

2026-2030

Providence Housing Authority

FIVE-YEAR

DRAFT

PLAN

for submission to

**U.S.
Department of
Housing and
Urban
Development**



5-Year PHA Plan (for All PHAs)	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Public and Indian Housing	OMB No. 2577-0226 Expires: 03/31/2024
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Purpose. The 5-Year and Annual PHA Plans provide a ready source for interested parties to locate basic PHA policies, rules, and requirements concerning the PHA’s operations, programs, and services, and informs HUD, families served by the PHA, and members of the public of the PHA’s mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families

Applicability. The **Form HUD-50075-5Y** is to be completed once every 5 PHA fiscal years by all PHAs.

A.	PHA Information.
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A.1	<p>PHA Name: <u>Providence Housing Authority</u> PHA Code: <u>RI001</u></p> <p>PHA Plan for Fiscal Year Beginning: (MM/YYYY): <u>07/01/2025</u></p> <p>The Five-Year Period of the Plan (i.e. 2019-2023): <u>2026-2030</u></p> <p>PHA Plan Submission Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5-Year Plan Submission <input type="checkbox"/> Revised 5-Year Plan Submission</p> <p>Availability of Information. In addition to the items listed in this form, PHAs must have the elements listed below readily available to the public. A PHA must identify the specific location(s) where the proposed PHA Plan, PHA Plan Elements, and all information relevant to the public hearing and proposed PHA Plan are available for inspection by the public. Additionally, the PHA must provide information on how the public may reasonably obtain additional information on the PHA policies contained in the standard Annual Plan, but excluded from their streamlined submissions. At a minimum, PHAs must post PHA Plans, including updates, at each Asset Management Project (AMP) and main office or central office of the PHA. PHAs are strongly encouraged to post complete PHA Plans on their official websites. PHAs are also encouraged to provide each resident council a copy of their PHA Plans.</p> <p>Availability of Information. The PHA’s Plan, Plan Elements, and all information relevant to the public hearing are available for inspection on the PHA’s website at www.provhousing.org. Signage announcing the comment period and public hearing notified the public that copies of documents can be obtain by calling a designated PHA contact. Notice about the availability of viewing the plan and related documents is posted at the PHA’s Administrative Office located at 100 Broad Street, 2nd Floor and at Management Offices located at: 285-F Chad Brown Street; 144 Dodge Street; 31 Salmon Street; 100 Atwells Avenue; 243 Smith Street; 160 Benedict Street; 25 Tobey Street, 300 Hartford Avenue, and 100 Broad Street. PHA posts approved PHA Plans on its website and provides each resident council with a copy of its Plans. PHA will make paper copies of materials available upon request.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> PHA Consortia: (Check box if submitting a Joint PHA Plan and complete table below.)</p>
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Participating PHAs	PHA Code	Program(s) in the Consortia	Program(s) not in the Consortia	No. of Units in Each Program	
				PH	HCV
Lead PHA:					

B.	Plan Elements. Required for <u>all</u> PHAs completing this form.					
B.1	<p>Mission. State the PHA’s mission for serving the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families in the PHA’s jurisdiction for the next five years.</p> <p>The PHA provides and develops safe and affordable housing opportunities and services to address the needs of Rhode Island residents. The PHA, working with residents will be a first-in-class leaders in creating safe, vibrant communities that promote pathways to opportunities and be a place where people are proud to live and work.</p>					

B.2

Goals and Objectives. Identify the PHA’s quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income families for the next five years.

Goal 1: Identify and Pursue Opportunities to Preserve and Expand Affordable Housing

Strategy 1.1: Evaluate the PHA portfolio to determine capital needs and prioritize developments in a PHA wide repositioning/development plan

Strategy 1.2: Utilize existing and determine and pursue new sources of funding and financing for preserving/redeveloping the PHA’s real estate portfolio in accordance with a repositioning/redevelopment plan

Strategy 1.3: Utilize project-basing of HCV vouchers to expand affordable housing options contingent on funding availability

Strategy 1.4: Ensure and monitor meaningful engagement of PHA residents in housing preservation and expansion effort

Strategy 1.5: Explore and promote environmentally healthy initiatives that can be integrated into PHA preservation, redevelopment and development initiatives

Strategy 1.6: Reposition PCOC to be an effective non-profit instrument for development/redevelopment and resident services program support

Goal 2: Provide Safe and Healthy Communities with Pathways to Vibrant Futures

Strategy 2.1: Develop a software system for collecting and analyzing crime and security data

Strategy 2.2 Enhance safety, security, and violence prevention on PHA properties

Strategy 2.3: Increase access to effective economic opportunity, education, and health services for residents and participants

Strategy 2.4: Increase access to behavioral health services for all residents with attention to the differing needs of residents across the lifespan

Strategy 2.5: Increase outreach to and engagement with youth

Strategy 2.6: Continue to improve environmental health of PHA developments

Goal 3: Cultivate, Enhance, and Evaluate Strategic Partnerships

Strategy 3.1: Continue to collaborate with key cross-sector partners to prevent and deter crime and violence in an around PHA neighborhoods

Strategy 3.2: Engage in cross-sector partnerships that promote equitable access to truly affordable housing and related supportive policies and legislation

Strategy 3.3: Continue and expand cross-sector partnerships that promote equitable access to healthcare, including behavioral healthcare

Strategy 3.4: Continue existing and forge new collaborations with cross-sector partners to increase equitable access to adult education and economic opportunity

Strategy 3.5: In collaboration with foundation partners, local organizations, and state agencies, design and pilot an early childhood education center at Manton Heights to reduce barriers to access for public housing children

Strategy 3.6: Continue to collaborate with key partners to proactively address and prevent homelessness

Strategy 3.7: Measure impact of partnerships

Strategy 3.8: Develop and implement a PHA communication plan that engages residents, staff, community organizations and potential partners

Goal 4: Continuously Improve PHA Management and Operations

Strategy 4.1: Improve departmental management operations

Strategy 4.2: Assess and improve organizational structure and capacity to meet current and future needs of the PHA

Strategy 4.3: Leverage technology to improve efficiency and foster environmental sustainability

Strategy 4.4: Improve customer service to applicants, residents, HCV participants, and landlords

Strategy 4.5: Optimize financial performance

Strategy 4.6: Develop, implement, and evaluate an employee recruitment and retention program

Strategy 4.7: Develop and implement a leadership program to develop and strengthen leadership capacity

Strategy 4.8: Develop and implement strategies that minimize vacancies in the public housing program

Strategy 4.9: Create a formal orientation and professional development program for members of the Board of Commissioners

Strategy 4.10: Continue internal Strategy Committees to identify best practices and implement initiatives that optimize performance

B.3

Progress Report. Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan.

