Survey of Family Unification Program Providers: Documentation for Survey Data Files

Final Report

January 10, 2014

Rebecca Kleinman
Lisa Klein Vogel

MATHEMATICA
Policy Research

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TABLES

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In 2012, Mathematica Policy Research developed and fielded two surveys for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under the project Housing for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care. The surveys were administered to providers of Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers. They were designed to address the extent to which and how FUP vouchers are being used to provide housing for youth aging out of foster care. This documentation describes the purpose of the study, the survey methodology, the creation of each data file, common data conventions, and the contents of the data delivery package.

A. Study Purpose

1. Study Background

Youth who age out of foster care are at high risk for homelessness. As they reach the age of majority (18 or 21 years old, depending on the state) and are no longer in the child welfare system, they must transition to living independently, typically in the absence of any financial or other support from parents.

One resource for such youth is the Family Unification Program (FUP), a special purpose voucher program under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program (also known as Section 8). FUP's primary purpose is to provide housing vouchers to families for whom the lack of adequate housing is the primary factor for the imminent out-of-home placement of their children into foster and/or delays in family reunification. Youth aged 18–21 who have left foster care at age 16 or older and who do not have adequate housing are also eligible.

FUP functions as an inter-agency collaboration between local public housing agencies (PHAs) and public child welfare agencies (PCWAs) to provide housing assistance and supports to eligible youth and families. For youth who age out of foster care, FUP vouchers offer up to 18 months of rental subsidy, as well as supportive services delivered by the PCWA or their partner agency. Participating communities decide whether to apply to HUD for FUP vouchers, and if awarded, whether to serve families, youth, or both in their FUP programs.

Prior to this study, little was known about how communities that were awarded FUP vouchers used them to support youth who have aged out of foster care. To further our knowledge, HUD, with support from the Administration for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), commissioned Mathematica Policy Research (Mathematica), with Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, to survey the universe of PHAs and, for those PHAs that serve youth, their PCWA partners.

The surveys were conducted as part of a larger study on housing options for youth aging out of foster care. As part of the study, the project team also conducted site visits to four communities. A monograph dedicated to FUP describes the findings from the survey and site visits (Dion et al., forthcoming [b]). The larger study also included a literature review and an inventory of state and local housing programs available around the nation for this population (Dworsky et al. 2012). Other study activities include a policy forum, an issue brief focused on areas of future research, and a final report that highlights key findings from the interim reports (Dion et al., forthcoming [a]).

2. Research Questions

The survey was designed to address the extent to which and and how FUP vouchers are being used to provide housing for youth aging out of foster care. Principally, the survey aimed to determine the proportion of youth being served through FUP, identify incentives and disincentives to serving youth, and develop a basic understanding of the implementation of FUP for youth. Across both surveys, questions included, but were not limited to, the following topics:

- **FUP voucher allocation.** Whether or not PHAs were allocating FUP vouchers to youth; reasons for serving or not serving youth; the percentage of total FUP vouchers in use by youth; and among communities not awarding vouchers to youth, the likelihood of doing so in the future.

- **Program entry.** How foster youth are identified as candidates for FUP; how the referral, application, and voucher briefing processes work; the ways in which PHAs help youth obtain rental housing; and the frequency with which youth issued a voucher successfully obtain housing and remain in the program for the full 18 months.

- **Program partnerships.** The nature of PHA-PCWA partnerships, including any challenges resulting from partnerships; and the degree to which and how partners communicate and hold cross-trainings.

- **Supportive services.** The degree to which PCWAs provide supportive services to youth, including services offered before, during, and at the end of their 18-month housing assistance period; and the extent to which and how PCWAs or their partners communicate with youth.

- **Perspectives on policies and local factors.** PHA and PCWA opinions on the 18-month time limit and service requirement for youth; and challenges to administering FUP.

B. Survey Methodology

1. Survey Development

Survey instruments. The research team developed the PHA and PCWA survey instruments in consultation with HUD. The PHA survey instrument consists of screening questions (module A) followed by three modules for distinct groups of respondents. PHAs who indicated in module A that they served a FUP-eligible youth in the past 18 months were directed to module B ("Current PHAs"). Respondents to module A who indicated they served youth in the past were directed to module C ("Past PHAs"), and PHAs who never served youth were directed to module D ("Never PHAs"). The PCWA survey instrument was not divided into modules for different groups because only the PCWAs who were named by PHAs as currently serving youth were surveyed.

The survey was designed for web administration and was expected to take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Sample members were sent an email with a link to the survey inviting them to complete it independently. However, at sample members' requests, trained interviewers administered the survey instrument by telephone or mailed a hard copy of the survey to respondents.

The PHA and PCWA surveys can be found in Appendices A and B, respectively. The surveys are annotated to show the corresponding variable name for each survey item included in the data sets.[1]

Survey pre-test. Mathematica conducted a pre-test of the survey instruments to identify areas of potential respondent confusion or survey error, adjust the length of the survey, improve the flow and sequencing of the questions, and clarify respondent instructions. Pre-test respondents were sent a mail version of the survey instrument, and asked to complete the survey and take notes on any questions or problems. They then completed a 60–90 minute semi-structured interview with trained Mathematica staff members. Staff asked about questions and problems that may have arisen during the completion process, respondent interpretation of key terminology, impressions of survey length, and attitudes towards completion. Interviews were conducted with four of the seven PHA pre-test sample members and three PCWA pre-test sample members. The project team, in consultation with HUD, made minor modifications to the survey instruments based on HUD's feedback.

2. Sample Design

PHA sampling frame. The sampling frame for the PHA survey consisted of 249 unique PHAs that HUD indicated actively operate FUP for families, youth, or both. Mathematica fielded the survey to the total sample of 249 PHAs, including seven PHAs that were fielded as part of the pre-test.

The executive director of each PHA was designated as the survey respondent for the initial dissemination. The initial recipient could designate an alternate respondent, and was encouraged to seek input from partner organizations, if appropriate. Four PHA executive directors oversaw two agencies; these four respondents were asked to complete the survey twice—once on behalf of each PHA for which they served as executive director.

PCWA sampling frame. The research team derived the PCWA sampling frame from PHA responses. Each PHA respondent who indicated that his or her agency had awarded an eligible youth a FUP voucher in the past 18 months was asked to identify the partnering PCWA and contact person at the partnering agency. The resultant list of partnering PCWAs and contacts then became the sample for the PCWA survey. PHA respondents identified a total of 92 partner PCWAs. Nine of them were identified as a partner by more than one PHA. Because each PCWA was asked to complete the survey only once, the research team coded these cases as duplicates prior to survey administration. The total sampling frame was 83 unique PCWAs (92 identified – 9 duplicates = 83 unique PCWAs).

3. Survey Data Collection

Survey administration. PHA data collection began in September 2012 and lasted eight weeks. PCWA data collection began in late October 2012 and was fielded in two batches, each lasting eight weeks. The field period for each survey began with a pre-notification email alerting recipients to the upcoming survey invitation and encouraging their participation. Mathematica, in conjunction with

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[1] Items that contain respondent-level identifiers (such as respondent name or contact information) that have been dropped from the data sets (see Section B.3) are not labeled with a variable name.

HUD and HUD's liaison at the Administration for Children, Youth, and Families (ACYF) at HHS took several steps to reach out to nonrespondents, including searching online for alternate contacts and weekly follow-up via email, mail, or telephone.

Survey data preparation. The research team performed initial data checks after the first week of the field period for both the PHA and PCWA surveys to ensure that skip patterns functioned properly and that a reasonable distribution of responses had been collected. At the conclusion of the survey field period, a file of initial frequencies was produced and reviewed for inconsistencies and out-of-range data. Following this process, a final data file was produced for analysis.

PHA survey response rates. The overall response rate for the PHA survey was 89.8 percent (211/235 eligible PHAs) and was calculated using the American Association of Public Opinion Research 2 (AAPOR2) method.[2] We determined through screener questions that 14 PHAs included in the initial sample frame of 249 were ineligible for the survey because they reported they did not operate FUP. Among the 235 eligible PHAs in the sample frame, 211 yielded usable data for analysis, including one mostly completed record. Table 1 provides the final sample distribution.

Table 1. Response Outcomes for Survey Sample

	Number of PHAs	Number of PCWAs
Total PHA Respondents	**211**	**-**
Currently serve youth with FUP (Current PHAs)	91	-
Served youth with FUP in the past (Past PHAs)	6	-
Never served youth with FUP (Never PHAs)	98	-
Do not currently serve youth but did not indicate whether served youth in the past	16	-
Total PCWA Respondents		**73**
PHA partner currently serves youth with FUP	-	70
PHA partner does not currently serve youth	-	3
Total Ineligible	**14**	**1**
Not operating FUP[a]	14	-
Not a PCWA	-	1
Total Nonrespondents	**24**	**9**
Did not complete majority of survey	6	2
Refused to participate	1	0
Unable to contact	17	7
Total Sample	**249**	**83**

[a] Responses to the screener questions at the beginning of the PHA survey suggested that 14 of the 249 PHAs were ineligible for the survey because they did not operate FUP. However, HUD subsequently determined that at least 7 of these PHAs were in fact operating FUP.

PCWA survey response rates. The overall response rate for the PCWA survey was 89.0 percent (73/82 eligible PCWAs) and was calculated using AAPOR2.[3] We determined from review of responses that one of the PCWAs included in the initial sample frame of 83 was ineligible for the

[2] AAPOR2 = (Completed Interviews + Usable Partials)/(Total Eligible Sample); for the PHA survey, AAPOR2 = (210+1)/235 = 89.8%.

[3] AAPOR2 = (Completed Interviews + Usable Partials)/(Total Eligible Sample); for the PCWA survey, AAPOR2 = (71+2)/82 = 89.0%.

survey because it was a homeless shelter and not a PCWA. Among the 82 eligible PCWAs in the sample frame, 73 yielded usable data for analysis, including two mostly completed records. A summary of the final sample disposition for the PCWA survey is provided in Table 1.

C. Description of Data Sets

This document accompanies four data sets: the PHA survey responses, PCWA survey responses, a matched data set of responses from PHA-PCWA partners, and a file containing agency-identifiable information. Each data set was cleaned, processed, and used to produce study results. This section explains how we constructed the analysis samples and variables. Table 2 reports the data source(s), record level, type of respondent(s), number of records, number of variables, and the file name.

