SPECIAL RULES FOR THE HUD-VASH (VETERAN AFFAIRS SUPPORTIVE HOUSING) VOUCHER PROGRAM

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Manchester Housing and Redevelopment Authority (MHRA) has 124 VASH Vouchers.

The requirements for VASH Vouchers are as follows:

- 1. Manchester Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) will refer families.
- 2. MHRA must maintain written documentation of referrals in the tenant file.
- 3. No waiting list necessary.
- 4. Local preferences are waived.
- 5. No denial of assistance for engaging in drug/alcohol activity. Denial is only if the veteran is subject to a lifetime registration as a sexual offender. If the sex offender is any other family member, the remaining family member/s may be served if the family agrees to remove the offender from its family composition.
- 6. MHRA must determine income eligibility.
- 7. Income targeting does not apply.
- 8. MHRA can include extremely low-income families in its income targeting.
- 9. Initial term of the VASH voucher is one hundred and twenty (120) days.
- 10. Initial term of the lease may be less than twelve (12) months. This does not apply if the veteran family will occupy a Section 8 project-based unit.
- 11. VASH families may reside in jurisdiction areas accessible to case management by VAMC.
- 12. Restrictions in portability do not apply.
- 13. In the case of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, the VASH voucher remains with the veteran, unless the veteran is the perpetrator. In such case, continued assistance remains with the victim and a regular Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) will be issued to the victim when one is available.
- 14. If a HUD-VASH family has utilized their VASH voucher in a project-based unit, they have the ability to move from project-based assistance, to a tenant-based VASH voucher assistance.
- 15. HUD-VASH participants may have their assistance terminated only if the veteran is not participating in required case management without good cause; or if a family has been evicted from their housing unit for a serious violation of the lease.
- 16. Initial PHA must maintain records on VASH families. When portability is necessary, the receiving PHA <u>must bill</u>. (No absorbing, unless they have an active VASH Program.)
- 17. VAMC is responsible for case management which includes: screening homeless veterans, assisting veterans with MHRA application and documentation, making referrals to MHRA, provide appropriate treatment, supportive services, housing search assistance, identify social services, medical needs, maintain records, and provide information for evaluation purposes.
- 18. If the family is determined by the VAMC to no longer need services, the MHRA may offer the family one of its regular Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) when one is available.