Goal 1: Identify and Pursue Opportunities to Preserve and Expand Affordable Housing

Repositioning

In the previous 5-Year Plan, the PHA explored repositioning tools, outreached to other PHA involved in repositioning activity, and retained a consulting firm, EJP Consulting Group, to assist the PHA in examining the feasibility of applying various repositioning tools to the PHA portfolio. PHA also engaged a consulting firm, Dominion Due Diligence Group (D3G), to conduct a physical needs assessment (PNA) of the PHA's real estate portfolio. The PHA secured a \$50,000 technical assistance grant from Rhode Island Housing that has offset a portion for the cost of the PNA. The EJP Consulting Group has completed a preliminary assessment of the feasibility of utilizing repositioning tools and PHA, with EJP, will conduct a more in-depth analysis to develop a plan for preserving, repositioning, and/or redeveloping the portfolio. The first development to receive a more in-depth assessment will be Dexter Manor. The Rhode Island Interstate 195 Commission approached the PHA in 2023 about the possibility of the Commission conveying ownership of a parcel abutting Dexter Manor. Funded by a \$250,000 pre-development grant from Rhode Island Housing, PHA will delve deeply into potential uses of the parcel and potential redevelopment relative to the 288-units Dexter Manor downtown high rise.

Project-Basing Vouchers as a Strategy to Preserve and Expand Housing Opportunities

In 2018 adopted project-basing up to 30% of its portfolio as a strategy for preserving and expanding affordable housing. In 2019, PHA invested 16 PBVs in two projects, King Street Commons and the Joseph Caffey Apartments. These units came online during the early part of this reporting period and leveraging construction of 84 new affordable units. During this reporting period, PHA issued three RFPs that awarded PBVs to landlords and developers to increase access to affordable housing units in neighborhoods of opportunity low-income and hard-to-house families; 31% of the units were preservation units and 69% were new construction. The investment of these PBVs in this current reporting period leveraged the preservation of 324 existing units and construction of 676 new units across the City. Of the total 676 units of new construction leveraged by PBVs in this period: four developments with 256 units completed construction and came online during the 5-Year Plan; two developments with 237 units have broken ground; and four developments with an additional 183 units are anticipated to break ground by late 2026.

Piloting a Moving on Preference in Public Housing

During this period, PHA continued to engage with Crossroads Rhode Island, to establish a pilot Moving On admissions preference in the public housing program for individuals referred by Crossroads Rhode Island who reside in the agency's Permanent Supportive Housing and/or Single Room Occupancy program who no longer need intensive case management. PHA and Crossroads RI are in the process of negotiating a MOU for the preference that includes the provision of continued supportive services for residents after their referral to the PHA. The PHA will limit this preference to 10 units in the first year. The PHA's public housing ACOP was revised to reflect a Moving On admission preference and in 2024 this change was reflected in the Annual Plan submitted to HUD by the PHA.

Special Purpose Voucher Programs

During this past 5-Year Plan period, PHA forged a dynamic partnership with the RI Continuum of Care, the Coordinated Entry System, and community organizations to address and prevent homelessness. PHA has utilized special purpose vouchers to increase access to affordable housing for some of the City's most vulnerable citizens. HUD awarded 140 Mainstream Program vouchers to PHA to address and/or prevent homelessness in families with a non-elderly disabled member; the PHA met leasing goals for this program. During this period, HUD also awarded 42 Emergency Housing Vouchers to PHA to assist individuals and families who are homeless, at-risk of homelessness, fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, or were recently homeless or have a high risk of housing instability; PHA exceeded leasing goals for this program. Also during this period, the PHA, worked with the Veteran's Administration to develop strategies to increase utilization of VASH vouchers. Among the strategies for increasing VASH voucher utilization is project-basing vouchers; in late early 2025/early 2026 Crossroads RI's Summer Street PBV project will come on-line, including 10 VASH PBV units.

Goal 2: Provide Safe and Healthy Communities with Pathways to Vibrant Futures

Physical Safety and Security

Safety: During this past five-Year Plan period, the PHA undertook major projects designed to promote increased safety. These projects included installing sprinkler systems in all high-rise buildings, upgrading elevators in all high-rise buildings, replacing aged fire safety pumps at the Parenti Villa and Carroll Tower high-rises, and replacing emergency exit stairwells at the Roger Williams development.

Security and Crime Prevention: In this past 5-Year Plan, the PHA undertook several initiatives that improved security on PHA properties. PHA increased security capacity by augmenting PHA staff with contracted services who assist the PHA in providing security 24/7; these services included fixed guards and roving security. In this period, PHA and its residents continued to benefit from a strong relationship with the Providence Police Department and its deployed Public Housing Unit (PHU) officers that serve primarily in family developments. In 2024, the PHU received two new officers, both of whom were bi-lingual (English/Spanish). In addition to working closely with the Providence Police Department, the PHA's Office of Security Operations continued to closely collaborate with the RI State Police and other law enforcement organizations, as well as community organizations, to prevent and address crime in and around neighborhoods in which PHA developments are located. The PHA's Office of Security Operations developed and leads the PHA Community Safety Task Force, an inter-departmental group that meets regularly to identify security and safety issues and develop and deploy strategies for addressing threats to safety and security. The membership of this group expands when necessary to include representation from law enforcement and community agencies. A key goal of the Task Force is to identify underlying causes of behavior that if left unaddressed would threaten the safety of PHA

communities. Included in strategies utilized by the Task Force are home visits by members and offers of referrals to services as a means of curing lease violations.

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED): PHA also improved security through the application of CPTED principles. Using funding from grants and CFP funds, the PHA replaced exterior doors at four out of its five high-rise building for elders and person with disabilities, thereby better preventing access by unauthorized persons. PHA upgraded camera surveillance camera systems in high-rise locations, including the piloting of surveillance cameras in one of its high rises, Kilmartin Plaza, with funding assistance from the Rhode Island Office of Healthy Aging. PHA also upgraded existing and added new lighting and surveillance cameras in four of its family developments (Admiral Terrace, Chad Brown, Hartford Park, and Manton Heights) with funding provided by the City of Providence and utilizing CFP resources. PHA also implemented strategies for foliage control to maximize the impact of new and upgraded camera and lighting equipment. PHA has instituted a system for tracking lighting, camera, and foliage control needs and status that is monitored by the Office of Security Operations.