1. Identifying Records for Analysis

The research team used the clean PHA and PCWA survey files to isolate records for analysis. In total, 231 PHAs and 75 PCWAs initiated the survey.[4] From the PHA file, we identified and dropped 36 of the 231 records from all analyses: respondents who reported they do not operate FUP (n = 14); those who operate FUP, but do not currently serve youth and did not indicate whether they served youth in the past (n = 16), and those who did not complete enough of the survey to consider their data usable (n = 6). The resultant PHA analyses were based on 195 records. These 36 "dropped" records are *included* in the delivery file for completeness but can be dropped in future analyses by subsetting them with the analysis sample flag, *PHASAMPLE*. The PHA analysis sample flag also identifies Current, Past, and Never PHAs based on the survey module they completed.

From the PCWA file, we identified and dropped 5 of the 75 records from analyses: those who responded their PHA partner(s) do not currently serve youth with FUP (n = 3), and those who did not complete enough of the survey to consider the data usable (n = 2). As with the PHA file, these 5 "dropped" records are *included* in the delivery file for completeness, but can be dropped in future analyses by subsetting them with the analysis sample flag, *PCWASAMPLE*.

2. Creating the Partner Data Set

We matched PHA and PCWA partners by comparing the name each provided for the PHA. PHAs wrote their agency name in survey item A1, and PCWAs identified their partner PHA in survey item 5D.[5] Of the 70 usable PCWA records, 22 respondents identified their PHA partner agency by the same verbatim name that appears in the PHA file; another 37 PCWAs identified their PHA partner by a name that closely matched a PHA name on file (for example, the PHA identified themselves as "Housing Authority of ___ County" whereas the PCWA reported completing the survey on behalf of "___ County Housing Authority." One of these PCWA records matched to a PHA that had been dropped from analysis because the PHA did not sufficiently complete the survey; this record was also dropped from the partner file. The resultant PHA-PCWA partner data

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[4] The 231 PHAs that initiated the survey *includes* the 211 respondents plus 14 PHA records that are considered ineligible for purposes of calculating the response rate and 6 unusable partially complete records. The 75 PCWAs that initiated the survey *includes* the 73 respondents and 2 unusable partially complete records.

[5] PHA name is the only unique identifier that is common to both data sets.

set is composed of 58 matches, all of which were included in the analyses. Another 11 of the 70 PCWAs did not match to a youth-serving PHA in our sample, or could not be definitively matched based on the PHA name each provided. The partner data set contains only the variables used for comparing PHA and PCWA survey responses.

3. Variable Types and Handling of Personal Identifiable Information

The data sets include a random, unique ID variable (*MPRIDPHA* and/or *MPRIDPCWA*), survey variables that map to survey items, and additional analysis variables.

Individual identifiers. To safeguard respondent confidentiality, we removed contact information for all respondents, including the respondents' names, staff positions, email addresses and telephone numbers, which were requested in the survey.

Agency identifiers. The survey also collected information that could be used to identify the agencies (for example, agency names and location). We isolated all potential agency identifiers and saved this information in a separate file. The agency file can be linked to the three main data files by the random MPRIDs (*MPRIDPHA* or *MPRIDPCWA),* which are unique to every respondent and affixed to every record. The agency identifiers are the following:

- HUD identification codes for PHAs (*HA_CODE,* from HUD records)
- Name PHAs gave to identify their agencies (*PHA_NAME*)
- Name PHAs provided for their PCWA partner (*PCWA_NAME*)[6]
- Name PCWAs provided for their PHA partner (*Q5D_PHANAME*)
- PHA's city (*PhysicalHACity*, from HUD records)
- PHA's state (*HAState*, from HUD records)[7]

HUD identification codes, PHA city, and PHA state originate from HUD records, rather than from the surveys.

The agency file also includes all open-ended responses. Open-ended responses are considered potential agency identifiers because in at least some cases, respondents wrote in the name or location of their agency. Open-ended responses include survey items that ask respondents to specify another response if their favored answer is not listed as one of the response options. For instance, item B13a in the PHA survey asks respondents to write in the frequency with which the agency communicates with their partner PCWA if different from the listed options. Open-ended responses also include the last item in each PHA module and the PCWA survey; these open-ended responses invite respondents to provide HUD with any additional comments.

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[6] PCWAs were not asked to identify their own agency name. In the PCWA survey, PCWA name (item 1) was pre-populated based on the name their partner PHA provided in the PHA survey (item B5).

[7] State is considered to be an agency identifier because at least some PCWAs are state-level agencies.

The agency file is intended for HUD's internal use only. It must be kept confidential and not be sent to any outside parties. As required by the project's confidentiality agreements, HUD must keep agency information confidential and cannot report findings in any way that identifies respondents or their agencies. Other users can receive the PHA, PCWA, and partner data files, which have been de-identified.

After excluding individual identifiers, isolating agency identifiers, and creating analysis variables (analysis variables are described in Section C.2), there are 260 variables in the PHA data set, 241 variables in the PCWA data set, 29 variables in the partner data set, and 40 variables in the agency-level data set.

Table 2. Summary of Data Sets

Data Source(s)	Record Level	Respondent Type(s)	# Records	# Variables	SAS File Name
PHA survey	PHAs	**Total PHAs**	**231**	260	pha.sas7bdat
		Current PHAs	91		
		Past PHAs	6		
		Never PHAs	98		
		Dropped PHAs	36		
PCWA survey	PCWAs	**Total PCWAs**	**75**	241	pcwa.sas7bdat
		PCWAs partnering with Current PHAs	70		
		Dropped PCWAs	5		
PHA & PCWA surveys	PHA-PCWA partners	**Total Partners**	**58**	29	partner.sas7bdat
		Current PHAs and their partner PCWAs	58		
PHA & PCWA surveys, HUD records[a]	PHAs and PCWAs	**Total Agencies**	**306**	40	agency.sas7bdat
		PHAs	231		
		PCWAs	75		

[a] HUD provided information on PHA city and state, and HUD identification codes for PHAs.

D. **Common Data Conventions**

1. **Survey Variable Names**

Table 3 summarizes the variable naming conventions. PHA survey variable names begin with the survey module letter A, B, C, or D. For example, the variable equivalent of PHA survey item B1 is *B1*. PCWA survey variable names are in the format Q[*item#*]. The variable names in the Partner file were created by combining the naming conventions in the current PHA module and the PCWA survey (for example, *B19Q16*).

The agency file, which includes open-ended items from the PHA and PCWA surveys, also uses the naming conventions from the original survey files. The variable names for the final survey questions that ask respondents to write additional comments follow the conventions of the survey (for example, the variable equivalent for PHA item B72 is *B72* and PCWA item 47 is *Q47*). Multiple-choice items with open-ended response options also follow the naming conventions for the survey or module, but add the suffix "_SPEC," indicating respondents specified their own answer (for example, the variable name for the open-ended response to item B13a is *B13A_SPEC*).

Table 3. Translation of Survey Items into Variable Names

Data Set	Survey or Survey Module(s)	Variable Prefix
PHA	Module A	A[*Item#*]
	Module B	B[*Item#*]
	Module C	C[*Item#*]
	Module D	D[*Item#*]
	Modules C & D	C[*Item#*]D[*Item#*]
	Modules B, C, & D	B[*Item#*]C[*Item#*]D[*Item#*]
PCWA	PCWA survey	Q[*Item#*]
Partner	Module B & PCWA survey	B[Item#]Q[Item#]
Agency[a]	Module B	B[*Item#*]_SPEC
	Module C	C[*Item#*]_SPEC
	Module D	D[*Item#*]_SPEC
	PCWA survey	Q[*Item#*]_SPEC

Note: In the PHA survey, module A is a screener and modules B, C, and D respectively correspond to current PHAs, past PHAs, and never PHAs. The PCWA survey is not separated into modules.

[a] With the exception of agency names and locations, the survey items included in the agency data set are limited to open-ended responses. The table shows the conventions for the open-ended responses to multiple-choice questions.

2.   Creating and Naming Analysis Variables

We created analysis variables to accomplish the objectives below.

- **Examine how different types of respondents answered the same or a similar question** across PHA survey modules, and across the PHA and PCWA surveys. Naming conventions for these variables follow the same pattern as the survey variables. For example, variable *B45C6D4* yields responses to survey items B45, C6, and D4 in the PHA survey so that statistics can be easily calculated based on the full PHA analysis sample.

- **Categorize or re-categorize survey variables**, in some cases, to look across multiple survey items. These variables names typically include the suffix *d*, *r*, or *R*. For example, we created the variable *B26d* to determine whether a PHA provides *at least one type* of housing search assistance referenced in item B26; *B14r* recodes responses to item B14 in order to categorize responses.

- **Categorize meaningful open-ended responses**. We examined all open-ended responses and created variables to capture the ones that meaningfully address the question.[8] These variables are named with the suffix "OTHER" (such as [*Item#*]_OTHER). The percentage of respondents who wrote in a particular response was calculated based on the sample size from the base item. As an example, for PHA survey item B13a, respondents who selected one of the response options listed ("Daily,"

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[8] The one exception is that we did not construct variables based on the last survey items, which ask respondents to provide any final comments.

"Weekly," "Monthly," or "Quarterly"), plus those who selected the option "Other (specify)" but did not actually write in a response, received a value of 0 for the constructed "OTHER" variables.

- **Calculate durations or quantities** referenced in the survey. For example, *BLENGTH* refers to the number of years a Current PHA served youth, based on the agency's responses to items B2 and B3.

- **Identify agencies' geographic locations.** We coded each agency's state by Census Region *(CensusRegion)* and HUD Region *(HUDRegion)*.

3.   Common Data Values

Missing and "don't know" values. Table 4 lists the types of missing values and the value for don't-know responses.

Table 4. Common Data Values

Value (SAS)	Description
.	Logical skip (missing)
.M	Item nonresponse (missing)
999	Don't know

The "." code in the SAS data file (equivalent to a blank cell in the Excel file) indicates a respondent was not expected to answer the item because it did not apply to his or her agency based on the response to a previous item. For example, variables for Past PHAs take on the value of "." for all variables specific to Module B. As another example, PCWAs who indicated they do not provide any transitional assistance in item Q33, have a value of "." for the set of variables indicating whether a PCWA provides a specific type of transitional assistance (item Q34). The ".M" code (equivalent to "M" in the Excel file) indicates a respondent did not provide an answer an item he or she was asked.

