress reaches its intended recipients.

The administrative fee is crucial to providing quality services to families in the Housing Choice Voucher Program. Fully funding the administrative fee maximizes the benefits that families receive from the voucher program and ensures that federal dollars are being efficiently utilized. In FY 2017, PHAs received only 77 percent of the Congressionally-determined need.

To see research used to create this fact sheet, please visit: [http://bit.ly/AdminResearch](http://bit.ly/AdminResearch)

**About NAHRO**
NAHRO, established in 1933, is a membership organization of nearly 20,000 housing and community development agencies and professionals throughout the United States whose mission is to create affordable housing and safe, viable communities that enhance the quality of life for all Americans, especially those of low- and moderate-income. NAHRO’s membership administers more than 3 million housing units for 7.6 million people.