



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Housing Choice Vouchers available in Multnomah County for the first time in nearly seven years**

*Home Forward will open waitlist for new applicants from June 5 to June 9*

**PORTLAND (JUNE 1, 2023)** - [Home Forward](#), Oregon's largest public housing authority, is opening its Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program waiting list application for Multnomah County for the first time in nearly seven years. The HCV Program waiting list application will open on Monday, June 5 at 9:00 a.m. and will close on Friday, June 9 at 11:59 p.m. (Pacific time).

HCVs are a form of federal rental assistance, and like other federal housing assistance programs, funding is limited. Home Forward is opening the waiting list now based on a forecast of available resources. Applicants will be entered into a lottery to determine who ultimately will receive assistance.

"Our community has banded together to build new affordable housing, but so many families are still struggling to make ends meet because of the high cost of rent and inflation," said **Dena Ford-Avery**, Director of Housing Choice Vouchers at Home Forward. "We know that these vouchers will help thousands of our neighbors find safe and stable housing."

People age 18 and older (with certain exceptions) with incomes [at or below 50% of the Area Median Income](#) (AMI) for Multnomah County who have at least one household member that meets certain [citizenship requirements](#) can apply for the waitlist. HCVs cover the cost of rent in excess of 30 percent of a family's income, helping people afford housing that otherwise would be too expensive.

In Multnomah County, 50% of AMI is \$39,500 for an individual, and \$56,400 for a family of four. Names will be selected at random from the application pool. There will be 2,000 applicants selected. Any applicant who applies for the waitlist between June 5 and 9 will be entered into the lottery (not first-come, first-served).

Applications will be accepted online at Home Forward's website at [homeforward.org](#) or over the phone at 503-415-8050. A video tutorial of how to submit an online application is also available [online](#).

"We have the ability to open the voucher waitlist today, but we know that we won't be able to help everyone in need," said **Ian Davie**, Chief Operating Officer at Home Forward. "That's why it's so important for the public to know about this opportunity and take advantage of the application window."

To find out more about Home Forward, HCVs or the application process, visit [homeforward.org](#).

Links to a recording and slides from today's media briefing are [available here](#). [Frequently asked questions](#) can be found on Home Forward's website.

*Home Forward, the Housing Authority of Portland, is the largest provider of affordable housing in the state of Oregon, and serves all of Multnomah County. Its mission is to assure that the people of the community are sheltered. Home Forward has a special responsibility to those who encounter barriers to housing because of income, disability, or special need. Visit [www.homeforward.org](#) or call (503) 802-8300 for more information.*