Health and Wellness:

Covid 19 Response: Undoubtedly, the Covid-19 pandemic was one of the greatest challenges to providing safe and healthy communities that many public housing authorities have encountered in generations. PHA is proud to have been honored with 2022 Nan McKay Resident Services National Award for its Wellness Resource Center and its holistic approach to health during the Covid-19 pandemic. Early in the pandemic, PHA partnered with the RI Department of Health, the RI National Guard and the RI Disaster Medical Assistance Team to devise and implement a safe model of on-site testing clinics that resulted in testing of 10,000 residents, community members, and employees. By adding CVS and Walgreens pharmacy personnel to the team, PHA delivered onsite clinics that vaccinated almost 3,000 residents and community members. Recognizing that isolated elders faced a potential food insecurity crisis, the PHA established an emergency food program and packed and delivered almost 400,000 meals. Throughout the pandemic, the PHA worked closely with its collective bargaining units to make major changes in the PHA business model; in essence repurposing its entire staff to develop and implement initiatives that met the needs of vulnerable residents while continuing to safely deliver core services as a responsible landlord.

Access to Healthcare: During the past Five-Year Plan, the PHA's Wellness Resource Center initiative brought the resources of community health workers, substance abuse disorder counselors, and behavioral health professionals funded by a range of resources including the RI Department of Health, the RI Foundation, One Neighborhood Builders, and the City of Providence. Currently staffed by a Wellness Program Manager, three Community Health Workers, and a Mental Health Coordinator, residents were provided with information and referral, outreach education and workshops about a wide range of wellness topics, assistance navigating the health care system and enrolling in insurance programs, and short-term counseling. Wellness programming also included the PHA's Elder Food Box Program that, in collaboration with RI Food Bank, has provided over 200 residents each month over the past five years with nutritious food to address the problem of food insecurity. In addition to services provided by PHA staff, residents were provided with access to on-site clinics that screen for chronic diseases such as high-

blood pressure, diabetes, substance use disorder, and depression through a variety of partnerships. Through partnerships with behavioral healthcare providers, residents were able to access on-site appointments with providers to address issues such as anxiety, depression, and substance use disorders.

Support for Victims of Crime and VAWA: In January 2025, PHA began its 6th year of its Victims of Crime (VOCA) program, funded by a Victims of Crime Act grant through the state of RI and a \$200,000 federal earmark grant from the U.S. Department of Justice. Since the program's inception it has served over 1,000 unduplicated victims of crime. The program has placed a significant focus on serving survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking. The program utilizes a holistic approach by serving victims and their families. During and post-pandemic, PHA staff continued to note a sustained increase in the number of domestic violence incidents. To meet this increased need, PHA expanded the program's staffing by to successfully expand the program to provide services and support to HCV participants. In addition to assistance with safety planning, understanding VAWA and crime rights, and navigating the criminal justice system, the Victims of Crime program provided support groups in English and Spanish, facilitated referrals to a range of services, and added a mental health services coordination component to the program in 2024. In calendar year 2024, PHA received 31 requests from residents and HCV participants to invoke their VAWA rights. The most common assertion of VAWA rights was a request for a transfer to another unit to flee domestic violence. PHA continued to provide a copy of the VAWA policy during new admissions and recertification meetings for PHA housing programs, and the policy is included in adverse action letters. VOCA Community Safety Coordinators attend HCV briefing sessions and provide information about the VAWA policy and VAWA rights. Over 40% of persons served by the VOCA program are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, adult sexual assault, or stalking. During this reporting period, PHA provided a copy of the VAWA policy at each intake meeting conducted by VOCA Community Safety Coordinators. In 2024, the PHA's Human Resources Department reviewed the new employee orientation program and implemented information about the VAWA policy and PHA responsibilities in new employee orientation sessions. PHA continued to work with over 30 state and local organizations and law enforcement agencies to meet the needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other violent crime. To date, the program has not encountered a victim of human trafficking.

Economic Empowerment

Jobs Hub and Jobs Plus: After having closed out its successful Jobs Plus program in mid- 2020, PHA continued to deliver a range of workforce development opportunities, although scaled back due to funding availability and the limitations of the pandemic. The PHA's Resident Services Department designed and implemented the *Jobs Hub* Program in April of 2022 to meet the needs of residents struggling financially in the wake of the pandemic at the PHA's Manton Heights and Hartford Park developments. The PHA expanded the program to other family developments in 2023. To date, the Jobs Hub Program has served over 350 residents in partnership with 30+ employer partners. The *Jobs Hub* Program model incorporates the following workforce development strategies to help unemployed persons with significant barriers to employment

secure jobs: industry-driven training programs, pre-apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeships, progressive education and credentialing pathways, and wrap-around supportive services. The *Jobs Hub* Program has engaged local partners to deliver comprehensive employment-related services categorized into five areas: (1) employment readiness, (2) job training and internships; (3) job placement; (4) job retention and advancement, and (5) work-enabling social services. The Jobs Hub Program also encourages the participation of employed residents to foster upskilling and increased income. Residents have received training in resume writing and interview preparation, guidance through the job application process, and personalized support through one-on-one coaching. PHA is thrilled to have been selected for a second time to receive a Jobs Plus program. Our new Jobs Plus program will serve residents of the Chad Brown and Admiral Terrace Apartments. PHA conducted a survey of residents of these developments resulting in 149 residents indicating an interest in participating in the program. PHA has onboarded staffing for the program and the program is scheduled to begin on 2/3/25. In addition to workforce development efforts with adults in this period, PHA was engaged in its seventh year of the *One Providence for Youth Summer Youth Employment* program that has served over 100 youth during the last five years. This program has provided youth with paid internships, skill building, and soft skills development necessary for work readiness.

Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program: This program continued to be well utilized by public housing and HCV families. In the last five years, PHA graduated 110 participants from the program and disbursed \$1.2 million in escrow funds to these graduates. At 12/31/24, PHA had a total of 154 families participating in its FSS program; 51% were public housing families and 49% were HCV families. In calendar year 2024, 64% of participants increased their incomes. The PHA is proud of the accomplishments of this program and its participants.

Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency Program: PHA is happy to have been selected once again as a recipient of a ROSS grant. This grant is a key source of funding for our Resident Services Coordinators who play a critical role in conducting needs assessments, making referrals for services need by residents and providing case management.

Homeownership & Financial Literacy: PHA became a certified homeownership counseling agency in 2023. Unfortunately, the program lost its certified homeownership counselor in 2024. The PHA looks forward to onboarding a new homeownership counselor in 2025. Homeownership continues to be of interest to families served by the PHA; the Homeownership Program hosted its 18th annual homeownership fair in 2024 with 57 participants attending the event that provided opportunities for exposure to affordable purchase options, new mortgage products, and local programs for low and moderate-income first-time homebuyers. In calendar year 2024, three program participants became homeowners. To provide families with exposure to financial literacy programming, The PHA has forged partnerships with Washington Trust and RhodeWay Financial; these organizations provide a variety of financial literacy and planning workshops (20 in the past year alone), including introduction budgeting, understanding credit, and introduction to homeownership.

Adult Basic Education: Since the onset of the pandemic, access to adult education programming has been difficult to provide with many partner agencies experiencing staff vacancies and in 2024 these diminished staffing levels in partner agencies that provide adult basic education limited

programming available to residents. In 2024, 26 residents were enrolled in ESL classes. Currently, PHA is working to forge expanded partnerships to enhance access to ESL and other adult education programming to meet the needs of residents currently on a waiting list for classes.

Digital Inclusion

During the past Five-Year Plan period, PHA (a participant in an early cohort of HUD's ConnectHome initiative) worked with the Providence Public Library and other partners to implement the *Bridging the Digital Divide* initiative to foster digital literacy and Internet access for public housing residents. A grant from the RI Foundation funded digital literacy classes in 2023 that reached 167 residents and the provision of tablets with Internet access. PHA partnered with the Providence Public Library, Commerce Rhode Island, and the City of Providence in 2023 and 2024 to bring outreach sessions about the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) to all PHA developments to raise awareness of and enroll residents in free or low-cost Internet access plans. After significant success in enrolling residents in the ACP and increasing access to the Internet, the ACP expired and PHA partnered with the Providence Public Library to raise awareness of the end of the program, educate residents about their rights, and potential low-cost ways to access the Internet.

Improving Amenities for Residents

During this Five-Year Plan period, the PHA undertook several projects designed to improve amenities for residents. Utilizing CDBG grant funding from the City of Providence and other resources, the PHA renovated gyms at the Chad Brown and Manton Heights developments to create increased opportunity for positive activities for children, youth, and families. During this period, the PHA and Providence Police Department (PPD) piloted the *Open Gym Program* for youth. The program was popular and the PHA is working with the PPD to establish the program as a longer-term recreational activity. Also during this period, the PHA worked with partners to complete the Manton Pathway, a connection between the Woonasquatucket River Greenway and the Olneyville neighborhood in which Manton Heights is located. This Pathway, running through the Manton Heights developments has connected residents to a seven-mile bike and walking path and the natural resources of the Greenway. The Manton Pathway is well utilized by residents seeking exercise and the enjoyment of nature and has brought positive activity to the development. PHA is proud to have been the winner of a 2023 NAHRO Design Excellence Award for the Manton Pathway Project.

Goal 3: Cultivate, Enhance, and Evaluate Strategic Partnerships

Since the submission of the last Five-Year Annual Plan, PHA has engaged in a wide range of cross-sector activity designed to strengthen existing partnerships and forge new partnerships that support the preservation of existing housing, expansion of affordable housing, and provision of high-quality services and supports for the families served by the PHA.

Resident Advisory Board: The PHA continues to consider its partnership with the Resident Advisory Board (RAB) to be among its most important collaborations. The RAB is currently comprised of 15 resident representatives, including one who is an HCV participant, who meet throughout the year with PHA representatives. In the past year, members worked to develop a

RAB mission and vision statement and identify core values. RAB meetings continued to be a forum for developing the Annual Plan, sharing information, collecting resident input on new projects, identifying resident needs, and fostering resident leadership. In 2025, the nomination and election process will be held to secure RAB members for a new two-year term. To secure at least one representative from every development in the PHA's portfolio and PHA's HCV program, including PBV developments, the PHA's Resident Engagement Coordinator will conduct significant outreach to raise awareness of the importance of the RAB and the process by which residents can serve as members of the RAB.

Public Housing as a Platform for Addressing Public Health in the Covid-19 Emergency:

Responding to the Covid-19 pandemic was the greatest challenge in the PHA's history. As an agency with a long history of collaboration, the PHA leveraged a wide range of partners, including the RI Department of Health, the National Guard, the RI Disaster Medical Assistance Team, CVS and Walgreen's pharmacies, and the RI Food Bank, to devise and execute a strategy that protected the thousands of Providence residents the PHA serves. These strategies included providing onsite testing and vaccination clinics, distributing protective masks and other PPE to residents, providing test kits, and establishing emergency food distribution programs for elders and other vulnerable residents. PHA forged partnerships with unfamiliar partners, such as the National Guard and the RI Disaster Medical Assistance Team, to develop a prototype vaccination clinic in a high-rise location that became a replicable model for other PHA developments and other parts of the state of RI; this experience has laid the foundation for effective collaboration if a new public health emergency should emerge in the next Five-Year Plan period.

Public Housing Advocacy: On a state-wide level, PHA has played a leadership role in an effort with the Public Housing Association of Rhode Island (PHARI) to raise the awareness of elected officials and other leaders about the significant role public housing authorities play in providing quality housing programs and the role they could potentially play in helping to address the affordable housing crisis. PHA authored the *2024 PHARI Housing Fact Book*, a collection of data about each RI housing authority that illustrates the positive impact that public housing authorities make on the communities in which they are located. This publication was released in July 2024 and is currently being utilized in a variety of outreach and education initiatives. *The Housing Fact Book* was an outgrowth of an inter-agency presentation by PHARI members, including PHA executives, to the RI Special Legislative Commission on Low and Moderate-Income Housing in May 2023. PHA Executives will continue to be active in this type of education and outreach activity, including a planned presentation to the RI Housing Resources Commission scheduled for March 2025.