In the web administration, respondents were not presented with items that did not apply to them because of the logical skip pattern. However, it is important to understand that item nonresponders and respondents who indicated they did not know the answer to the base question were still given the option to respond to a follow-up question. For example, if a PCWA did not respond (.M) to Q33 in the PCWA survey, the PCWA still had the opportunity to answer Q34. For this reason, it is possible for the number of non-missing respondents to Q34 to be greater than the number of non-missing respondents to Q33. If a PCWA was presented with Q33 and Q34 and skipped both items, the PCWA receives an item nonresponse code (".M") for both questions.

"Don't know" responses are coded with the numeric value "999." Coding "don't know" responses with a numeric value, rather than a missing value, treats the response option as valid and easily enables the records to remain in analyses. The high value of "999" is used to clearly distinguish it from other values.

"Select all that apply" items. For any PHA or PCWA survey items that ask respondents to "select all [response options] that apply," variables take on a value of 1 or 0, respectively indicating respondents "checked" the response option or left it "unchecked." For example, Q28 asks PCWAs

to select all the funding sources their agencies use to pay for services from a list of three possible response options: Chafee funds, state funds, or funds from another source. From a data perspective, it cannot be determined whether a respondent did not select the option Chafee funds (for instance) because the option did not apply (that is, the agency does not use Chafee funds to pay for services and would have answered "No" if the item had been written as a "Yes" or "No" question), or because they preferred to skip the question (that is, the respondent did not know the funding sources or preferred not to say). Thus, in effect, the number of respondents with a value of 0 ("unchecked") for "Select all that apply" items includes both item nonresponders who skipped the question and the respondents for whom the option does not apply.

E. Contents of Data Delivery Package

The data delivery package includes the following files (Table 5):

- **Data sets.** There are two data files per data set: a SAS file (extension .sas7bdat) and an Excel file. The main data files are named "pha," "pcwa," and "partner," with the appropriate extensions for SAS or Excel.

- **Agency identifiers.** A file containing agency identifiers is included in both SAS and Excel. The file maps random, unique IDs to agency identifiers (such as PHA name or state). The file also includes responses to open-ended survey items, which can be used in some cases to identify agencies. This file is intended for HUD's internal use only. It must be kept confidential and not be sent to any outside parties.

- **Formats.** A SAS format catalog file named "formats.sas7bcat" contains user-defined value-label formats to be used in conjunction with the three main SAS data set files (pha, pcwa, and partner). Formats display the label associated with each categorical variable code, enabling the user to quickly interpret the values. (The data in the Excel file is not formatted but can be interpreted using the codebook).

- **Codebook.** The codebook lists, for each data set, all variable names, variable labels (or descriptions), and categorical values with their codes. The file, Codebook.pdf, contains a section for each data set.

- **Data documentation.** The present document is included as a PDF file in the delivery package. The PHA and PCWA survey instruments are appended to the documentation. The surveys are annotated to show the variable name for each item included in the data set.

Table 5. List of Files Included in Data Delivery Package

File Name
Data sets
pha.sas7bdat
pha.xls
pcwa.sas7bdat
pcwa.xls
partner.sas7bdat
partner.xls
Agency identifiers *(for HUD use only)*
agency.sas7bdat
agency.xls
Formats
formats.sas7bcat
Codebook
Codebook.pdf
Documentation
Data Documentation.pdf

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Dworsky, Amy, Keri-Nicole Dillman, M. Robin Dion, Brandon Coffee-Borden, and Miriam Rosenau. "Housing for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care: A Review of the Literature and Program Typology." Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research, March 2012.

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APPENDIX A

PHA SURVEY INSTRUMENT

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HUD Survey:

Addressing the Housing Needs of Youth Aging Out of Foster Care

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is conducting a study on the housing needs of the nearly 30,000 youth who age out of the foster care system each year. The goal of the study is to understand the issues associated with housing for youth aging out of foster care and help to develop and improve strategies for addressing these issues.

As part of that project, HUD has contracted with Mathematica Policy Research to conduct a survey of public housing agencies (PHAs) and their partnering public child welfare agencies (PCWAs) in communities that use Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers. The purpose of the survey is to identify which communities allocate vouchers to youth aging out of foster care, and obtain information on how FUP vouchers work for this population. We are interested in learning from communities across the country that are currently serving FUP-eligible youth, as well as those that have done so in the past, and those that have never served eligible youth.

The questions in this survey ask you to think about FUP-eligible youth and their experiences in your program, and how these experiences differ from those of families in your community. You will also be asked about the child welfare system in your community and aspects of the program for which your role is critical. **Please answer the questions thinking about your role in serving FUP-eligible youth.** *We will ask your partnering PCWA about their role in serving FUP-eligible youth in a separate survey.*

If your agency has contracted out its FUP, please note that some questions may be better addressed by the contractor. You may wish to ask your contractor to provide you with the relevant information.

If your agency has multiple partner organizations administering FUP, please enlist the help of your largest partner to complete the survey.

This survey should take about 30 minutes to complete. Please note that we need to have all responses by November 6th. You may use either pen or pencil to mark your responses. Unless otherwise indicated, please answer all items.

Thank you in advance for responding to this survey. Your responses will help the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development better understand how communities are addressing the housing needs of foster youth aging out of care.

Please contact Debra Wright, (202) 554-7576 or dwright@mathematica-mpr.com, at Mathematica Policy Research with any questions about the survey.

CONTACT AND SCREENERCONTACT AND SCREENER

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A1.   **What is the name of your PHA?**

HA_NAME

A2.   **So that we know who in the PHA is responding to this survey, please provide your contact information:**

Name

Position

Email

A2a. Please provide your telephone number:

Ext.

A3.   **How long have you been employed by the PHA (in any position or title)?**

LENGTH OF TIME AT PHA

YEARS   MONTHS

FUP SCREENER 1

A4.   **Our records indicate that your PHA CURRENTLY operates the Family Unification Program (FUP) or contracts with another agency to administer your FUP. Is this correct?**

A4

○ Yes 1   CONTINUE

○ No 0   SKIP TO END, PAGE 2

FUP SCREENER 2

A5.   **Has your agency, or an agency you work with to administer the FUP, served a FUP-eligible YOUTH with a FUP voucher IN THE PAST 18 MONTHS?**

A5

○ Yes 1   SKIP TO CURRENT FUP-FOR-YOUTH MODULE B, PAGE 3

○ No 0   CONTINUE

○ Don't Know .... d   SKIP TO END, PAGE 2

FUP SCREENER 3

A6. **Has your agency EVER served a FUP-eligible youth with a FUP voucher?**

⎡⎤
| A6 |

    ❍ Yes.. 1   SKIP TO PAST FUP-FOR-YOUTH MODULE C, PAGE 21

    ❍ No 0   SKIP TO NEVER FUP-FOR-YOUTH MODULE D, PAGE 25

    ❍ Don't Know .... d   SKIP TO END

END. **Thank you for your time. We appreciate your responses. Those are all the questions we have for you today. Please send in your questionnaire using the provided postage-paid envelope today.**

CURRENT FUP FOR YOUTH MODULE

PHA'S HISTORICAL USE OF FUP FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE

The questions in this section ask about your agency and its history with the Family Unification Program (FUP).

B1. **Does your PHA administer the FUP or do you contract with another organization(s) to administer the FUP for you?**

> B1

❍   Your PHA administers the FUP 1

❍   Another organization administers the FUP 2

If another agency administers your FUP, please note that some questions may be better addressed by that contractor. You may wish to ask your contractor to complete those sections or provide you with the relevant information.

B2. **What was the FIRST year you served a FUP-eligible youth through your agency's Family Unification Program (FUP)? If you are unsure, please provide your best estimate.**

> B2

[   ] YEAR

B3. **What was the MOST RECENT year you served a FUP-eligible youth through your agency's Family Unification Program (FUP)? If you are unsure, please provide your best estimate.**

> B3

[   ] YEAR

B4. **What are the reasons your agency decided to serve FUP-eligible youth with FUP vouchers?**

Select all that apply

> B4_1

☐ HUD requirement that FUP vouchers be used to serve FUP-eligible youth as well as FUP-eligible families 1

> B4_2

☐ Many youth age out of foster care in this community 2

> B4_3

☐ The housing needs of youth aging out of foster care are not being met in other ways in the community 3

> B4_4

☐ Homelessness among former foster youth is a big problem in your community 4

> B4_5

☐ Former foster youth comprise a large share of HCV applicants 5

> B4_6

☐ Addressing the housing needs of former foster youth is a priority for your agency or in your community.. 6

> B4_7

☐ Addressing the housing needs of youth generally is a priority for your agency or in your community.. 7

> B4_8

☐ Addressing the housing needs of former foster youth is a priority for the public child welfare agency.. 8

> B4_9

☐ Linking supportive services to subsidized housing is a priority 9

> B4_10

☐ The public child welfare agency has the resources to provide the required support services 10

> B4_11

☐ Other (SPECIFY) 11

> B4_11_SPEC

Specify [   ]

PARTNER PCWA: CONTACT INFORMATION AND COLLABORATION

B5. **What is the name of your partner public child welfare agency (PCWA)? Please provide the name of the partner PCWA itself, even if your partner PCWA contracts services to another provider that interacts with your PHA.**

PCWA NAME [   ]

B5a. **As part of this project, we will be contacting your partnering PCWA to ask them some additional questions about the FUP and services they provide to youth transitioning out of foster care.**

Who is your contact person at the PCWA? Please indicate below the person at your partner PCWA that you contact the most. This person can be of any position or title.

[   ]

B5b. **What is this person's title/position?**

[   ]

B5c. **What is your contact person's telephone number?**

[   ] [   ] [   ] [   ]
                              Ext.

B5d. **What is your contact person's email address?**

[   ]

B5e. **What is your contact person's mailing address?**

[   ]
Street Address 1 (Include apartment number)

[   ]
Street Address 2

[   ]
City

[   ]
State

[   ]
Zip

The next few questions ask about your agency's collaboration with your partner PCWA.

B6.   How familiar are you with each of the following?

Select one per row

		VERY	SOMEWHAT	NOT AT ALL
B6_A	a. Characteristics of youth aging out of foster care and their housing needs	2 ○	1 ○	0 ○
B6 B	b. Your partner PCWA's procedures for identifying FUP-eligible youth	2 ○	1 ○	0 ○
B6 C	c. Your partner PCWA's procedures for referring FUP-eligible youth to your agency	2 ○	1 ○	0 ○
B6 D	d. Housing search assistance provided to FUP-eligible youth by your partner PCWA or contracted providers	2 ○	1 ○	0 ○
B6 E	e. Your partner PCWA's provision of supportive services to FUP-eligible youth	2 ○	1 ○	0 ○

B7.   Has your partner PCWA ever provided your staff with training on the following?

