This document provides a summary of the proposed new activities in Home Forward’s Fiscal Year 2026 Moving to Work Plan.

**What is Moving to Work?**

Moving to Work (MTW) is a federal initiative established by Congress that encourages selected housing authorities to propose and implement locally designed changes to the way affordable housing programs are administered. The Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) oversees the MTW program and approves locally designed changes that housing authorities propose. The goals of the MTW program are to:

* Increase cost effectiveness in housing program operations;
* Promote residents’ and participants’ economic self-sufficiency; and
* Increase residents’ and participants’ housing choices.

Home Forward has been an MTW agency since 1999.

**What is the MTW Plan?**

Each year, MTW agencies are required to submit a plan to HUD. Home Forward has prepared its draft annual MTW Plan to describe how the agency plans to implement its MTW program for Fiscal Year 2026, from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026. HUD reviews the plan each year and must approve any new activities the agency proposes.

**What new ideas is Home Forward proposing?**

Activity 29: Homeownership Program

* The Housing Choice Voucher program (HCV) allows a housing authority to pay a portion of a participant’s mortgage rather than rent through a homeownership program.
* Proposal for a locally designed homeownership program that will allow all participating households to be eligible to receive homeownership assistance for a maximum of 30 years to align with the initial mortgage incurred to finance the purchase of the home.
* The traditional homeownership program only offers assistance for 15 years or for the full term of an initial mortgage as a reasonable accommodation or for households that are elderly or have a member with a disability.

Activity 30: Housing Choice Voucher Occupancy Requirements

* Proposal for alternative occupancy requirements for the HCV program that will better meet the needs of families in our community and reduce administrative impact when households add or remove members. Current occupancy requirements do not reflect the range of household compositions.
* Home Forward’s proposal would allow households who choose to continue to live in their current unit when their family size exceeds standard HUD occupancy requirements so long as occupancy is consistent with local code and state occupancy laws.

**How can I share my feedback with Home Forward?**

Your feedback is critical to ensuring the FY2026 MTW Plan meets the needs of the community while achieving the goals of the MTW program. We want to hear from you!

Home Forward will hold a public hearing on the proposed MTW Plan in person and via Zoom on Thursday, August 21 at 2:00 PM. The purpose of this meeting is to inform and seek input from the public on the FY2026 MTW Plan.

* The Zoom meeting will be accessible at this link: <https://homeforward.zoom.us/j/84170696059?pwd=vScCYiGiu3TAmqgbA1yTmwgNtUDW2a.1> or Dial in (888) 475-4499; Meeting ID 841 7069 6059; Passcode 821678
* The public hearing will also be conducted in-person at the same date and time on Thursday, August 21 at 2:00 PM at 135 SW Ash Street, Portland 97204 in the Columbia Room.

A draft of the MTW Plan is available for review at <http://www.homeforward.org/home-forward/moving-to-work> and public comments on the Plan will be accepted from August 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025.

* Comments may be submitted electronically to: terren.wing@homeforward.org.
* Please provide your name and contact information along with any feedback you have about the proposed MTW activities or other parts of the FY2026 MTW Plan.

The final proposed FY2026 MTW Annual Plan will be presented to the Home Forward Board of Commissioners for approval on September 16, 2025, and will be submitted to HUD for final approval by October 15, 2025.