

# HCV Headlines



February 2017

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Landlord Orientation:

Learn how to participate in the HCV Program or get participation reminders

1635 Western Ave

10:00 - 11:00 AM

- February 21, 2017
- March 7, 2017
- March 21, 2017

### Marketing Mondays

2:30—4:00PM

- February 27, 2017
- March 13, 2017
- March 27, 2017

Register for CMHA Events at [www.Cintimha.com/calendar](http://www.Cintimha.com/calendar)

### CMHA Offices Closed

February 17 & 20

March 3

14,392 families and individuals submitted pre-applications during the Housing Choice Voucher 2017 Wait List Opening. At least 14,392 people are searching for affordable housing options. I'd like to thank the partners that opened their doors and provided hundreds of computers so families could submit pre-applications January 24-27. So what's going to happen next? The remaining 2014 applicants will continue to be called in for interviews with CMHA staff so voucher eligibility can be determined. A lottery system will be used to select the 6,000 families that will make up the 2017 wait list. And we will continue to partner with current and new property owners who provide affordable housing options in Hamilton County.

Also, thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the survey conducted late last year. We are listening. Your feedback is appreciated and we are reviewing the training and enhancement suggestions now. We will do our best to include some requests in the next CMHA U courses and other training opportunities. Recently, I met with representatives from the Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky Apartment Association to discuss the mediation services offered by the group. Please be on the lookout for upcoming trainings and events.

Sincerely,

*Lisa Isham* - Housing Choice Voucher Program Director



### What's New for 2017!



The HQS Handbook and the Pre-Inspection Checklist have been updated for 2017. Do you know the different inspection types conducted by CMHA? What about the 13 HQS performance requirements for assisted housing? Or what items will be checked during inspections? All the

answers to those questions and more can be found in the Handbook and Checklist. Both are located on the HCV Documents page of the CMHA website: [www.cintimha.com](http://www.cintimha.com), the Partner Portal and in the HCV Program Administrative office.

## Be the Key

The HCV Program will roll out a Landlord Referral System. It's a great opportunity for you to win gift cards while helping families looking for a new home. Every property owner who refers a new property owner that executes a HAP contract with a voucher holder to the program will be entered in a pool for the drawing. More details to come!



HCV Customer Service

Answering your questions  
Monday through Friday

8:00 AM—4:30 PM

(513) 977.5800

Like and follow us on social  
media.



Cintimha

# HCV Headlines

February page 2



## Gold Standard Service

HCV staff members worked at various sites county-wide, providing Gold Standard customer service to applicants who stopped by partner organizations for their chance to get on the 2017 wait list. CMHA secured 600+ private and public computers for use at Easter Seals, Freestore Foodbank, Jewish Family Services, Taft Elementary School, The Public Library of Cincinnati and many more locations.



Parham in photo above

Applicants at Winton Terrace  
Council in photo below



Mr. Lloyd Parham is one of many applicants who stopped by the Easter Seals Walnut Hills office to complete a pre-application. When asked why he feels the HCV Program is so important, Parham said, *"This is an important program because it helps people who really need it. It will be a huge help to my budget, I pay \$400 a month for rent and my income is \$700."*



Changes have taken place in the Inspection Department and they benefit you as well as the agency. Biennial Inspections started in January. Units that pass an inspection the first time an inspector comes out will not have to be inspected again until 2019. That's every other year! The RTA Express is in full effect. Approved RTAs will be scheduled for an inspection within one to two business days whenever possible. And inspectors' jurisdictions are changing to accommodate the changes.