

## **Introduction**

The information provided in this report offers an update on the status of the Housing Choice Voucher Program (formerly known as Section 8) administered by the Housing Authority of the County of San Joaquin (HACSJ).

## **Data Entry for Wait List Applications**

The waiting list for the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) opened on October 3, 2009 and closed on October 24, 2009. The waiting lists for public housing and the project-based voucher programs have remained open. A total of 9,103 pre-applications were received during the wait list opening of which 4,405 pre-applications were submitted online. The data entry and mailing of confirmation letters began on November 16, 2009, and was completed on December 31, 2009.

The waiting lists consist of 36,210 applicants, of which 11,506 are for the HCV program; 5,307 are for the Project-based Voucher program; and, 19,397 are for the public housing programs.

The online application process allowed the agency another venue for interested families to submit applications for the agency's waiting lists. In addition, the Agency saved time and approximately \$11,409 in costs related to the necessary data entry of the applications into the agency's software system.

## **HUD – Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Vouchers**

June 2009, the Housing Authority was notified that 35 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Vouchers had been awarded to the agency. The VASH Program combines the assistance provided through the HCV program with case management and clinical services provided by Veterans Affairs. The HA has partnered with the Veteran Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System to coordinate case management and services necessary to administer the HUD-VASH Vouchers. To date, the HA has received four (4) referrals from the VA and is currently determining eligibility to issue vouchers to qualified applicants.

## **Owner Outreach**

On November 17, 2009 staff conducted an owner outreach presentation in conjunction with the Stockton Police Department's Manager Training Program. This manager training program is a voluntary training offered to on-site managers throughout the City of Stockton. This one-day training provides information on the rights and responsibilities of managers and property owners

in the rental housing market. The Stockton Police Department invites community organizations involved in the housing industry to present information at the scheduled trainings. The focus of the November 17<sup>th</sup> training was the HCV program and an overview of the Public Housing programs.

**Prepared by:** Melinda Hazard, Director of Rental Assistance