Equitable Access to High-Quality Early Childhood Education: PHA views access to high quality early education as a key contributor to breaking the cycle of poverty experienced by many public housing residents. Through a new collaboration with the Shamrock Foundation and its partners, Rhode Island Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), and the RI Department of Human Services, the PHA is engaged in a five-year pilot initiative to increase access to high-early childhood education for public housing families residing in Manton Heights and nearby Hartford Park. In this most recent Five-Year Plan period, the partnership conducted research about best practices in early childhood education and with an architectural firm has completed preliminary

drawings for the redevelopment of the facility. LISC provided \$50,000 funding to conduct an architectural feasibility study of the facility, and the Shamrock Foundation and its partners have pledged funding for the renovation of the facility and support of operational costs of a provider who will deliver the early education program. The PHA anticipates that the program will open in late 2025 or early 2026.

Arts and Health: Since the last Five-Year Plan submission, the PHA and several City Departments partnered to develop and implement programming that combined health and exposure to the arts. The *One Nation, One Project (ONOP)* initiative, funded in part by grants received by the City from the National League of Cities and the Doris Duke Foundation, with additional funding from the City of Providence (Offices of Healthy Communities and Art, Culture and Tourism) featured the pairing of artists-in-residence with PHA community health workers at the Chad Brown family development and the Carroll Tower designated elderly-only development. The aim of the project was to use the arts as a vehicle for increasing the engagement of public housing residents in wellness activities and fostering health equity and recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. This multi-year initiative provided funding for three community health worker positions and a mental health coordinator position. The artists and community health workers met weekly through November 2024 with residents to assist them in developing artistic skills, working on projects that were unveiled as part of a nationwide celebration on 7/28/24, and sharing important information about health and wellness. At Carroll Tower, residents designed and created a large tree of life mosaic that was permanently installed in the community room and unveiled during a gala community event. At Chad Brown, residents participated in two events, the unveiling of a fashion line and a painting exhibit created by residents and an indoor and alfresco art exhibition of works created by residents, the artist-in-residence, and artists from the larger community. Works created by residents of both Carroll Tower and Chad Brown were on display in a gallery at the Providence City Hall during the month of August 2024. PHA anticipates continuing art and wellness programming at other PHA locations in the coming year.

Program Coordinating Committee (PCOC): Since the last Five-Year Plan submission, PHA has had notable success re-energizing its Program Coordinating Committee (PCC) that guides FSS and other resident services program development; PCC membership now includes 35 members. During the pandemic, PHA maintained the group through quarterly Zoom meetings; meetings have since resumed to an in-person format. PHA has also maintained a group of employer partners, now numbering over 30, who provide internship and employment opportunities to participants in our workforce development programming.

Partnering to Make Natural Resources Accessible to PHA Residents: In this reporting period, PHA cultivated a partnership with Rhode Island Housing and the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC) that resulted in the completion of the Manton Pathway project. RI Housing provided a forgivable loan that was the primary source of funding for the project. The Manton Pathway Project created a formal connection to the Woonasquatucket River Greenway, a seven-mile walking and bike path. PHA and its partners were awarded a 2024 NAHRO Excellence Award for Design for the Manton Pathway Project. In the past year, the PHA has

continued to collaborate with the WRWC to explore the construction of another pathway linking the Hartford Park community to the natural resources of Woonasquatucket River Greenway. The PHA and the WRWC anticipate conducting a community meeting in early spring of 2025 to gather Hartford Park resident input on the project plan.

Partnerships to Prevent Homelessness and Increase Access to Affordable Housing: In reporting period, PHA and RI Housing agreed to share jurisdiction for special voucher populations to promote quicker leasing and state-wide geographical access for voucher holders with Mainstream, Foster Youth to Independence, Family Reunification and Move Up/Move-On Vouchers. With Crossroads Rhode Island, PHA developed the plan for a special program for Crossroads' Transitional Housing Program graduates to have an admissions preference for the PHA's public housing program and incorporated this preference into the PHA's ACOP in 2024. As a strategy to increase access to housing by increasing the number of landlords participating in the program, PHA also partnered with landlords to raise their awareness of the benefits of participating in the program through outreach education programs and incentives. This initiative attracted over 70 new landlords to the HCV program.

Partnering with the Community: Since the last Five-Year Plan submission, PHA staff have continued to serve on a wide range of boards, committees and task forces, including but not limited to: Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston Board; Habitat for Humanity Board; City of Providence Mayor's Coalition on Behavioral Health Board; WIOA Youth Employment Committee; South Providence HEZ Steering Committee and its Chronic Health Conditions sub-committee, and Central Provide HEZ Employment Working Group. Executive Director Melissa Sanzaro serves as a member of the RI Housing Resource Commission representing the PHAs of RI, as a member of the Board of the RI Public Health Institute, as co-vice chairperson of the Public Housing Authorities Association of RI, and as a member of the Community Advisory Board of the United Way of RI. Deputy Director Martinez serves as a member of the RI Continuum of Care and the Providence Community Health Centers' Community Advisory Council.

Goal 4: Continuously Improve PHA Management and Operations

Board Development: Since the submission of the last Five-Year Plan, PHA has onboarded four new Commissioners. To support these new Commissioners and existing Commissioners to best carry out their roles, PHA administered a survey in 2023 asking Board members to identify training topics of interest. PHA staff developed a training plan that integrated presentations during Board meetings by PHA staff and outside experts, half day retreats, and identification of training events conducted by national industry leaders such as NAHRO, CLPHA and Nan McKay. Board members have been introduced to the resources of HUD Exchange and are provided with materials from HUD's *Lead the Way* Commissioner training program in new member orientation packages. Starting in 2023, Commissioners and senior staff received in-person annual ethics training from a representative of the RI State Ethics Commission. Also beginning in 2023, Board members participated in half day retreats designed to foster capacity building, planning and innovation in the management of the PHA. The 2023 Board retreat, entitled *Reimagining*

Housing, included training and discussions about real estate development, capital needs assessments, security upgrades, and Commissioners had the opportunity to learn about how a peer housing authority, Worcester Housing Authority (MA), was pursuing the redevelopment of one of its oldest family public housing developments. The current year's retreat, *Opportunity Knocks*, featured a presentation by the Cambridge Housing Authority (MA) concerning that agency's lessons learned in repositioning assets, a discussion about the PHA's new cross-sector collaboration concerning early childhood education, and an interactive planning activity focused on updating the PHA's strategic plan.