		YES	NO
B7 A	a. Characteristics of youth aging out of foster care and their housing needs	1 ○	0 ○
B7 B	b. How your partner PCWA identifies FUP-eligible youth	1 ○	0 ○
B7 C	c. How your partner PCWA refers FUP-eligible youth to your agency	1 ○	0 ○
B7 D	d. The types of housing search assistance provided to FUP-eligible youth by your partner PCWA or contracted providers	1 ○	0 ○
B7_E	e. The types of supportive services provided to FUP-eligible youth by your partner PCWA or contracted providers	1 ○	0 ○
B7 F	f. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ○	0 ○

B7_F_SPEC

IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO <u>ANY</u> ITEM IN Q7, ANSWER Q8. IF YOU ANSWERED "NO" TO <u>ALL</u> ITEMS IN Q7, SKIP TO Q9.

B8. **Considering all trainings your partner PCWA provides to your staff, how often does training occur? Include both formal and informal training sessions provided by your partner PCWA to your staff, but do not include meetings or briefings. If training occurred only during project start-up, select "Less than once per year."**

B8

Select one only

❍ Less than once per year 1

❍ Annually 2

❍ Twice a year 3

❍ Quarterly 4

❍ More than once per quarter 5

❍ Don't Know .... d

B9. **Has your staff ever provided your partner PCWA with training on the following?**

		YES	NO
a.	Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program eligibility	1 ❍	0 ❍
b.	Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher briefings	1 ❍	0 ❍
c.	Housing search and lease-up processes within the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program	1 ❍	0 ❍
d.	Tracking and reporting requirements associated with the FUP	1 ❍	0 ❍
e.	FUP-eligibility and other FUP requirements	1 ❍	0 ❍
f.	Other (SPECIFY)	1 ❍	0 ❍

B9 A
B9 B
B9_C
B9 D
B9_E
B9_F
B9_F_SPEC

B10. **IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO <u>ANY</u> ITEM IN Q9, ANSWER Q10. IF YOU ANSWERED "NO" TO <u>ALL</u> ITEMS IN B9, SKIP TO B11.**

B10

Considering all trainings your staff provides your partner PCWA, how often does training occur? Include both formal and informal training sessions provided by your partner PCWA to your staff, but do not include meetings or briefings. If training occurred only during project start-up, select "Less than once per year."

Select one only

❍ Less than once per year 1

❍ Annually 2

❍ Twice a year 3

❍ Quarterly 4

❍ More than once per quarter 5

❍ Don't Know .... d

B11. **Does your agency have regular meetings with your partner PCWA about serving FUP-eligible youth? If meetings took place only at program start-up, select "No."**

B11

❍ Yes.. 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO B13b

B12. **How often are these meetings held?**

Select one only

B12

❍ Weekly 1

❍ Monthly 2

❍ Quarterly 3

❍ Twice a year 4

❍ Annually 5

B13a. **Apart from any regular meetings, how often does your agency communicate with your partner PCWA about serving FUP-eligible youth (either by phone, email, or in-person)?**

B13A

Select one only

❍ Daily.. 1

❍ Weekly 2

❍ Monthly 3

❍ Quarterly 4

❍ Other (SPECIFY)... 5

B13A_SPEC   Specify [   ]

B13b. **IF YOU ANSWERED "NO" TO QUESTION B11, ANSWER B13B.**

B13B

How often does your agency communicate with your partner PCWA about serving FUP-eligible youth (either by phone, email, or in-person)?

Select one only

❍ Daily.. 1

❍ Weekly 2

❍ Monthly 3

❍ Quarterly 4

❍ Other (SPECIFY)... 5

B13B SPEC   Specify [   ]

FUP VOUCHERS FOR FUP-ELIGIBLE YOUTH: VOUCHER ALLOCATION AND PROCESS

The questions in this next section ask about your current Family Unification Program.

B14.   What is your agency's baseline number of FUP vouchers?

| B14 |

UCHERS

B15.   As of today, how many FUP vouchers are <u>currently</u> leased up by FUP-eligible youth? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.

| B15 |

NUMBER OF VOUCHERS

B16.   Does your agency set aside a specific number or percentage of FUP vouchers for FUP-eligible youth?

| B16 |

❍ Yes.. 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO B18

B17.   How many or what percentage of FUP vouchers are set aside for FUP-eligible youth? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.

| B17 |

a.   NUMBER OF VOUCHERS

| B17 TYPE |

                                                        OR

b.   PERCENT OF VOUCHERS

The next few questions ask about the FUP referral process and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program eligibility determination.

B18.   On average, how many referrals for FUP-eligible youth does your agency receive in a typical quarter from your partner PCWA? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.

| B18 |

                                             AVERAGE NUMBER OF REFERRALS PER QUARTER

B19.   Approximately what percentage of the FUP-eligible youth who are referred to your agency ultimately lease up using a FUP voucher? If you do not know the exact percentage, your best guess is fine.

| B19 |

Select one only

❍ Less than 25%.. 1

❍ At least 25% but less than 50%.. 2

❍ About 50% 3

❍ More than 50% but less than 75% 4

❍ More than 75% 5

❍ Don't Know .... d

B20. **Does your partner PCWA pre-screen youth for Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher eligibility prior to referring them to your agency?**

B20

◯ Yes.. 1

◯ No 0

◯ Don't Know .... d

B21. **Does your agency have an expedited or streamlined Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher eligibility determination process for FUP-eligible youth who have been referred by your partner PCWA?**

B21

◯ Yes.. 1

◯ No 0

The next set of questions asks about the housing search process for FUP-eligible youth who have had a voucher briefing.

B22. **Once a FUP voucher has been issued to a FUP-eligible youth, how much time is a youth initially given for the housing search and lease-up process? We are interested in the initial voucher term for FUP-eligible youth.**

B22

Select one only

◯ 60 days 1

◯ 90 days 2

◯ 120 days 3

◯ More than 120 days.. 4

B23. **How often are FUP-eligible youth able to find a suitable housing unit before their initial voucher term expires?**

B23

Select one only

◯ Almost always.. 1

◯ More than half of the time... 2

◯ About half of the time.. 3

◯ Less than half of the time 4

◯ Almost never.. 5

◯ Don't Know .... d

B24. **How often does your agency grant an extension to FUP-eligible youth whose initial voucher term is going to expire?**

B24

Select one only

- ○ Almost always 1
- ○ More than half of the time 2
- ○ About half of the time 3
- ○ Less than half of the time 4
- ○ Almost never 5
- ○ Don't Know .... d

B25. **How much time is typically necessary for FUP-eligible youth to lease up, compared to the amount of time for participants in the standard Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program?**

B25

Select one only

- ○ Youth typically require MORE time to lease up 1
- ○ Youth typically require ABOUT THE SAME amount of time to lease-up 2
- ○ Youth typically require LESS time to lease up 3
- ○ Don't Know .... d

B26. **Does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, provide any of the following types of housing search assistance to FUP-eligible youth? Please do not include assistance that is only provided by your partner PCWA or your partner PCWA's contractor.**

		YES	NO
B26 A	a. Provide information about different neighborhoods	1 ○	0 ○
B26 B	b. Take youth on neighborhood tours	1 ○	0 ○
B26_C	c. Transport youth to visit housing units	1 ○	0 ○
B26_D	d. Provide a listing of vacant rental units	1 ○	0 ○
B26 E	e. Refer youth to property managers/landlords known to accept FUP vouchers	1 ○	0 ○
B26_F	f. Work with landlords/property managers to help youth secure housing	1 ○	0 ○
B26_G	g. Provide information about tenant rights and responsibilities	1 ○	0 ○
B26 H	h. Provide information about subsidized housing including eligibility requirements	1 ○	0 ○
B26 I	i. Provide information about public transportation services	1 ○	0 ○
B26_J	j. Help youth locate housing near school or work	1 ○	0 ○
B26_K	k. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ○	0 ○
B26_K_SPEC			

B27. Does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, provide assistance to FUP-eligible youth in their search for a suitable housing unit, beyond what your agency provides to participants in the standard Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program? Please do not include housing search assistance that is only provided by your partner PCWA or your partner PCWA's contractor.

B27

   ❍ Yes 1

   ❍ No 0

   ❍ Don't Know .... d

B28. Does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, provide FUP-eligible youth with…

		YES	NO
B28_A	a. Pre-move counseling?	1 ❍	0 ❍
B28 B	b. Post-move counseling?	1 ❍	0 ❍

B29. IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO <u>EITHER</u> ITEM IN Q28, ANSWER Q29. IF YOU ANSWERED "NO" TO <u>BOTH</u> ITEMS IN Q28, SKIP TO Q30.

What does this counseling include?

		YES	NO
B29 A	a. Information about tenant rights and responsibilities	1 ❍	0 ❍
B29 B	b. Information about budgeting	1 ❍	0 ❍
B29_C	c. Information about credit	1 ❍	0 ❍
B29 D	d. Information about landlord mediation	1 ❍	0 ❍
B29 E	e. Information about the benefits of living in low-poverty areas (low poverty areas are areas where the poverty rate is 10% or less)	1 ❍	0 ❍
B29 F	f. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ❍	0 ❍

B29 F SPEC

B30. Does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, encourage youth to consider housing units in low-poverty areas, that is, areas where the poverty rate is 10% or less?

