

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing**

[Docket No. FR-3841-N-03]

Public and Indian Housing HOPE in Youth Program: Notice of Demonstration

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of demonstration program.

SUMMARY: This Notice announces the Department's intention to contribute up to \$1 million from the Youth Development Initiative under the Family Investment Centers Program for a HOPE in Youth Demonstration to be administered by the Housing Authorities of the City and County of Los Angeles. The Demonstration is designed to leverage funds, bringing together combined investments through an alliance among the Housing Authorities of the City and County of Los Angeles, the Industrial Areas Foundation, church-related social service providers, and leaders of several major religious denominations. A Coordinating Council of this alliance will develop greater avenues for educational opportunities and supportive services for public housing youth in these communities. In addition, the housing authorities will be working with private sector institutions to provide a variety of services that enhance the supportive services already available to public housing youth. This demonstration will particularly emphasize the provision of educational opportunities and supportive services to attempt to break the cycle of poverty that often leads to crime and violence among youth. A component of the demonstration will be the development of replicable models with wider applicability. This notice provides guidelines for the use of the demonstration funds and invites comments on the proposed demonstration.

DATES: *Comment due date:* August 21, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this notice to the Rules Docket Clerk, Office of General Counsel, Room 10276, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410-0500. Communications should refer to the above docket number and title.

Facsimile (FAX) comments are *not* acceptable. A copy of each communication submitted will be available for public inspection and copying between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. weekdays at the above address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bertha Jones, Office of Community Relations and Involvement, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street SW, Room 4112, Washington, DC 20410, Telephone Number (202) 708-4214 (This is not a toll-free number). Hearing- or speech-impaired persons may use the Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD) by contacting the Federal Information Relay Service, on 1-800-877-8339, for information on the program.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Authority**

Section 22 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437t) provides for the establishment of Family Investment Centers (FIC). The final rule implementing the FIC Program for public housing was published on August 24, 1994 (59 FR 43622), as part 964, subpart D.

In the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1995 (Pub. L. 103-327, approved September 28, 1994), Congress appropriated \$26,342,000 for Family Investment Centers. The Department's intention to use the total of \$10 million for Youth Development Initiative activities was announced in the NOFA for Public and Indian Housing Family Investment Centers, published on February 15, 1995 (60 FR 8900). On May 30, 1995 (60 FR 28304), the Department published a NOFA for Youth Development Initiative Under Public and Indian Housing Family Investment Centers (Youth Development Initiative), which announced that \$10 million was being made available for the Youth Development Initiative. The Youth Development Initiative was amended on July 6, 1995 (60 FR 35215), to clarify that \$1 million of the funds was being set aside for a HOPE In Youth Demonstration Program, reducing the amount to be awarded under the Youth Development Initiative from \$10 million to \$9 million.

In accordance with the requirements of section 470(a) of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983 (42 U.S.C. 3542), this notice describes the proposed demonstration and invites public comment. Any changes made in this demonstration as a result of the Department's consideration of public

comments, and any extension of time for the commitment of funds that may be necessary because of these changes, also will be published in the **Federal Register**.

The Department will not commit funds for the proposed demonstration until after the latest of: (1) The date the Department has considered any comments received in response to this notice; (2) September 18, 1995, which is 60 days after today's publication date; and (3) the date the Department has received and approved an application that meets the requirements set forth in this notice and any subsequent notice announcing changes in the demonstration.

Background of Demonstration

The Los Angeles public housing community has a particular need to address a lack of educational opportunities, supportive services and lifestyle choices for its youth. The City of Los Angeles is living with a crisis, a generation of young people doomed to school failure and lack of jobs with no future. Los Angeles County has the distinction of being the gang capital of the world, because of the magnitude of gang-related crimes and the sheer number (over 100,000) of gang members within its borders as a result of the lack of proper educational and training opportunities to provide alternatives to crime. Based on 1991 statistics, gang activity has accounted for 771 homicides, more than two each day. This demonstration will bring into the public housing communities unique experiences that have proven to be successful in other communities outside of public housing, together with a coordinated team approach for reducing gang membership and preventing new recruitment into gang activity and crime.

For purposes of this demonstration, the Department will make up to \$1 million available to the Housing Authorities (HAs) of the City and County of Los Angeles for use in establishing a HOPE in Youth Demonstration to be administered in accordance with the requirements of the Youth Development Initiative under the Family Investment Centers Program. This demonstration will bring together the skills needed for the successful operation of a program that will build a critical mass of people to develop educational and employment opportunities, provide alternatives to crime and violence and empower public housing youth to become economically self-sufficient. It is designed to empower parents in public housing to positively influence these at-risk youth to continue