Teambuilding to Support Internal Management and Operations: Throughout this reporting period, the PHA's Executive Department engaged the leadership of all Departments in inter-active, monthly senior staff sessions focused on identifying obstacles to success, developing strategies to address obstacles, and celebrating success in each year of the Plan. In August of 2024, PHA launched its first annual *Values in Action Awards* to honor staff members whose contributions to the PHA reflect the PHA's core values of Excellence, Accountability, Innovation, Respect, and Equity. Staff selected to receive these awards were nominated by their peers and celebrated at an all-staff and Resident Advisory Board event in August.

Staff Development and Training: Throughout this reporting period, the PHA's Human Resources Department reviewed training needs and developed training schedules. During this time, all PHA staff participated in harassment and discrimination training and staff in middle management positions participated in leadership training. Also in this period, the PHA comprehensively reviewed and updated its public housing ACOP and HCV administrative plans to reflect updates in HUD regulations, including HOTMA, and industry best practices. Staff in these departments received training about changes in these foundational policies. The PHA's Property Management Department created updated and standardized standing operating procedures and provided training before implementation. Property Managers also received leadership training in 2023, with all Managers completing the 12-module *The Leadership Journey* program developed by Business Training Experts. All Property Management staff participated in HUD fair housing training in 2023 via a HUD Exchange webinar. Resident Services, Leased Housing, and Property Management Departments all staff received customer service training. In addition, Resident Service Department staff received conflict resolution training that enabled them to serve as mediators in intra-resident and community conflict situations. To enhance the skills of our maintenance trades staff, the PHA's Human Resources Department, in collaboration with the bargaining unit representing PHA carpenters and the New England Carpenter's Training Center, developed a training curriculum to enhance skills in five critical areas of PHA need and implemented a twelve-week training program where staff received hands-on training and exposure to new tools, methods and products. Currently staff in all Departments are in the process of comprehensive training necessary for use of the PHA's new operating software system that will come fully online in April 2025.

Building Capacity: During this reporting period, the PHA accessed its organizational structure and began to examine how any repositioning of assets might impact the agency's organizational structure. During this period, PHA established and staffed a new Admissions Department responsible for screening and onboarding all new public housing residents and HCV participants

to streamline the screening and leasing processes across programs, minimize vacancies in public housing, and a maximize HCV utilization. The PHA added capacity in the Resident Services Department to best manage new programs by adding a Workforce Development Program Manager and a Wellness Program Manager to the Department's supervisory structure. To add capacity to the Facilities Management Department, PHA established an additional Associate Director position to focus on management of contracts and capital projects.

Cyber Security: Because the PHA takes seriously its responsibility to safeguard sensitive information held in its software program and on devices, in 2023 it completed a comprehensive review of the PHA's digital networks and initiated two projects: cyber security monitoring and management and migrating the agency's virtual environment and data to the Cloud. PHA has retained Artic Wolf as its cybersecurity monitoring and management vendor. The PHA implemented and increased vulnerability scans, provides ongoing cybersecurity training of staff, and acquired cybersecurity insurance to protect the PHA. PHA completed the connection of its devices to the Cloud and has replaced the agency's EOL (end-of-life) virtual environment hardware.

Technology: The PHA, after using HAB software for many years, issued a request for proposals in 2024 for an operating software system and selected PHAWeb as the PHA's new operating software system. This software will significantly increase functionality that will better support PHA in more efficiently conducting its businesses operations and provides features that support resident, program participant, landlord, and vendor interactions with PHA through dedicated portals available with software system. As this final year of the current Five-Year Plan concludes, PHA staff is engaged in extensive staff training necessary for the implementation of the software.

Use of Interdepartmental Strategy Committees

Leased Housing Strategy Committee: The PHA established the Leased Housing Strategy Committee in 2022 to review and revise the PHA's HCV Administrative Plan, develop an update staffing plan, and identify strategies for ensuring continued high performer status with SEMAP. The Committee successfully completed the review and revision of the Administrative Plan and developed new initiatives, including establishing a housing search assistant position to serve as a bridge between families and landlords, implementing a landlord recruitment strategy, and increasing communication between the PHA and landlords, particularly PBV landlords. The Committee also advised the Department in strategies for onboarding new HUD initiatives, such as the EHV and Mainstream Voucher Programs and implementing strategies that resulted in the PHA meeting or exceeding leasing goals for these programs serving hard to house families. In 2024, the Leased Housing Strategy Committee guided by the Finance and Accounting Department provided vital guidance to the Committee about strategies for maximizing utilization of subsidy within the confines of a HUD shortfall prevention plan. The Committee working closely with HUD's Shortfall Prevention Team to successfully secure needed Set-Aside Funding and developed leasing strategies and cost containment measures to prevent future shortfall. Currently, the Committee is researching best practices from a number of sources, including Nan McKay and NAHRO, about addressing and navigating potential cuts in HUD funding for the HCV Program.

Security Operations Strategy Committee: In 2023, a committee comprised of representatives of the Security Operations, Resident Services, Property Management and Executive Departments was established to meet to identify safety and security challenges and devise strategies to address challenges. An important outcome of the Committee's work was a revised security plan for high-rises buildings that included 24/7 coverage, engagement of an outside vendor, and deploying a new security model that included stationary and roving security guards. As a result of this Committee's work in 2024, the PHA's Office of Security operations created and maintained a tracking system that notes the status of cameras and lighting needs and upgrades and other CPTED approaches such as foliage removal. The Committee also developed the framework for Community Safety meetings at all developments and a new one-on-one outreach capacity where Task Force members and, when beneficial, law enforcement representatives meet with residents to assess underlying causes of behavior that interferes with community safety. The Tasks Force also works with the Providence Police Department and community partners to develop strategies to address new and emerging trends in safety and security.

Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) Strategy Committee: Since the last Five-Year Plan submission, this PHA convened an interdepartmental team that includes representation from the Executive, Finance, Property Management, Admissions, and Facilities Management Departments, as well as the Office of Strategy and Development. The charge of this Committee that meets monthly is to track PHAS performance indicators, identify obstacles to PHAS high performance, research best practices, and develop, implement, and monitor corrective strategies and best practices in the areas of unit inspections, unit turnaround, occupancy, and rent collection.

