

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Matthew Fertal
From: Susan Emery
Dept: Director
Dept: Community Development
Subject: REPORT ON IMPACT OF SANTA ANA HOUSING AUTHORITY'S TRANSITION FROM MOBILITY TO PORTABILITY
Date: November 24, 2009

OBJECTIVE

To report the impact of Santa Ana Housing Authority's transition from Mobility to Portability for out-of-jurisdiction Voucher tenants.

BACKGROUND

Effective April 1, 2009, the Santa Ana Housing Authority terminated its Mobility Agreement with Garden Grove, Orange County, and Anaheim Housing Authorities.

The Mobility Agreement allowed Voucher holders to move out of jurisdiction and still receive services from their original agency. Inspections would be conducted by the appropriate agency based on the location of the unit. For instance, if a Santa Ana client moved to Garden Grove, they would continue to receive services from Santa Ana. Garden Grove would conduct the inspection for a fee. The agreement stipulated a fee of \$150, which included an initial inspection and a re-inspection. Mobility was a cost-effective regional solution to cumbersome federal regulations, which made housing vouchers portable anywhere in the US.

Santa Ana's decision to terminate its participation in the Mobility Agreement resulted in transitioning its out-of-jurisdiction clients to Portability. Under Portability our agency is required to fully service their clients; i.e., determine ongoing income eligibility, conduct Housing Quality inspections, ensure compliance of tenant obligations, and make rent payments to the landlords. Santa Ana then transfers 80% of their Administrative Fees and 100% of the Housing Assistance Payment to Garden Grove in order to reimburse our agency for services rendered to their clients. The process began in April and was completed in October. To date, Garden Grove is fully administering the Voucher Program for 240 of Santa Ana's clients, who live in Garden Grove, under Portability guidelines. The GGHA is receiving approximately \$15,000 per month in additional Administrative fees from Santa Ana.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

COMMUNITY VISION IMPLEMENTATION

Seek to ensure quality housing opportunities in the community, without unduly burdening existing residents.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Housing Authority Commissioners:

- Receive and file the report on impact of Santa Ana's transition from Mobility to Portability.



SUSAN EMERY
Community Development Director



By: Mary Ann Hamamura
Deputy Director

Recommended for Approval



Matthew Feral
Director

Attachment 1: City of Santa Ana Notification Letter

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CITY OF SANTA ANA

20 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA • P.O. BOX 1988
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92702

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FEB 09 2009
HOUSING AUTHORITY

January 29, 2009

Mary Ann Hamamura
Deputy Director
Community Development Department
Garden Grove Housing Authority
11400 Stanford Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840

Dear Ms. Hamamura:

The Santa Ana Housing Authority (SAHA) is formally notifying you that effective April 1, 2009, we will be terminating the Interjurisdictional Mobility Agreement.

In order to avoid excess burden to the Garden Grove Housing Authority (GGHA), the following outlines the transition from Mobility to Portability as discussed with GGHA staff:

1. Effective April 1, 2009, any voucher holder moving into or from SAHA jurisdiction will be handled under Portability.
2. SAHA Voucher holders in GGHA's jurisdiction will be swapped for the same number of GGHA Voucher holders in SAHA jurisdiction, which are approximately 77. This will be done effective June 1 with paperwork being provided to GGHA at the end of April.
3. In the months of August and September, approximately 105 files will be port-out to GGHA, with paperwork provided approximately five weeks in advance.

We would like to thank you and your staff for the assistance they have and will be providing during this transition. If you have any questions, please contact Shelly Landry-Bayle at (714) 667-2287.

Sincerely,

Cynthia J. Nelson
Deputy City Manager for Development Services
Community Development Agency