

## **PORTABILITY and the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program Offers a Broad Choice In Where To Live**

Now that you are receiving federal housing assistance, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) wants you to have a broad range of choice in where to live. One of the top priorities of HUD is to broaden housing choices for low-income families. The Housing Choice Voucher Program does not restrict where you may live. Often families with low incomes are restricted to high poverty areas. If you live in such an area, your Voucher provides you with the means to move, and you are encouraged to do so.

Moving out of areas of high poverty or low opportunity offers significant advantages to housing choice voucher families. Moving will allow you to select a home in close proximity to better education, jobs, public transportation, public services, and shopping, select a home within a neighborhood that offers the amenities you desire, low crime rate, and/or a home in proximity to the school of your choice for your children. HUD studies show that when families move from high poverty areas, children reach higher levels of school achievement.

### **Where A Family May Move!**

Portability enables a family to move nationwide from one local Housing Authority's jurisdiction to another. Our housing authority will coordinate with the Housing Authority in the jurisdiction to which you would like to move to make your move possible.

Listing of public housing authorities in Maryland:

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/pha/contacts/md](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/pha/contacts/md)

### **Basic Procedures For Transferring Your Assistance To Another Jurisdiction**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1. Contact the Housing Authority where you received your Voucher for permission to transfer.</li></ul>                                                                                           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2. Get the name, address, and phone number of the Receiving PHA in the area where you want to move.</li></ul>                                                                                    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3. Serve proper written Notice to your Landlord (as defined in your Lease) and provide us with a copy.</li></ul>                                                                                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4. Make an appointment with your Housing Specialist to update your eligibility information.</li></ul>                                                                                            |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 5. You will be issued a Transfer Voucher that will expire 120 days from the date of issue. You are encouraged to use it as soon as possible to avoid termination of rental assistance.</li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6. It is your responsibility to contact with the Receiving PHA.</li></ul>                                                                                                                        |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 7. The Receiving PHA's Payment Standards will be used.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 8. Different occupancy standards on the part of the Receiving PHA may change the bedroom size of your Voucher.</li></ul>                                                                         |