B30

   ❍ Yes 1

   ❍ No 0

B32. How often does your agency engage in any outreach to educate landlords or property managers about FUP for youth who have aged out of foster care? This outreach may be in combination with or in addition to outreach to educate landlords or property managers about the standard Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

B32

Select one only

   ❍ At least once a month 1

   ❍ Every few months 2

   ❍ At least once per year 3

   ❍ Less than once a year 4

   ❍ Never 0

B33. **How often do FUP-eligible youth typically need to request tenancy approval for more than one housing unit before finding one which your agency approves?**

B33

Select one only

❍ Almost always... 1

❍ More than half of the time.. 2

❍ About half of the time.. 3

❍ Less than half of the time 4

❍ Almost never.. 5

❍ Don't Know .... d

B34. **How does the number of requests for tenancy approval made by FUP-eligible youth compare to the number made by participants in the standard Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program?**

B34

Select one only

❍ Youth typically request tenancy approval on MORE units before lease-up 1

❍ Youth typically request tenancy approval on ABOUT THE SAME number of units before lease-up 2

❍ Youth typically request tenancy approval on FEWER units before lease-up 3

❍ Don't Know .... d

B35. **How often do the housing units for which FUP-eligible youth request tenancy approval fail inspection during the PHA housing quality inspection?**

B35

Select one only

❍ Almost always... 1

❍ More than half of the time.. 2

❍ About half of the time.. 3

❍ Less than half of the time 4

❍ Almost never.. 5

❍ Don't Know .... d

B36. **How often do FUP-eligible youth request tenancy approval for units for which the rent is determined to be unreasonable during the PHA review?**

B36

Select one only

❍ Almost always... 1

❍ More than half of the time.. 2

❍ About half of the time.. 3

❍ Less than half of the time 4

❍ Almost never.. 5

❍ Don't Know .... d

B37. **What percentage of the FUP-eligible youth who are issued a FUP voucher successfully lease-up?**

Select one only

◯ Less than 25%... 1

◯ At least 25% but less than 50%.. 2

◯ About 50%... 3

◯ More than 50% but less than 75% 4

◯ More than 75% 5

◯ Don't Know .... d

The next set of questions asks about the housing stability of FUP-eligible youth once they lease up.

B38. **How long do FUP-eligible youth typically stay in the FIRST housing unit leased with a FUP voucher?**

Select one only

◯ Less than 3 months 1

◯ 3 to 6 months.. 2

◯ 7 to 12 months... 3

◯ 13 to 18 months... 4

◯ More than 18 months (i.e., youth remain in the unit after voucher expires)......... 5

◯ Don't Know .... d

B39. **How often do youth stay in that FIRST housing unit for the full 18 months they are eligible for the FUP subsidy?**

Select one only

◯ Almost always.. 1

◯ More than half of the time.. 2

◯ About half of the time.. 3

◯ Less than half of the time 4

◯ Almost never.. 5

◯ Don't Know .... d

B40. **On average, about how many times do FUP-eligible youth move from one housing unit to another with their FUP voucher during their 18 months of eligibility? An estimate is fine. Please do not include moves associated with the end of the 18 months of FUP eligibility or termination from the program.**

Select one only

◯ 0... 0

◯ 1... 1

◯ 2... 2

◯ 3 or more 3

◯ Don't Know .... d

Some youth leave or are terminated from FUP before their 18 months of housing assistance payments (HAP) are exhausted. The next few questions are about youth that exit the program before 18 months have passed.

B41. **How often do FUP-eligible youth keep their voucher until their 18 months of HAP are exhausted? If your agency does not keep track of this number, please provide your best guess.**

<div style="border:1px solid red; display:inline-block; padding:4px">B41</div>

Select one only

- ○ Almost always... 1
- ○ More than half of the time.. 2
- ○ About half of the time... 3
- ○ Less than half of the time 4
- ○ Almost never... 5
- ○ Don't Know .... d

B42. **What are the most common reasons for FUP-eligible youth to be terminated from the program before their 18 months of HAP is exhausted?**

Select all that apply

B42_1	☐ Youth move out of the leased unit without giving notice 1
B42_2	☐ Youth violate lease (e.g., damage to the unit, or nonpayment of rent) 2
B42_3	☐ Youth violate program rules (e.g., fraud).. 3
B42_4	☐ Youth are involved in criminal activity 4
B42_5	☐ Other reason (SPECIFY).. 5
B42_SPEC	Specify [_____]

- ☐ Don't Know .... d

B43. **Does your agency or your agency's contracted provider provide transitional counseling or other assistance to FUP-eligible youth as they approach their 18-month time limit? Please do not include any assistance provided by your partner PCWA or your partner PCWA's contractor.**

<div style="border:1px solid red; display:inline-block; padding:4px">B43</div>

- ○ Yes... 1
- ○ No 0   SKIP TO B45

B44. **Does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, automatically provide this transitional counseling or other assistance or must youth specifically request it? Please do not include any assistance provided by your partner PCWA or your partner PCWA's contractor.**

<div style="border:1px solid red; display:inline-block; padding:4px">B44</div>

- ○ Youth must specifically request assistance.. 1
- ○ Your agency or contractor automatically provides assistance 2

OTHER HOUSING OPTIONS FOR FOSTER YOUTH AGING OUT

Now we would like to ask you some questions about your public housing waiting list and your Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list.

B45. Does your agency currently administer a public housing program?

| B45 |

◯ Yes.. 1

◯ No 0   SKIP TO B56

◯ Don't Know .... d   SKIP TO B56

B46. Has your agency established local preference categories for its public housing waiting list?

| B46 |

◯ Yes.. 1

◯ No 0   SKIP TO B56

B47. Does your agency have a local preference on its public housing waiting list for youth who have aged out of foster care?

| B47 |

◯ Yes.. 1

◯ No 0   SKIP TO B50

B48. Is there a limit on the number of youth who have aged out of foster care that can be given preference on the public housing waiting list?

| B48 |

◯ Yes.. 1

◯ No 0   SKIP TO B50

B49. What is that limit? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.

| B49 |

| | LIMIT ON YOUTH AGED OUT OF FOSTER CARE

B50. Does your agency have a local preference on its public housing waiting list for FUP-eligible youth whose voucher has reached the 18-month limit?

| B50 |

◯ Yes.. 1

◯ No 0   SKIP TO B53

B51. Is there a limit on the number of youth whose FUP voucher has reached the 18-month limit that can be given preference on the public housing waiting list?

| B51 |

◯ Yes.. 1

◯ No 0   SKIP TO B53

B52. **What is that limit? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.**

B52

[   ] LIMIT ON YOUTH WHO REACHED
THE 18-MONTH FUP PERIOD

> IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO Q47 OR Q50, CONTINUE TO Q53. IF YOU
> ANSWERED "NO" TO BOTH, SKIP TO Q56.

B53. **Does your agency rank order preferences to establish a hierarchy of applicants within your system of preferences for your public housing waiting list?**

B53

❍ Yes... 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO B56

B54. **Where do youth who aged out of foster care fall in the ranking of preference categories?**

Select one only

B54

❍ Top third.. 1

❍ Middle third 2

❍ Bottom third 3

B55. **Where do youth whose FUP voucher has reached the 18-month limit fall in the ranking of preference categories?**

Select one only

B55

❍ Top third.. 1

❍ Middle third 2

❍ Bottom third 3

B56. **Has your agency established local preference categories for its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program waiting list?**

B56

❍ Yes... 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO B66

B57. **Does your agency have a local preference on its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list for youth who have aged out of foster care?**

B57

❍ Yes... 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO B60

B58. **Is there a limit on the number of youth who have aged out of foster care that can be given preference on the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list?**

B58

❍ Yes... 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO B60

B59. What is that limit? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.

B59

<div style="border:1px solid;"> </div> LIMIT ON YOUTH AGED OUT OF FOSTER CARE

B60. Does your agency have a local preference on its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list for FUP-eligible youth whose voucher has reached the 18-month limit?

B60

❍ Yes... 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO B63

B61. Is there a limit on the number of youth whose FUP voucher has reached the 18-month limit that can be given preference on the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list?

B61

❍ Yes... 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO B63

B62. What is that limit? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.

B62

<div style="border:1px solid;"> </div> LIMIT ON YOUTH WHO REACHED
THE 18-MONTH FUP PERIOD

> IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO Q57 <u>OR</u> Q60, CONTINUE TO Q63. IF YOU ANSWERED "NO" TO <u>BOTH</u>, SKIP TO Q66.

B63. Does your agency rank order preferences to establish a hierarchy of applicants within your system of preferences for your Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list?

B63

❍ Yes... 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO B66

B64. Where do youth who aged out of foster care fall in the ranking of preference categories?

B64

Select one only

❍ Top third... 1

❍ Middle third 2

❍ Bottom third 3

B65. Where do youth whose FUP voucher has reached the 18-month limit fall in the ranking of preference categories?

B65

Select one only

❍ Top third... 1

❍ Middle third 2

❍ Bottom third 3

PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES USING FUP

The questions in this section ask about the challenges your agency has faced and the progress it has made in administering FUP vouchers to FUP-eligible youth.

B66.   Below is a list of factors that may affect your agency's ability to administer FUP vouchers to eligible youth. For each factor, please indicate how much of a challenge it presents/has presented to your agency.

Select one per row

		NOT A CHALLENGE	SOMEWHAT OF A CHALLENGE	MAJOR CHALLENGE
B66 A	a. Rental market conditions (e.g., affordability and/or quality of appropriate rental housing)	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66_B	b. The 18-month time limit on FUP assistance	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66_C	c. Coordination with your partner PCWA	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66 D	d. Administrative costs	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66 E	e. Service provision costs	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66_F	f. Staffing resources	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66_G	g. Wait list procedures and administration	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66 H	h. Relationships with landlords/property managers	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66 I	i. Duration of search process	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66_J	j. Complexity of leasing process (for initial units and unit changes)	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66 K	k. Inability to use project-based FUP-vouchers	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘
B66_L **B66 L SPEC**	l. Other (SPECIFY) _____	1 ⭘	2 ⭘	3 ⭘

B67. **Please indicate how much progress your agency has made with respect to each of the following over the course of the entire period it has been awarding FUP vouchers to youth. Progress can refer to any aspect of implementation that is meaningful to your agency, such as increased efficiency or effectiveness. If your agency is not involved in an area listed, select "Don't Know/Info Unavailable."**

Select one per row

		NO PROGRESS	SOME PROGRESS	A GREAT DEAL OF PROGRESS	DON'T KNOW/ INFO UNAVAILABLE
B67_A	a. Coordination with PCWA	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
B67_B	b. Identification and referral process	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
B67_C	c. Housing search and selection process	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
B67_D	d. Lease-up and move in process	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
B67_E	e. Increasing housing stability while youth are in the program	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
B67_F	f. Reducing post-FUP homelessness and housing instability	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
B67_G	g. Reducing voucher turnover	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○

PERSPECTIVES ON PRACTICE AND POLICY

B68. **Under the current statutory requirements, FUP-eligible youth are limited to 18-months of housing assistance payments (HAP). In your opinion, should this time limit be eliminated, reduced, extended, or remain the same?**

[B68]

Select one only

○ Eliminated 1   SKIP TO B70

○ Reduced 2

○ Extended... 3

○ Remain the same 4   SKIP TO B70

○ Don't Know .... d

B69. **In your opinion, for how many months should FUP-eligible youth be eligible for HAP?**

[B69]   [   ]   MONTHS

B70. **Partner PCWAs are required to provide a specific set of services to FUP-eligible youth during their 18-months of eligibility for HAP. In your opinion, should this service requirement be eliminated?**

[B70]

○ Yes, eliminate service requirement 1

○ No, do NOT eliminate service requirement 2

B71. **This service requirement does not apply to FUP-eligible families. Should this service requirement also apply to FUP-eligible families?**

B71

○ Yes, service requirement should apply to families 1

○ No, service requirement should not apply to families.. 2

B72. **If there is anything else you would like to share with HUD about serving youth with FUP, please enter your comments below.**

B72

Thank you for your time. We appreciate your responses. They will help the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development better understand and plan for housing services for transitioning foster youth. Please send in your questionnaire using the provided postage-paid envelope today.