Vendor Task Force

During the pandemic, supply chain disruptions were a significant challenge to capital project completion, work order completion, and unit turnaround time. Established in 2021, the Vendor Task Force, led by the Finance Department identified new sources of suppliers and developed other strategies for dealing with supply chain issues. Including representatives from the Legal, Facilities Management, and Executive Departments, the Task Force continues to meet monthly to track contracts, review change orders, and monitor internal controls and contract tracking protocols to ensure high performance by vendors, minimize change orders, and ensure cost containment in contracts.

Facilities Management and Preservation of PHA Public Housing: Since the submission of the last Five-Year Plan, in addition to completing over 30,000 work orders per year, the PHA undertook major capital projects designed to preserve public housing units, including: Roof replacement at Kilmartin Plaza, the demolition and replacement of emergency exit staircases and skylights at the Roger Williams Apartments, replacement of fire pump systems at Carroll Tower and Parenti Villa, replacement of 45% of building roofs at Manton Heights, the replacement of roofs on all buildings at Chad Brown, upgrading of elevators in all high rises, installation of sprinkler systems at all high rises, the installation of new building entry doors in four out the PHA five high-rise buildings, and completion of a \$2 million lead-based paint testing and abatement project at the Chad Brown

Apartments. During this time period, PHA also adopted new procedures for pest management and contracted for landscaping, plastering and tub surrounds installations to augment PHA personnel.

Promoting Energy Efficiency and Conservation: Over the past five years, PHA continued its pursuit of energy efficiency programs to support environmental sustainability and conservation in response to climate change. PHA completed its first conversion of a high-rise HVAC system to mini-split system through a partnership with RISE engineering. RISE is a Project Expediter (PEX) in RI, an authorized contractor selected through a bid process to implement energy-efficiency projects that qualify for Rhode Island Energy's energy incentives. RI Energy requires each PEX to achieve target kWh savings goals while maintaining high customer satisfaction. RISE designed, and with PHA, monitored the installation and evaluation of the mini-split project at Kilmartin Plaza. RISE also secured RI energy incentives that funded the design and installation costs of the project – a value of \$1.2. PHA anticipates pursuing a mini-split conversion next at its Carroll Tower elder-only designated development. PHA also partnered with RISE engineering to install high efficiency boilers at Manton Heights, Chad Brown and Admiral Terrace (a project that came at no cost to PHA and is valued at \$2.8 million) and installation of high efficiency water heaters at Dexter Manor and Dominica Manor) a project that came at no cost to PHA and is valued at \$600,000). In addition to a partnership with RISE, PHA was a partner in a successful grant application to the EPA in 2024 that will pilot the conversion of gas-fired stoves to electric stoves in a portion of the PHA's scattered site units in the coming year. As an additional energy conservation measure, PHA implemented the first stage of its plan to convert of a portion of its fleet of vehicles to electric vehicles in 2024 with the purchase of four all-electric vehicles. In this reporting period, PHA, with other members of PHARI, invested in a solar net metering project that will save PHA and PHARI members millions in energy expenses; the PHA General Counsel provided pro bono legal services for negotiation of the PHARI contract. The project's solar farm is scheduled to be operation al in 2026.

Finance: Since the submission of the last Five-Year Plan, the PHA's Finance department completed a review of all department policies and adopted all of HUD's model policies for public housing authority f-nance-related operations. Also, since the last Five-Year Plan submission, the PHA engaged in interdepartmental grant writing that yielded over \$8 million. The PHA's Finance Department tracks all grant funded expenditures and files PHA financial reports to funders.

Notable grant awards in the period include, but are not limited to:

- \$2.3 million HUD Jobs Plus grant;
- \$2.1 million HUD Lead Paint grant;
- \$470,000 grant through the City of Providence to support PHA's Community Health Outreach Worker Program;
- \$208,000 grant from Housing Authority Insurance Risk Prevention Fund to support the replacement of fire pumps at Carroll Tower;
- \$200,000 federal earmark grant to support the PHA's Victims of Crime Program;
- \$150,000 federal earmark grant to support the PHA's Jobs Plus program; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$75,000 grant from the Rhode Island Foundation grant to support the Building Bridges to Support in the Wake of Covid-19 program behavioral health program
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B.4

Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals. Provide a statement of the PHA's goals, activities, objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Goal 1: Child and adult survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking will have access to information about and referral to resources that promote safety and wellness for victims and support their continued participation in PHA programs.

Objective 1: Publicize PHA's VAWA policy.

Activity 1: Review and update VAWA policy annually to make certain policy contains all protections available to victims.

Activity 2: Provide a copy of the VAWA policy at intake to PHA's housing programs and at annual recertification.

Activity 3: Post information about how program participants may invoke VAWA protections in administrative and management offices, information boards and at program sites.

Activity 4: Provide ongoing training opportunities to VAWA coordinator to ensure PHA remains abreast of any changes in VAWA.

Objective 2: Increase staff capacity to recognize the signs of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and understand their role in promoting the safety of and extending VAWA protections to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Activity 1: Incorporate an explanation of the PHA's VAWA policy as a part of new employee orientation.

Activity 2: Provide an annual training for PHA staff about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, the PHA's VAWA policy, and the role of staff in extending VAWA protections to victims.

Objective 3: PHA residents recognize the signs of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and know who to contact at PHA for assistance related to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Activity 1: Provide workshops and events about at PHA developments about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Activity 2: Provide Resident Advisory Board members with training that: increases their awareness of the warning signs of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; heightens their awareness of the PHA's VAWA policy; and introduces them to the VAWA Coordinator and other PHA staff designated to assist survivors.

