



DELAWARE FAMILY REENTRY PILOT PROGRAM (FRP)

Presentation to New Castle County Council

Community Services Committee

September 22, 2020

DELAWARE FRP: OVERVIEW

- Improve reentry and reduce recidivism by creating opportunities for returning citizens to live with close family members who are residing in Public Housing Authority (PHA)-assisted housing (either public housing units or rental units where a Housing Choice Voucher is being utilized).
- Partners include the 5 Public Housing Authorities (PHAs), Delaware Department of Correction (DOC) and the Delaware Center for Justice (DCJ).
- Created the first statewide program in the U.S.
- Awarded a technical assistance grant through Vera Institute
- Modeled after successful programs in NYC and New Orleans.

DELAWARE FRP: OVERVIEW

- FRP participants will be permitted to remain as a guest of the PHA-assisted household for a period of up to one or two years.
- After FRP participation has concluded, if reunification has been successful, the FRP participant may be permitted to officially join the household's lease.

DELAWARE PHA INVENTORY

PHA	Public Housing Units	Housing Choice Vouchers
Delaware State Housing Authority (Kent and Sussex Counties outside the City of Dover)	486	955
Dover Housing Authority	286	220
Newark Housing Authority	96	209
New Castle County Housing Authority	N/A	1,825
Wilmington Housing Authority	1,544	1,939
TOTAL	2,412	5,148

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

FRP will be open to:

1. Individuals who have been released from incarceration within the past three (3) years.
2. Individuals who have been living in the community for a period of up to three (3) years following a conviction for an offense which would prohibit them from being admitted to PHA-assisted housing (under existing applicant screening processes).

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Eligible applicants will be identified by either DOC or by the Delaware Center for Justice (DCJ).
- All eligible applicants must have a close family member (parent, sibling, child, grandparent, grandchild, spouse, domestic partner) who is living in PHA-assisted housing.
- Household must be in good standing with PHA requirements. This means the household has no outstanding violation that may result in their eviction from PHA-assisted housing.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

Once an applicant has been identified by DOC or DCJ:

1. DOC or DCJ will assist the applicant with completing and submitting the FRP Eligibility Form to the appropriate PHA.
2. Family member will contact the PHA to complete the FRP Family Intake Form .
3. Once the PHA is in receipt of the FRP Eligibility Form, the PHA will review the applicant's conviction history to determine the appropriate category of FRP participation (according to FRP Screening Matrix).

FRP PARTICIPATION CATEGORIES

Category 1: Permitted to remain as a temporary guest of the household for up to one (1) year

Category 2: Permitted to remain as a temporary guest of the household for up to two (2) years

Category 3: Denied admission to FRP

ORIENTATION PROCESS

Once an applicant has been admitted to FRP:

1. PHA meets with the applicant and every member of the household over the age of 18 to complete the FRP Temporary Guest Permission Form, FRP Participant Agreement, and FRP Family Agreement.
2. PHA will review the Family Reentry Pilot Program Manual with the applicant and household as an orientation to the program.

ONGOING FRP PARTICIPATION

During a participant's involvement with FRP:

- DOC will continue to engage with DOC-involved participants as long as they remain under community supervision.
- Reentry service providers will make services available to all FRP participants, as needed/desired.
- As a guest of the household, participant's income will not be counted, and he/she will not be expected to contribute toward the rent.

FRP COMPLETION

If, after one or two years:

1. The family has remained intact.
2. The FRP participant has avoided becoming incarcerated again (for a period of longer than 14 days).
3. The FRP participant may officially join the household's lease

FORWARD PROGRESS

- July 2020- MOU executed between the 5 Housing Authorities and DOC
- August 2020- FRP begins with Public Housing. Currently no applicants have been received for request to add a FRP participant
- Fall/Winter 2020- Statewide Landlord Campaign planning currently in process
- Statewide Landlord engagement will include representatives from DOC and DCJ.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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