PAST FUP FOR YOUTH

PHA'S HISTORY OF USING FUP FOR FOSTER YOUTH AGING OUT OF CARE

The questions in this section ask about your agency's history with the Family Unification Program (FUP).

C1. **What was the FIRST year you served a FUP-eligible youth through your agency's Family Unification Program (FUP)? If you are unsure, please make your best estimate.**

C1

[   ]   YEAR

C2. **What was the most recent year you served a FUP-eligible youth through your agency's Family Unification Program (FUP)? If you are unsure, please make your best estimate.**

C2

[   ]   YEAR

REASONS FUP VOUCHERS NOT AWARDED TO FOSTER YOUTH AGING OUT

C3. **Why is your agency no longer serving FUP-eligible youth with FUP vouchers?**

Select all that apply

C3_1   ☐ Too few youth age out of foster care in this community 1

C3 2   ☐ Housing needs of youth aging out foster care are being met in other ways 2

C3 3   ☐ Your agency prefers to devote all of its FUP vouchers to families 3

C3 4   ☐ 18-month time limit for FUP-eligible youth created an excessive burden for your agency 4

C3_5   ☐ The public child welfare agency does not have the resources to provide the required support services 5

C3_6   ☐ Lack of or weak working relationship with the public child welfare agency 6

C3 7   ☐ Any other reasons (SPECIFY) 7

C3_7_SPEC   Specify [   ]

☐ Don't Know .... d

C4. **How likely is it that your agency will serve FUP-eligible youth with FUP vouchers in the future?**

C4

Select one only

❍ Not at all likely 1

❍ Somewhat likely 2

❍ Very likely 3

❍ Don't know .... d

C5. **Which of the following would increase the likelihood that your agency would serve FUP-eligible youth with FUP vouchers in the future?**

Select all that apply

C5_1	☐ If your agency was awarded additional FUP vouchers 1
C5_2	☐ If your agency received assistance with establishing and/or strengthening collaboration with your local PCWA 2
C5_3	☐ If your agency received training to aid your understanding of the particular housing needs of young adults.......................... 3
C5_4	☐ If your agency received guidance from successful models for serving youth aging out of foster care through FUP 4
C5_5	☐ If additional resources were made available to provide services and supports to FUP-eligible youth once they have leased up 5
C5_6	☐ If the 18-month time limit was removed.. 6
C5_7	☐ Any other reasons (SPECIFY).. 7
C5_7_SPEC	Specify [_____]
	☐ Don't Know .... d

OTHER HOUSING OPTIONS FOR FOSTER YOUTH AGING OUT

First, we would like to ask you some questions about your public housing waiting list and your Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list.

C6. Does your agency currently administer a public housing program?

C6	○ Yes... 1
	○ No .... 0 SKIP TO C13
	○ Don't Know .... d SKIP TO C13

C7. **Has your agency established local preference categories for its public housing waiting list?**

C7	○ Yes... 1
	○ No .... 0 SKIP TO C13

C8. **Does your agency have a local preference on its public housing waiting list for youth who have aged out of foster care?**

C8	○ Yes... 1
	○ No .... 0 SKIP TO C13

C9. **Is there a limit on the number of youth who have aged out of foster care that can be given preference on the public housing waiting list?**

C9	○ Yes... 1
	○ No .... 0 SKIP TO C11

C10. **What is that limit? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.**

C10	[_____] LIMIT ON YOUTH AGED OUT OF FOSTER CARE

C11. **Does your agency rank order preferences to establish a hierarchy of applicants within your system of preferences for your public housing waiting list?**

C11

❍ Yes.. 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO C13

C12. **Where do youth who aged out of foster care fall in the ranking of preference categories?**

Select one only

❍ Top third.. 1

❍ Middle third 2

❍ Bottom third 3

We are interested in knowing more about your agency's Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program.

C13. **Has your agency established local preference categories for its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program waiting list?**

❍ Yes.. 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO C19

C14. **Does your agency have a local preference on its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list for youth who have aged out of foster care?**

Yes.. 1

No 0   SKIP TO C19

C15. **Is there a limit on the number of youth who have aged out of foster care that can be given preference on the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list?**

❍ Yes 1

❍ No.. 0   SKIP TO C17

C16. **What is that limit? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.**

☐ _____ LIMIT ON YOUTH AGED OUT OF FOSTER CARE

C17. **Does your agency rank order preferences to establish a hierarchy of applicants within your system of preferences for your Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list?**

❍ Yes.. 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO C19

C18. **Where do youth who have aged out of foster care fall in the ranking of preference categories?**

Select one only

❍ Top third.. 1

❍ Middle third 2

❍ Bottom third 3

Boxes in left margin: C12, C13, C14, C15, C16, C17, C15

C19. If there is anything else you would like to share with HUD about serving youth with FUP, please enter your comments below.

C19
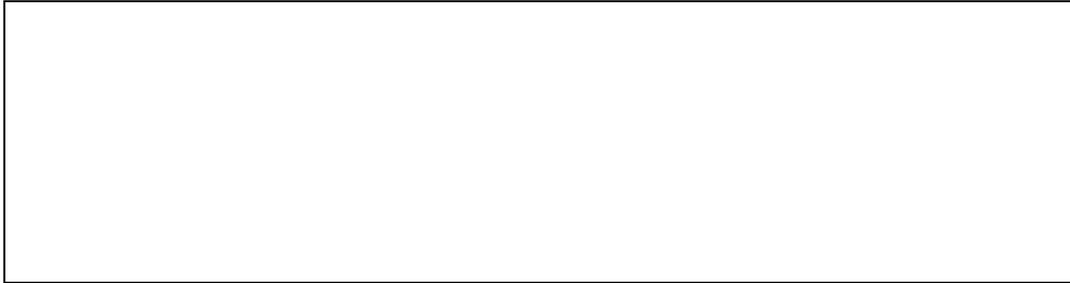
END. Thank you for your time. We appreciate your responses. They will help the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development better understand and plan for housing services for transitioning foster youth. Please send in your questionnaire using the provided postage-paid envelope today.

NEVER FUP FOR YOUTH

REASONS FUP VOUCHERS NOT AWARDED TO FOSTER YOUTH

D1. **Why has your agency never served FUP-eligible youth with FUP vouchers?**

Select all that apply

D1_1	☐ The public child welfare agency (PCWA) has never referred a youth to your program 1
D1_2	☐ Too few youth age out of foster care in this community 2
D1_3	☐ Housing needs of youth aging out foster care are met in other ways 3
D1_4	☐ Your agency prefers to devote all of its vouchers to families 4
D1_5	☐ 18-month time limit for FUP-eligible youth would create an excessive burden for your agency 5
D1_6	☐ The PCWA does not have the resources to provide the required support services 6
D1_7	☐ Lack of or weak working relationship with the public child welfare agency 7
D1_8	☐ Any other reasons (SPECIFY) 8
D1_SPEC	Specify [ ]
	☐ Don't Know .... d

D2. **How likely is it that your agency will serve FUP-eligible youth with FUP vouchers in the future?**

D2	*Select one only*
	○ Not at all likely... 1
	○ Somewhat likely... 2
	○ Very likely 3
	○ Don't Know .... d

D3. **Which of the following would increase the likelihood that your agency would serve FUP-eligible youth with FUP vouchers in the future?**

Select all that apply

D3_1	☐ If your agency were awarded additional FUP vouchers 1
D3_2	☐ If your agency received assistance with establishing and/or strengthening collaboration with your local PCWA 2
D3_3	☐ If your agency received training to aid your understanding of the particular housing needs of young adults 3
D3_4	☐ If your agency received guidance from successful models for serving youth aging out of foster care through FUP 4
D3_5	☐ If additional resources were made available to provide services and supports to FUP-eligible youth once they have leased up 5
D3_6	☐ If the 18-month time limit were removed 6
D3_7	☐ Any other reasons (SPECIFY) 7
D3_SPEC	Specify [ ]
	☐ Don't Know .... d

OTHER HOUSING OPTIONS FOR FOSTER YOUTH AGING OUT

First, we would like to ask you some questions about your public housing waiting list and your Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list.

D4. Does your agency currently administer a public housing program?

D4

- ❍ Yes... 1
- ❍ No 0   SKIP TO D11
- ❍ Don't Know .... d   SKIP TO D11

D5. Has your agency established local preference categories for its public housing waiting list?

D5

- ❍ Yes... 1
- ❍ No 0   SKIP TO D11

D6. Does your agency have a local preference on its public housing waiting list for youth who have aged out of foster care?

D6

- ❍ Yes... 1
- ❍ No 0   SKIP TO D11

D7. Is there a limit on the number of youth who have aged out of foster care that can be given preference on the public housing waiting list?

D7

- ❍ Yes... 1
- ❍ No 0   SKIP TO D9

D8. What is that limit? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.

D8

☐ LIMIT ON YOUTH AGED OUT OF FOSTER CARE

D9. Does your agency rank order preferences to establish a hierarchy of applicants within your system of preferences for your public housing waiting list?

D9

- ❍ Yes... 1
- ❍ No 0   SKIP TO D11

D10. Where do youth who aged out of foster care fall in the ranking of preference categories?

