



# Los Angeles PIH Newsletter

NOVEMBER 8, 2007

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**We're on the  
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Editor

## **Local Fires-HUD and partners lending support**

Like all Southern California Residents, HUD staff was concerned about the recent fires, with some of our co-workers evacuated. In response, the Los Angeles Field Office is helping in the recovery effort. Staff has experienced volunteers who are helping assist those displaced by the fires. We are working with the Red Cross, Public Housing Authorities, and all our community partners to help during this transition time.

## **DISASTER HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS (DHAP) PROGRAM**

Pursuant to an Interagency Agreement between HUD and FEMA, HUD will act as the servicing agency for the temporary rental housing program for families displaced from their homes by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Guidance was issued in August 2007 as follows:

### Notice PIH 2007-26, dated August 16, 2007

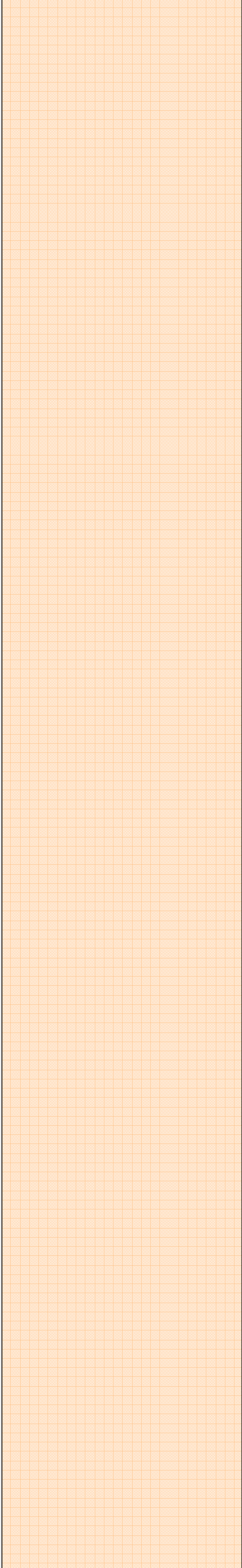
This notice provides the operating requirements for the program. Please read the notice in detail, but the major points are as follows:

- FEMA will determine whether families are eligible for the DHAP program.
- HUD will invite Public Housing Authoritative (PHAs) to participate.
- If selected, the PHA will enter into a grant agreement with FEMA and must assist all eligible families in their jurisdiction.
- PHAs will receive fees for administrative services.
- Administrative fees remaining at the end of DHAP must be used for disaster or emergency-related purposes.
- Rent reasonableness is determined in all other cases
- The PHA may terminate assistance from DHAP for violations of family obligations.

- The PHA uses the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) procedures for conducting the informal hearing.
- The family may request to move with continued assistance.
- The DHAP program terminates as of March 1, 2009.
- DHAP funding may not be used for other activities or costs.
- Funds will be disbursed based on information submitted in the Disaster Information System (DIS).
- The Voucher Management System (VMS) will be revised to collect DHAP leasing and rental subsidy costs.
- Upon conclusion of DHAP, HUD will reconcile reported costs and leasing from VMS and DHAP databases.

## Undine DeSuze's Retirement





Los Angeles Office of Public Housing Staff bid farewell to our friend and colleague Undine DeSuze after 33 years of Federal service. She was a straightforward and congenial friend, and an excellent PIH Information Center (PIC) Coach. We were glad to see her retire happy and healthy.

Pictured are: Back row, left to right: Kirby McMillan, Ted Skonos, Letitia Henderson, Sebastian King. Front row, left to right: Linda Chu, May Miso, Undine DeSuze, Sara Kurzenhauser, Martha Murillo, Alejandra Sigala.

## **Public and Indian Housing Information and Resource Center (PIH IRC)**

HUD PIH has developed a Resource Center for the general public, Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher residents, and Public Housing Agency Staff. You can ask:

- Local agency contact information
- PIH Guidebooks and Notices
- Public Housing, Housing Choice Voucher and Homeownership fact sheets
- Applicable references to Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)

HUD staff has been instructed to refer tenant questions and concerns to the hotline. PHA staff may refer tenants as well.

**Contact: 1-800-955-2232**  
Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST  
Email: [PIHIRC@nelrod.com](mailto:PIHIRC@nelrod.com)  
Fax: (817) 922-8885



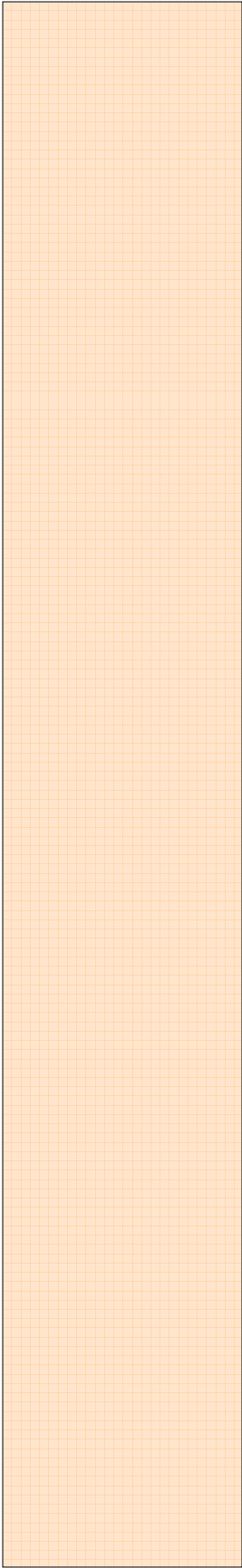
## SAVE THE DATE!!!

### WHAT:

Second Quarterly “Proactive Exchange” with the Los Angeles Office of Public Housing

WHEN: Tuesday, November 13, 2007  
10:00am-12 noon

WHERE: Los Angeles Field Office  
611 W. Sixth Street  
Room 1030 (Please check in at the 8<sup>th</sup> floor  
reception desk)  
Los Angeles, CA 90017



To participate via video conference you can go to either the Santa Ana Field Office or the San Diego Field Office:

Santa Ana Field Office  
34 Civic Center Plaza, Room 7015  
Santa Ana, CA 92701-4003  
(714) 796-5577

San Diego Field Office  
750 B Street, Suite 1600  
San Diego, CA 92101-8131  
(619) 557-5310

The Proactive Exchange will be a quarterly roundtable at the LA Field Office that will address two goals:

1) NO MORE TROUBLED PHAs, and 2) Moving from REACTIVE TO PROACTIVE.

While we will bring our own ideas and agenda items, please send us your questions as well prior to the roundtable so we can answer and discuss. Please send your questions to Linda Chu at [Linda.Y.Chu@hud.gov](mailto:Linda.Y.Chu@hud.gov) or you may contact her at (213) 534-2612.

Please RSVP to Linda Chu and let her know which office you will be attending at.