

## **Preference Policy Update**

Updates on the rental and homeownership waitlists

Presented by: Leslie Goodlow, Equity & Business Operations Manager Thursday, September 12, 2024

## **Overview of Waiting List Applications**

Since the launch of the program, we have seen significant

interest, with a growing number of applicants. As of today:

Rental Housing Waitlist: There are currently 2,822 applications.

Homeownership Waitlist: There are currently 1,057 applications.

This reflects the community's ongoing demand for affordable housing opportunities.

## **Applications Submitted by Point Cohort**

#### **Rental Housing Waitlist**

- 6-Point Cohort: 214
- 5-Point Cohort: 126
- 4-Point Cohort: 189
- 3-Point Cohort: 292
- 2-Point Cohort: 398
- 1-Point Cohort: 156
- 0-Point Cohort: 1447



6-Point Cohort = 5-Point Cohort = 4-Point Cohort = 3-Point Cohort

2-Point Cohort = 1-Point Cohort = 0-Point Cohort

### **Security Deposit Grant Assistance Pilot Program**

**Overview:** The Security Deposit Grant Assistance Pilot Program is designed to support families moving into affordable housing by providing financial assistance for moving-related costs. This initiative aims to ease the financial burden of securing a new rental unit and improve housing stability for families with low-incomes.

#### Program Launch: January 2024

Program Coverage: The grants cover up to \$1,000 in moving related expenses, including:

- Security deposits
- Childcare costs
- Cleaning services
- Past due utility bills
- Packing supplies and services
- Moving services or truck rental

**Eligibility**: Participants must be approved for a unit subject to the N/NE Preference Policy.

**Application Process**: Housing providers will submit a referral form on the behalf of the participant during the lease signing appointment.

## **Security Deposit GAP Program Update**

#### **Program Utilization**:

- **Referrals**: A total of <u>27</u> referrals have been made to United Way from housing partners.
- Current Status: The program has been largely underutilized to date.
  Next Steps:
- Increased Outreach: Intensify outreach efforts to the community, housing partners and community organizations to boost program awareness.
- **Review Process**: Evaluate the current process to identify and address any barriers to participation.

## **Applications Submitted by Point Cohort**

#### **Homeownership Waitlist**

- 6-Point Cohort: 187
- 5-Point Cohort: 123
- 4-Point Cohort: 177
- 3-Point Cohort: 135
- 2-Point Cohort: 137
- 1-Point Cohort: 51
- 0-Point Cohort: 247

#### **Priority Status Cohort: 137**



### **Homeownership Waitlist Phases**



#### **Application Phase**

Families fill out and an application online, by mail, or in-person for the homeownership waiting list.





#### **Verification Phase**

Families are asked to provide supporting documents to verify their eligibility for preference points. These documents include, government-issued photo identification, proof of addresses, and other relevant documentation.

#### **Preparation Phase**

Verified families are then referred to Portland Housing Center. A homebuying specialist assists them in preparing for the homebuying process, providing necessary guidance and support.

## Homeownership Waitlist Update:

## Current Phase: Preparation Actions Completed:

- Processed incoming verification documents.
- Sent confirmation of receipt to all applicants.

#### **Upcoming Actions:**

- Appeals processing.
- Sending notices to all families (active/inactive).
- Transferring to the NHP team.

# **Questions and Answers**