D10

Select one only

- ❍ Top third.. 1
- ❍ Middle third 2
- ❍ Bottom third 3

We are interested in knowing more about your agency's *Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.*

D11. **Has your agency established local preference categories for its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program waiting list?**

D11

○ Yes... 1

○ No 0   SKIP TO D17

D12. **Does your agency have a local preference on its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list for youth who have aged out of foster care?**

D12

○ Yes... 1

○ No 0   SKIP TO D17

D13. **Is there a limit on the number of youth who have aged out of foster care that can be given preference on the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list?**

D13

○ Yes... 1

○ No 0   SKIP D15

D14. **What is that limit? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.**

D14

| | LIMIT

D15. **Does your agency rank order preferences to establish a hierarchy of applicants within your system of preferences for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list?**

D15

○ Yes... 1

○ No 0   SKIP TO D17

D16. **Where do youth who have aged out of foster care fall in the ranking of preference categories?**

Select one only

D16

○ Top third... 1

○ Middle third 2

○ Bottom third 3

D17. **If there is anything else you would like to share with HUD about serving youth with FUP, please enter your comments below.**

D17

END. **Thanks very much for your time. Your responses will help the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development better understand the housing services provided by different communities to youth aging out of foster care. Please send in your questionnaire using the provided postage-paid envelope today.**

APPENDIX B

PCWA SURVEY INSTRUMENT

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HUD Survey:

Addressing the Housing Needs of Youth Aging Out of Foster Care

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is collaborating with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) to conduct a study on the housing needs of the nearly 30,000 youth who age out of the foster care system each year. The goal of the study is to understand the issues associated with housing for youth aging out of foster care and help develop and improve strategies for addressing them.

As part of this project, HUD has contracted with Mathematica Policy Research to conduct a web-based survey of public child welfare agencies (PCWAs) and their partnering public housing agencies (PHAs) in communities that use Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers to serve youth aging out of foster care. ***The FUP is a program under which Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers are provided to families with children whose placement in out-of-home foster care is imminent (or whose discharge to the family from out-of-home care is delayed) because of a lack of adequate housing, and to youth between 18 and 21 who have left foster care and have inadequate housing.*** *The purpose of this survey is to learn how FUP is being used to address the housing needs of youth aging out of foster care, as well as to identify any unique benefits or challenges your PCWA has experienced serving this population in partnership with your local PHA. One of your partnering PHA (or PHAs) has indicated that they are currently collaborating with you to administer the FUP, and specifically, to use some number of FUP vouchers to serve youth aging out of foster care.*

In this survey we will ask questions about the child welfare system in your state, your agencies collaboration with your PHA, how your agency identifies and refers FUP-eligible youth, housing options for youth aging out of foster care, your experiences using FUP vouchers, and your perspectives on practice and policy. ***Please answer the questions thinking about your role in serving FUP-eligible youth.*** *We asked your partnering PHA about their role serving FUP-eligible youth in a separate survey.*

If your agency has contracted with a separate organization to operate FUP for youth or to provide supportive services to FUP-eligible youth, please note that some questions may be better addressed by that contractor. You may wish to ask your contractor to complete those sections (you may share your log-in information if you wish) or provide you with the relevant information.

It is possible that your agency may work with multiple PHAs to administer FUP vouchers. If this is the case, we ask you to complete the survey focusing on the PHA to whom you have referred the most foster youth during the past 18 months.

This survey should take about 30 minutes to complete. If you cannot complete the survey in one sitting, you may save your place in the survey and finish it at a later time. Please note, however, that we need to have all responses by December 26, 2012.

Thank you in advance for responding to this survey. Your responses will help the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services better understand how communities are serving the housing needs of foster youth aging out of care.

Please contact Debra Wright, (202) 554-7576 or dwright@mathematica-mpr.com, at Mathematica Policy Research with any questions about the survey.

OMB Control Number: No. 2528-0285

CONTACT AND SCREENER

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.   **Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA) Name:**

2.   **So that we know who in your PCWA is responding to this survey, please provide your contact information:**

   Name

   Position

   Email

2A.   **Please provide your telephone number:**

   Ext.

3.   **How long have you been employed by your PCWA (in any position or with any title)?**

   YEARS   MONTHS

4.   **How would you describe your state's child welfare system? Is it state supervised and state-administered, state supervised and county administered, or something else?**

   Q4

   Select one only

   ○ State supervised and state-administered 1
   ○ State supervised and county-administered 2
   ○ Something else (SPECIFY) 3

   Q4 SPEC   Specify

   We understand that a single PCWA may partner with multiple PHAs to administer the Family Unification Program (FUP).

5A.   **How many PHAs does your PCWA currently partner with to administer the FUP?**

   Q5A_NUMBER   NUMBER

5B.   **How many of these partner PHAs currently use FUP vouchers to serve youth aging out of foster care?**

Q5B NUMBER

[   ]   NUMBER   IF YOUR ANSWER IS <u>1</u>, SKIP TO 5C_1

IF YOUR ANSWER IS <u>TWO OR MORE</u>, SKIP TO 5C_2

Q5B

○ None 0   SKIP TO END
○ Don't Know .... d

5C_1.   **For the purpose of this particular survey, please <u>focus on the PHA you partner with that currently uses FUP vouchers to serve youth aging out of foster care.</u>**

5C_2.   **For the purpose of this particular survey, please <u>focus on the partner PHA that you have referred the most youth to during the past 18 months.</u>**

5D.   **What is the name of this PHA?**

Q5D_PHANAME

[   ]   SKIP TO Q6 ON PAGE 3

END.   **Thank you for your time. We appreciate your responses. Those are all the questions we have for you today.**

B. SERVING YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE

CHILD WELFARE CONTEXT

The next set of questions asks about the child welfare system in your state.

The Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 extends the age of Title IV-E–eligibility from 18 to 21 years old for foster youth who meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Completing secondary education or a program leading to an equivalent credential;
- Enrolled in an institution which provides postsecondary or vocational education;
- Participating in a program or activity designed to promote, or remove barriers to, employment;
- Employed for at least 80 hours per month;
- Incapable of doing any of the above due to a medical condition

6. **Federal law requires that youth receive assistance with transitioning planning during the 90 days (3 months) prior to the date on which they will age out of foster care.**

   Q6

   Does this transition planning typically begin more than 90 days prior to the date on which youth will age out?

   ❍ Yes.. 1

   ❍ No 0   SKIP TO Q8

   ❍ Don't Know .... d   SKIP TO Q8

7. **How many months before a youth ages out of care does this transition planning typically begin?**

   Q7

   Select one only

   ❍ 3 to 6 months.. 2

   ❍ 7 to 12 months.. 3

   ❍ 13 to 18 months.. 4

   ❍ More than 18 months... 5

   ❍ Don't Know .... d

8. **Does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, provide any of the following types of housing search assistance to youth who are <u>preparing to age out of care</u> in your partner PHA's jurisdiction? If your partner PHA's jurisdiction spans multiple counties and the housing search assistance you provide varies by county, please answer thinking about the county in your partner PHA's jurisdiction with the largest foster care population.**

		YES	NO
Q8_A	a. Provide information about different neighborhoods	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_B	b. Take youth on neighborhood tours	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_C	c. Transport youth to visit housing units	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_D	d. Provide a listing of vacant rental units	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_E	e. Refer youth to property managers/landlords known to accept youth	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_F	f. Work with landlords/property managers to help youth secure housing	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_G	g. Provide information about tenant rights and responsibilities	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_H	h. Provide information about subsidized housing including eligibility requirements	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_I	i. Provide information about public transportation services	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_J	j. Help youth locate housing near school or work	1 ○	0 ○
Q8_K	k. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ○	0 ○

Q8_SPEC
[   ]

9. **Does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, provide any of the following types of leaseup/move-in assistance?**

		YES	NO
Q9_A	a. Provide contact information for local utility service providers	1 ○	0 ○
Q9_B	b. Provide information about public transportation and retail options	1 ○	0 ○
Q9_C	c. Help contacting utility companies to establish service	1 ○	0 ○
Q9_D	d. Advice on how to talk to landlords and neighbors about maintenance needs or noise issues	1 ○	0 ○
Q9_E	e. Financial assistance with moving, security deposits, or utility hook-up fees	1 ○	0 ○
Q9_F	f. Financial assistance or referrals for assistance to secure furniture and other housewares	1 ○	0 ○
Q9_G	g. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ○	0 ○

Q9_SPEC
[   ]

FUP VOUCHERS FOR FUP-ELIGIBLE YOUTH

The next few questions ask about the process your agency uses to identify FUP-eligible youth and refer them to your partner PHA.

10.   **How familiar are you with each of the following?**

Select one per row

		VERY	SOMEWHAT	NOT AT ALL
Q10_A	a. Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program eligibility	2 ◯	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q10_B	b. Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher briefings	2 ◯	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q10_C	c. Housing search and lease-up processes within the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program	2 ◯	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q10_D	d. Tracking and reporting requirements associated with the FUP	2 ◯	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q10_E	e. FUP eligibility and other FUP requirements	2 ◯	1 ◯	0 ◯

11.   **How does your agency identify FUP-eligible youth?**

Select all that apply

Q11_1	☐ Youth are referred to your agency by your partner PHA 1
Q11_2	☐ Youth are referred to your agency by another public housing agency 2
Q11_3	☐ Youth are referred to your agency by homeless shelters or other homeless service providers 3
Q11_4	☐ Youth are referred to your agency by youth housing programs 4
Q11_5	☐ Youth are referred to your agency by aftercare service providers 5
Q11_6	☐ Youth are referred to your agency by other state or local agencies.................... 6
Q11_7	☐ Youth are referred to your agency by other community-based agencies 7
Q11_8	☐ Youth refer themselves to your agency 8
Q11_9	☐ Other (SPECIFY) 9
Q11_SPEC	Specify

12.   **Are ALL of the FUP-eligible youth identified by your agency referred to your partner PHA?**

Q12

◯ Yes.. 1

◯ No 0

◯ Don't Know .... d

13.   **Does your agency make referrals on a first-come-first-serve basis, or does your agency give priority to some youth based on factors such as age, housing status, education or employment status?**

Q13

◯ Agency makes referrals on a first-come-first serve basis 1   SKIP TO Q15

◯ Agency gives priority to some youth.. 0

◯ Don't Know .... d

14.   **Does your agency give priority to youth based on any of the following circumstances?**

		YES	NO
Q14_A	a. Is the youth homeless or precariously housed?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_B	b. Is the youth involved with multiple systems?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_C	c. What is the age of the youth?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_D	d. Does the youth have mental health problems?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_E	e. Does the youth have other disabilities?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_F	f. Does the youth identify as lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, or transgendered?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_G	g. Is the youth pregnant or parenting?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_H	h. Has the youth completed high school?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_I	i. Is the youth enrolled in an education or training program?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_J	j. What is the work history of the youth?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_K	k. Is the youth currently employed?	₁ ○	₀ ○
Q14_L	l. Does the youth have a criminal record?	₁ ○	₀ ○

For the next set of questions, please think about the FUP-eligible youth your agency referred to your partner PHA during the past year.

