PHA Partners,

Last week, the Department published the Streamlined Voluntary Conversion Notice providing PHAs operating 250 or fewer public housing units the ability to convert their entire public housing portfolio to Tenant Protection Vouchers. Together with the Department’s other repositioning strategies like RAD and Section 18 dispositions, Streamlined Voluntary Conversion is intended to provide you with a range of options to better manage your local affordable housing resources to meet current and future needs.

To assist in PHAs’ public housing repositioning efforts, PIH has been focused on the following communication and technical assistance:

- PIH staff have been making presentations at local and national industry meetings to help PHAs become more aware of their repositioning options.
- PHAs wanting to learn more about their repositioning may ask their local Field Office staff to walk them through the benefits of the various options—always with a focus on how best to address the local needs.
- PIH has set up Repositioning Assistance Panels. Field office staff can reserve time with program experts identified by the Office of Recapitalization, Special Applications Center (SAC), Urban Revitalization Division, and Office of Housing Voucher Programs. These experts can discuss the various repositioning options with a PHA, enabling an informed decision about what strategy would best meet local needs. You can set up a time with a Panel through your local Field Office.
- We have also trained Repositioning Expeditors in most Field Offices. These Expeditors are available to help PHAs with their RAD, voluntary conversion, and demo/dispo applications.
- Understanding that these repositioning options are complex, particularly for small PHAs, the Department is working to provide the following starting late spring:
  1. Develop training materials, sample documents and other tools that help PHAs consider repositioning strategies and understand available options;
  2. Provide local training sessions to present available repositioning tools and considerations to address local affordable housing needs;
  3. Develop an online training platform and training materials to help PHAs and their boards understand repositioning options and HUD requirements; and
  4. Provide direct technical assistance to small PHAs (operating 250 or less assisted units) in how to start and sustain affordable housing strategies.

Our focus through these efforts is to help PHAs clearly understand the benefits and requirements of our various repositioning options and make an informed decision regarding what is best for their local housing needs. We look forward to supporting your efforts to preserve and reposition your affordable housing assets.

Many thanks,