

## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** — November, 2019  
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### **HOUSING AUTHORITY OF TRAVIS COUNTY'S (HATC) HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM EARNS HIGH PERFORMANCE STATUS BY HUD FOR FIFTH YEAR**

Austin, TX – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has rated the Housing Authority of Travis County's (HATC) Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program as a 'High Performer' for the fifth consecutive year. HATC has received the highest designation for its outstanding performance administering the Section 8 HCV Program with a final Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP) score of 100 % for fiscal year ending on June 30, 2019.

"Earning HUD's highest designation demonstrates our unwavering commitment to our mission and to the clients we serve, and it is the continued dedication of our staff and landlords that allow us to do so," said Patrick B. Howard, CEO and Executive Director.

Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) undergo a SEMAP review every year that is used to measure the performance of those who administer the Section 8 HCV Program in fourteen (14) key areas. The key areas evaluated include the proper selection of applicants from the HCV waiting list; the determination of reasonable rent for each unit leased; ensuring that units comply with Housing Quality Standards (HQS); and the correct calculation of the tenant share of the rent and the housing assistance payment; among others. PHAs scoring 90% or higher receive the 'High Performer' designation for the fiscal year.

Through the HCV program, HATC has been able to assist eligible low-income families in Travis County by issuing more than 95% of its vouchers each month. "The Voucher team is dedicated to assisting families with obtaining fair and affordable housing in order to promote independence and self-sustainability," said Christina Montes, Director of Voucher Programs and Homeless Initiatives.

If you are interested in joining our mission by becoming a Section 8 HCV landlord, please contact Christina Montes at (512) 854-1883 for more information.

**HATC embraces the mission of "preserving and developing affordable housing, and vibrant communities to enhance the quality of life for all".**

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