	<p>Activity 3: Post contact information for the VAWA Coordinator and other PHA staff designated to assist victims</p> <p>in Property Management offices and at the Leased Housing, Applications, and Resident Services Departments.</p> <p>Goal 2: PHA is an active participant in local and state efforts to prevent domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and staking.</p> <p><u>Objective 1:</u> <i>Establish new and expand existing interagency partnerships with organizations to increase resident access to treatment, intervention, and prevention services.</i></p> <p>Activity 1: PHA becomes a member of the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence</p> <p>Activity 2: Re-engage with the Non-Violence Institute</p>
C.	Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.
C.1	Significant Amendment or Modification. Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan.
C.2	<p>Resident Advisory Board (RAB) Comments.</p> <p>(a) Did the RAB(s) have comments to the 5-Year PHA Plan?</p> <p>Y N <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(b) If yes, comments must be submitted by the PHA as an attachment to the 5-Year PHA Plan. PHAs must also include a narrative describing their analysis of the RAB recommendations and the decisions made on these recommendations.</p>
C.3	<p>Certification by State or Local Officials.</p> <p>Form HUD-50077-SL, <i>Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan</i>, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.</p>
C.4	<p>Required Submission for HUD FO Review.</p> <p>(a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?</p> <p>Y N <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>(b) If yes, include Challenged Elements.</p>
D.	Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH).

D.1

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. (Non-qualified PHAs are only required to complete this section on the Annual PHA Plan. All qualified PHAs must complete this section.)

Provide a statement of the PHA's strategies and actions to achieve fair housing goals outlined in an accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5). Use the chart provided below. (PHAs should add as many goals as necessary to overcome fair housing issues and contributing factors.) Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA is not obligated to complete this chart. The PHA will fulfill, nevertheless, the requirements at 24 CFR § 903.7(o) enacted prior to August 17, 2015. See Instructions for further detail on completing this item.

Fair Housing Goal:

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal : Not applicable.

Fair Housing Goal:

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal

Fair Housing Goal:

Describe fair housing strategies and actions to achieve the goal

Instructions for Preparation of Form HUD-50075-5Y - 5-Year PHA Plan for All PHAs

A. **PHA Information.** All PHAs must complete this section. (24 CFR § 903.4)

- A.1** Include the full **PHA Name**, **PHA Code**, **PHA Fiscal Year Beginning** (MM/YYYY), **Five-Year Period** that the Plan covers, i.e. 2019-2023, **PHA Plan Submission Type**, and the **Availability of Information**, specific location(s) of all information relevant to the hearing and proposed PHA Plan.

PHA Consortia: Check box if submitting a Joint PHA Plan and complete the table.

B. Plan Elements.

- B.1 Mission.** State the PHA’s mission for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families in the PHA’s jurisdiction for the next five years. ([24 CFR § 903.6\(a\)\(1\)](#))
- B.2 Goals and Objectives.** Identify the PHA’s quantifiable goals and objectives that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families for the next five years. ([24 CFR § 903.6\(b\)\(1\)](#))
- B.3 Progress Report.** Include a report on the progress the PHA has made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5- Year Plan. ([24 CFR § 903.6\(b\)\(2\)](#))
- B.4 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Goals.** Provide a statement of the PHA’s goals, activities objectives, policies, or programs that will enable the PHA to serve the needs of child and adult victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. ([24 CFR § 903.6\(a\)\(3\)](#)).

C. Other Document and/or Certification Requirements.

- C.1 Significant Amendment or Modification.** Provide a statement on the criteria used for determining a significant amendment or modification to the 5-Year Plan. For modifications resulting from the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, refer to the ‘Sample PHA Plan Amendment’ found in Notice PIH-2012-32, REV 2.

C.2 Resident Advisory Board (RAB) comments.

- (a) Did the public or RAB have comments?
- (b) If yes, submit comments as an attachment to the Plan and describe the analysis of the comments and the PHA’s decision made on these recommendations. ([24 CFR § 903.17\(b\)](#), [24 CFR § 903.19](#))

C.3 Certification by State or Local Officials.

[Form HUD-50077-SL](#), *Certification by State or Local Officials of PHA Plans Consistency with the Consolidated Plan*, must be submitted by the PHA as an electronic attachment to the PHA Plan.

C.4 Required Submission for HUD FO Review.

Challenged Elements.

- (a) Did the public challenge any elements of the Plan?
- (b) If yes, include such information as an attachment to the Annual PHA Plan or 5-Year PHA Plan with a description of any challenges to Plan elements, the source of the challenge, and the PHA’s response to the public.

D. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.

(Non-qualified PHAs are only required to complete this section on the Annual PHA Plan. All qualified PHAs must complete this section.)

D.1 Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing. The PHA will use the answer blocks in item D.1 to provide a statement of its strategies and actions to implement each fair housing goal outlined in its accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) consistent with 24 CFR § 5.154(d)(5) that states, in relevant part: “To implement goals and priorities in an AFH, strategies and actions shall be included in program participants’ ... PHA Plans (including any plans incorporated therein) Strategies and actions must affirmatively further fair housing” Use the chart provided to specify each fair housing goal from the PHA’s AFH for which the PHA is the responsible program participant – whether the AFH was prepared solely by the PHA, jointly with one or more other PHAs, or in collaboration with a state or local jurisdiction – and specify the fair housing strategies and actions to be implemented by the PHA during the period covered by this PHA Plan. If there are more than three fair housing goals, add answer blocks as necessary.

Until such time as the PHA is required to submit an AFH, the PHA will not have to complete section D.; nevertheless, the PHA will address its obligation to affirmatively further fair housing in part by fulfilling the requirements at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(3) enacted prior to August 17, 2015, which means that it examines its own programs or proposed programs; identifies any impediments to fair housing choice within those programs; addresses those impediments in a reasonable fashion in view of the resources available; works with local jurisdictions to implement any of the jurisdiction’s initiatives to affirmatively further fair housing that require the PHA’s involvement; and maintain records reflecting these analyses and actions. Furthermore, under Section 5A(d)(15) of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, a PHA must submit a civil rights certification with its Annual PHA Plan, which is described at 24 CFR 903.7(o)(1) except for qualified PHAs who submit the Form HUD-50077-CR as a standalone document.

This information collection is authorized by Section 511 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act, which added a new section 5A to the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended, which introduced the 5-Year PHA Plan. The 5-Year PHA Plan provides the PHA’s mission, goals and objectives for serving the needs of low- income, very low- income, and extremely low- income families and the progress made in meeting the goals and objectives described in the previous 5-Year Plan.

Public reporting burden for this information collection is estimated to average 1.64 hours per year per response or 8.2 hours per response every five years, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not collect this information, and respondents are not required to complete this form, unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Privacy Act Notice. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to solicit the information requested in this form by virtue of Title 12, U.S. Code, Section 1701 et seq, and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 12, Code of Federal Regulations. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality.