

RESIDENT PARTICIPATION FUND POLICY

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[24 CFR Part 964.1501

INTRODUCTION

The Department of HUD provides resident participation funding annually as an add-on to the Housing Authority's operating subsidy calculation funding. As provided in §964.1, the purpose of this funding "is to recognize the importance of resident involvement in creating a positive living environment and in actively participating in the overall mission of public housing." Funding levels are based on occupied units in the operating subsidy calculation multiplied by \$25.00. Of this amount, a portion is set aside for resident use [\$15 per unit] and a portion is reserved for HA use [\$10 per unit].

POLICY

Resident participation funding will be used solely for the HA's public housing residents.

The HA and Resident Councils (RCs) will jointly determine activities and distribution of funding. Only duly elected RCs shall confer with the HA. In the event there are no duly elected RCs, the HA will partner with the Resident Advisory Board (RAB) who will provide resident input regarding resident participation funding in conjunction with the Annual Plan process.

If funding disputes arise and are not resolved 120 days from the beginning of the HA's fiscal year, the HA will dedicate funding for resident *education* activities only.

Resident participation funding activities:

- should supplement PHA Plan activities and training;
- should support active interaction between the PHA and residents when consultation and outreach is included; and
- shall inform, acquaint, advise, promote or update public housing residents concerning issues and/or operations that affect resident households and their living environment.

Eligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- RC membership events;
- RC/RAB training (in areas such as operation, management, financial systems, maintenance, etc.);
- RC elections;
- Resident surveys and other forms of resident input;
- Stipends to resident council officers/resident advisory board members, resident commissioners, and residents for activities such as attendance to meetings and trainings;
- Site-based community promotions/publicity that enhance resident participation;
- Resident commissioner training (e.g., organization, leadership, housing, etc.);
- Training: Household training/communication for residents
- Orientation and responsibilities training for new and existing residents Job related skills

training for residents (e.g., preparing resumes, basic computer training, etc.)

- Household budgeting training for residents
- Communication and planning functions for activities such as development of PHA plan, revitalization, safety and security, property management/maintenance, and capital improvements;
- Minimal refreshment costs directly related to resident meetings for eligible activities;
- Handbooks/literature for residents explaining policies, obligations, and opportunities
- Resident newsletters;
- Office furniture/supplies for resident office, furthering the residents' ability to work with the HA; and
- Security issues (e.g., safety pamphlets for residents, security lighting, surveillance equipment, etc.).

Ineligible activities include:

- Entertainment and food/beverages associated with entertainment;
- Rent or purchase of land and vehicle purchase;
- Fees for lobbying services; and
- Costs for which funds have been provided from other HUD sources.

Fiscal Accountability

The system of fiscal accountability will be stipulated in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Resident Councils and the HA.

Stipends

Stipends to resident council officers/resident advisory board members, resident commissioners, and residents will be based on available funds and will be addressed annually in the MOU.