

Boston Housing Authority

Learn more at: www.bostonhousing.org

BHA currently owns and/or oversees approximately 12,623 rental units of public housing in Boston and houses more than 25,000 people under the public housing program. BHA owns 63 housing developments. Of the 63 developments, 36 are designated as elderly/disabled developments and 27 are designated as family developments. Three of the 27 family developments have elderly/disabled housing on site and one of the elderly developments has designated units for families.

In addition to housing developments, BHA administers approximately 11,469 rental assistance vouchers, otherwise known as Tenant-Based Section 8 vouchers that allow families to rent in the private market and apply a subsidy to their rent. A similar state program assists an additional 700 households. With this assistance, residents are able to pay approximately 30-40 percent of their income toward rent and BHA pays the remainder. BHA helps provide housing to approximately 29,000 people under these programs. In addition, BHA provides subsidy to more than 2,100 households under its Section 8 Project-Based Voucher and Moderate Rehabilitation programs as well.

Waiting Lists for New Admissions

Summary Totals Of Active Applicants For Various Housing Programs as of 4/22/16

Breakdown by Program							
PH & S8							
Total	Federal E/D	Federal Family	Federal - All	State E/D	State Family	State - All	LIPH Total Counted Once Section 8 Total
39,097	9,473	28,694	32,101	4,039	27,407	28,587	34,440 11,255

Family Households waiting for:

1 Bedroom Units	14,581
2 Bedroom Units	10,889
3 Bedroom Units	5,173
4 Bedroom Units	748
5 +Bedroom Units	141

Elderly and Disabled Households waiting for:

1 Bedroom Units	8,395
2 Bedroom Units	1,346

Some Waiting List Demographics

• Extremely low income	$\leq 30\%$ AMI	90.98%
• Very low income	$> 30\%$ but $\leq 50\%$ AMI	7.85%
• Low income	$> 50\%$ but $< 80\%$ AMI	1.17%
• Families with children		44.03%
• Elderly families	(62 years of age and older)	9.54%
• Families with Disabilities	(Head or Co-Head)	26.11%

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A place to call home



Some Challenges Families Face

- 75-80% of BHA housed families were homeless for various reasons such as:
 - No fault court evictions
 - Victims of domestic violence
 - Inaccessibility to dwelling unit due to disabilities
 - No fault foreclosures
 - Condemned housing
 - Natural disasters
 - Arrived to Boston with no housing due to household dire need for medical care
 - Arrived to Boston from out of state or other countries seeking employment or educational or better life opportunities with no support systems in place
- Extremely low income may not afford market rent in Boston or neighboring towns with an annual average income of \$14,000.
- Multiple household members with disabilities (i.e. cancer, depression, mobility, visual and hearing impairments, learning disabilities, etc.)

- Language barriers
- Household members with no eligible immigration status
- Households with war and other abuse post traumatic stress PTSD
- One parent households
- Lack of support systems
- Criminal record history
- Dealing with substance abuse
- Need assistance and guidance to meet personal and family goals
- Difficulty integrating to the community (i.e. cultural differences, safety fears, etc.)
- Difficulty understanding the many policies and regulations
- Lack of available affordable housing and increased funding cuts.

The Boston Housing Authority Community





Supported Housing Programs

- Given the needs of many of our applicants and residents, the BHA has partnered with various agencies creating supported housing programs. The partnering agencies provide individualized service plans tailored to assist our vulnerable population who participate in these programs. Some of the existing supported housing programs are:
 - Healthy Start in Housing with Boston Public Health Commission
 - HomeBase with Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership
 - PACE with Upham's Corner Health Committee, DBA Upham's Elder Service Plan
 - ELAHP with Boston Medical Center Corporation, DBA Elders Living at Home Program
 - Summer House with Southwest Boston Senior Services, Inc. D/B/A ETHOS



















Together we may continue making a difference.
Thank you

