

# **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT**

## **VAWA**

### **NOTIFICATION TO APPLICANTS/PARTICIPANTS OWNER/LANDLORD OF PUBLIC HOUSING/SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHERS**

A PUBLIC Housing Agency Owner/Landlord may not deny admission to an applicant who has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking if the applicant (male or female) otherwise qualifies for rental assistance or admission.

Qualification for rental assistance is the same for all applicants, including victims of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking. Those qualifications are as follows:

1. Each applicant must meet the Davis Community Housing Authority (DCHA) definition of a "family";
2. Must be income eligible;
3. Have a family member that is a U.S. Citizen or has eligible immigration status;
4. Must pass DCHA criminal background screening;
5. Must not owe any monies to DCHA or any other Public Housing Agency;
6. Must meet all other DCHA screening criteria.

### **PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8 PARTICIPANTS**

Reporting incidents of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking to law enforcement, victim's rights advocates, and the Davis Community Housing Authority may help preserve your housing rights. The housing authority may not deny, remove or terminate assistance to a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking based solely on such an incident or threat.

DCHA may deny, remove, or terminate assistance to an individual perpetrator of such actions and continue to allow the victim or other household members to continue to receive housing assistance. This does not limit the authority of the DCHA to terminate rental assistance for other criminal activity or for good cause.

A Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher participant who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking may request and be granted portability due to the incident or threat if they are otherwise compliant with all program obligations and the perpetrator has moved out of the dwelling unit.

When processing a request by a victim for continued rental assistance or for portability, DCHA may request that certification from a law enforcement agency or victim rights advocates be provided.

DCHA will process a request by a victim for continued assistance or for portability when certification has been submitted that you are a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, and that the actual or threatened abuse meets the requirements set forth in the VAWA. Such certification must include the name of the perpetrator. If you do not provide the requested certification within 14 business days, your rental assistance can be terminated.

Any information provided pursuant to the Violence Against Women Act shall neither be entered into any shared database nor provided to any related entity, except to the extent that disclosure is requested or consented to by the individual in writing; required for use in any eviction proceeding of any abuser, stalker or perpetrator of domestic violence, or is otherwise required by applicable law.