



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

SECTION 8 TENANT NEWSLETTER

December 2014

Financial Resources for Families

U.S. Department of Housing Urban Development (HUD) provides resources for individuals and families to improve their economic independence and increase self-sufficiency, including financial education, coaching, building and repairing credit, accessing earned income tax credits, improving access to safe, affordable financial service or investment products, and promoting savings and asset building.

Below are several federal resources related to asset building and/or financial management skills that can assist you. **Call 1-800-FED-INFO if you have any question about federal agencies, programs, benefits or services related to financial education.**

- 1) MyMoney.gov, is the federal government's website that serves as the one-stop shop for federal financial literacy and education programs, grants and other information. MyMoney.gov is available in English and Spanish.
- 2) Money Smart is a comprehensive financial education tool designed to help enhance your financial management and investment skills and create positive banking relationships.
- 3) Money Smart for Older Adults (MSOA) is an instructor-led training program. The module provides awareness on how to prevent elder financial exploitation and to encourage advance planning and informed financial decision-making.
- 4) The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has developed several important tools to help consumers increase their financial knowledge and skills. These tools help protect consumers from deceptive and abusive financial practices by informing them about their rights and providing them with federal resources to help address violations.
- 5) The Administrative for Children and Families (ACF) in the Department of Health and Human Services supports the economic mobility of families through asset building and financial education.
- 6) Assets for Independence (AFI) program: Projects in which low-income individuals save earned income in special-purpose, matched savings accounts called Individual Development Accounts (IDAs). These individuals use their IDA savings, combined with federal and non-federal matching funds, to achieve any of three objectives: acquiring a first home; capitalizing a small business; or enrolling in postsecondary education or training.

There are also non-governmental organizations which also provide financial management and asset-building resources.

- 1) The Credit Builders Alliance, which offers a toolkit and other programs intended to help low-income families build and/or repair their credit. The website is: creditbuildersalliance.org.
- 2) The Pension Rights Center offers information on pension counseling and retirement planning. The website is: www.pensionrights.org.

You can find the Tenant Newsletter online at: http://www.hacla.org/tnt_news_1/

Appointment of New Interim Director of Section 8

Director of Section 8 Peter Lynn has been appointed Executive Director of the Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority (LAHSA) effective December 1, 2014. LAHSA's primary role is to coordinate the effective utilization of Federal, state, county, and local funding in providing shelter, housing, and services to homeless people throughout Los Angeles City and County.

Carlos Van Natter has been appointed Interim Director of the Section 8 Department. Carlos has been working at the Housing Authority for 28 years and as Assistant Director of Section 8 for the past seven years. During his tenure as an Assistant Director of Section 8, Carlos has been responsible for Section 8 Special Programs, expanding assistance to the homeless, through our six different permanent supportive housing programs. Carlos has focused on improving communications and relationships with our government and non-profit partners to better serve homeless Veterans, families, senior citizens and the disabled.

Section 8 Advisory Meeting

Section 8 Advisory Meetings give you the opportunity to provide the HACLA with input on Section 8 policies, procedures, and practices, as well as to learn about changes and challenges to the Section 8 program. The following is the first meeting in 2015:

Date & Time	Location
Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at 3:00pm	Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (Board of Commissioner's Room) 2600 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90057

If you would like to attend, you may register online at www.hacla.org, click on "Calendar of Events" or by e-mail S8Advisory@hacla.org.

If you suspect anyone of committing fraud, please call (800) 461-9330, or file a report online at: www.mysafeworkplace.com. Your name will remain anonymous.

Property Listings

You can view property listings online at: www.hacla.org. Select Section 8 Housing on the left-hand side of the main page, and click on the "Property Listings" link from the dropdown menu. You can also call the toll free phone number at 1-877-428-8844 to receive printed listings.

Avoid scams and fraud. Never give out financial information to anyone who calls you over the phone, for example bank account number, social security number, Paypal information, etc.

The Housing Authority will be closed to the public on the following dates:

December 24-26, 31, and January 1-2, 19

DROP-OFF ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY ON DECEMBER 26TH AND JANUARY 2ND.