



February 17, 2020

## PH PROGRAM NEWS

### HUD Awards \$20 Million to Help PH Residents Find Higher Paying Jobs

In a [press release](#) last Friday, the Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD](#)) announced that it has awarded \$20 million to nine public housing authorities to help low-income residents find higher paying jobs and become self-sufficient through the [Jobs Plus Initiative](#). The goal of the Jobs Plus program is to support work readiness and connect public housing residents with employment, education, and financial empowerment services.

The Jobs Plus program requires PHAs to partner locally with Department of Labor Workforce Development Boards, American Jobs Centers, and community partners, providing wrap-around supportive services to improve employment and earnings outcomes essential to changing the economic prospects of public housing residents. Click [here](#) for a description of the programs funded under this year's awards.

### HUD Publishes Report on Impacts of Credit Reporting on PH Residents

In another [press release](#) last Friday, HUD announced that it has published a [report](#) detailing the findings from a study conducted in partnership with the Policy and Economic Research Council ([PERC](#)) on the potential impacts of credit reporting public housing rental payment data. The impetus behind the study lies in the idea that landlords and property management groups routinely use credit checks to make determinations about renting to potential tenants, and many employers incorporate credit checks into their hiring decisions. As such, a low credit score or credit invisibility—common among households with limited assets or credit histories—can limit housing choice and employment opportunities for low-income families. The study examines potential alternatives to building credit histories, incorporating rental payment data from public housing residents into two credit rating calculation models. Findings indicate that including rental histories in credit reports could increase the proportions of tenants with scorable credit histories and good credit scores, but that the change could also be detrimental to a subset of public housing residents. The complete report can be accessed [here](#).



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