15. **Approximately how many FUP-eligible youth did your agency refer to your partner PHA during your state's past fiscal year? If you do not know the exact number, your best guess is fine.**

Q15

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF REFERRALS DURING THE PAST FISCAL YEAR

16. **Approximately what percentage of the FUP-eligible youth who your agency referred in the past fiscal year ultimately leased up using a FUP voucher? If you do not know the exact percentage, your best guess is fine.**

Q16

Select one only

○ Less than 25% 1

○ At least 25% but less than 50% 2

○ About 50% 3

○ More than 50% but less than 75% 4

○ More than 75% 5

○ Don't Know .... d

This next set of questions is about what happens once a youth's FUP eligibility has been established.

17. **What does your agency do if your partner PHA determines that a FUP-eligible youth that your agency referred is not eligible for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program?**

Select all that apply

Q17_1 ☐ Notify the youth... 1

Q17_2 ☐ Refer the youth to other PHA programs.. 2

Q17_3 ☐ Refer the youth to other housing options 3

Q17_4 ☐ Inform youth about re-entry if that is an option... 4

Q17_5 ☐ Other (SPECIFY)... 5

Q17_SPEC Specify [   ]

18. **Before issuing a FUP voucher, the PHA must inform youth how the FUP works and what its requirements are. This meeting is called a briefing. How often do you or does someone else from your agency attend this briefing with the youth?**

Q18

Select one only

○ Almost always... 1

○ More than half of the time.. 2

○ About half of the time... 3

○ Less than half of the time 4

○ Almost never... 5

The next set of questions asks about the housing search process for FUP-eligible youth who have had a voucher briefing.

19. **Does *your agency provide* any housing search assistance to FUP-eligible youth in their search for suitable housing?**

Q19

◯ Yes... 1

◯ No 0   SKIP TO Q21

◯ Don't Know .... d   SKIP TO Q21

20. **Which of the following does *your agency* do to assist <u>FUP-eligible youth</u> with their housing search? Please do not include assistance that is only provided by your partner PHA.**

		YES	NO
Q20_A	a. Provide information about different neighborhoods/communities	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_B	b. Take youth on neighborhood tours	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_C	c. Transport youth to visit housing units	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_D	d. Provide a listing of vacant rental units	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_E	e. Refer youth to property managers/landlords known to accept FUP vouchers	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_F	f. Work with landlords/property managers to help youth secure housing	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_G	g. Provide information about tenant rights and responsibilities	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_H	h. Provide information about subsidized housing including eligibility requirements	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_I	i. Provide information about public transportation services	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_J	j. Help youth locate housing near school or work	1 ◯	0 ◯
Q20_K	k. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ◯	0 ◯

Q20_SPEC

21. **How does the housing search assistance your agency provides to FUP-eligible youth compare to any housing search assistance your agency provides to <u>FUP-eligible families</u>?**

Q21

Select one only

◯ Youth receive MORE housing search assistance 1

◯ Youth receive ABOUT THE SAME amount of housing search assistance 2

◯ Youth receive LESS housing search assistance... 3

◯ Don't Know .... d

22.   Does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, provide FUP-eligible youth with …

		YES	NO
Q22_A	a. Pre-move counseling?	1 ○	0 ○
Q22_B	b. Post-move counseling?	1 ○	0 ○

23.   [ANSWER IF Q22a=1 OR Q22b=1] What does this counseling include?

		YES	NO
Q23_A	a. Information about tenant rights and responsibilities	1 ○	0 ○
Q23_B	b. Information about budgeting	1 ○	0 ○
Q23_C	c. Information about credit	1 ○	0 ○
Q23_D	d. Information about landlord mediation	1 ○	0 ○
Q23_E	e. Information about the benefits of living in a low-poverty neighborhood (low poverty areas are areas where the poverty rate is 10% or less)	1 ○	0 ○
Q23_F	f. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ○	0 ○
Q23_SPEC			

24.   Once a unit has been approved by the PHA, which of the following types of financial assistance does *your agency* provide?

Select all that apply

Q24_1	☐ Help paying for security deposits 1
Q24_2	☐ Help paying for utility deposits.. 2
Q24_3	☐ Help paying for moving costs 3
Q24_4	☐ Help paying for furniture or house wares 4
Q24_5	☐ None of the above 5

25.   How often is someone from your agency present when youth meet with the landlord to sign the lease?

Q25

Select one only

- ○   Almost always... 1
- ○   More than half of the time.. 2
- ○   About half of the time... 3
- ○   Less than half of the time 4
- ○   Almost never.. 5
- ○   Don't Know .... d

The next set of questions is about what happens during the 18 months that FUP-eligible youth are eligible for housing assistance payments once they have moved into an approved housing unit.

26.   Please indicate the frequency with which you or someone else from your agency typically has contact with youth during that 18-month period either in-person or by phone, email, text messaging, or some other means.

Select one per row

		At least once per week	Twice per month	Once per month	Once per quarter	Once per year
a.	In person	1 ◯	2 ◯	3 ◯	4 ◯	5 ◯
b.	By phone, email, or text messaging	1 ◯	2 ◯	3 ◯	4 ◯	5 ◯
c.	Other (SPECIFY)	1 ◯	2 ◯	3 ◯	4 ◯	5 ◯

Q26_A

Q26_B

Q26_C

Q26_SPEC

27. **Which of the following services or supports are provided to FUP-eligible youth during that 18-month period either (1) directly by your agency or (2) by a contracted service provider?**

	Provided by your agency		Provided by a contracted service provider		
	YES	NO	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
a. Help learning money management skills	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY_A ₁○		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED A		
b. Help learning housekeeping skills	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY B ○		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED_B		
c. Help learning about proper nutrition	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY_C ○		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED_C		
d. Help learning about meal preparation	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY D ○		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED_D		
e. Help learning how to access physical and mental health care	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY E		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED_E		
f. Help developing other basic life skills	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY F		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED_F		
g. Information about tenant rights and responsibilities	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY_G		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED G		
h. Assistance with security or utility deposits	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY_H		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED H		
i. Job readiness training	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY I ₁○		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED I		
j. Help finding a job	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY_J ○		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED J		
k. Educational services	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY K ₁○		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED K		
l. Career counseling	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY L ₁○		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED_L		
m. Assessment of youth needs	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY M		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED M		
n. Case planning	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY N		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED N		
o. Help with rent arrearages	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY O		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED_O		
p. Help with utility arrearages	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY P		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED_P		
q. Other assistance to help youth live independently	Q27PROVIDEDBYYOURAGENCY_Q		Q27PROVIDEDBYCONTRACTED Q		

28. **Which of the following types of funding does your agency use to pay for the services listed above that it provides to FUP-eligible youth once they have moved into an approved housing unit?**

Select all that apply

Q28_1 ☐ Chafee funds 1

Q28_2 ☐ State funds (including funds your state provides to counties or municipalities to administer) 2

Q28_3 ☐ Funds from another source 3

29. **Under what circumstances would you or someone from your agency have contact with the owner/landlord/property manager of the youth's housing unit?**

Select all that apply

Q29_1	☐ To familiarize landlord with FUP program and PCWA role 1
Q29_2	☐ To respond to issues/problems identified by the youth 2
Q29_3	☐ To respond to issues/problems identified by your partner PHA 3
Q29_4	☐ To respond to issues/problems identified by the owner 4
Q29_5	☐ Other (SPECIFY) 5
Q29_SPEC	Specify

30. **How often do you or does someone from your agency have contact with the owner/landlord/property manager of the youth's housing unit?**

Q30

Select one only

- ◯ At least once a month 1
- ◯ Every few months 2
- ◯ At least once per year 3
- ◯ Less than once a year 4
- ◯ Never 0

The next set of questions asks about the housing stability of FUP-eligible youth who have leased up.

FUP-eligible youth are eligible for 18 months of housing assistance payments (HAP). However, some youth leave or are terminated from the program before exhausting their 18 months of HAP. The next few questions are about youth who exit the program before their 18 months of HAP are exhausted.

31. **What percentage of FUP-eligible youth *voluntarily leave the program* before their 18 months of HAP are exhausted?**

Q31

Select one only

❍ Less than 25% 1

❍ At least 25% but less than 50% 2

❍ About 50% 3

❍ More than 50% but less than 75% 4

❍ More than 75% 5

❍ Don't Know .... d

32. **What is the most common reason FUP-eligible youth *voluntarily leave the program* before their 18 months of HAP is exhausted?**

Q32

Select one only

❍ To live closer to school 1

❍ To live closer to a job 2

❍ To live closer to family or friends 3

❍ To live in a safer neighborhood 4

❍ To live in more affordable housing (including housing with lower utility costs) 5

❍ To avoid conflicts with their landlord 6

❍ To avoid conflicts with neighbors 7

❍ Youth lack case management or other supportive services 8

❍ Other reason 9

Q32_SPEC   Specify [   ]

❍ Don't Know .... d

The next set of questions is about the period just before and after FUP-eligible youth reach their 18-month time limit.

33. Q33 **Does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, provide transitional counseling or other assistance to FUP-eligible youth as they approach their 18-month time limit? Please do not include any assistance provided by your partner PHA.**

❍ Yes.. 1

❍ No 0   SKIP TO Q35

34. **Which of the following type(s) of transitional counseling or other assistance does your agency, or your agency's contracted provider, provide to FUP-eligible youth as they approach their 18-month time limit? Please do NOT include transitional counseling or other assistance that your partner PHA provides.**

		YES	NO
Q34_A	a. Information about other housing programs available through your agency	1 ❍	0 ❍
Q34_B	b. Information about housing programs administered by community-based agencies	1 ❍	0 ❍
Q34_C	c. Information about different neighborhoods	1 ❍	0 ❍
Q34_D	d. Take youth on neighborhood tours	1 ❍	0 ❍
Q34_E	e. Transport youth to visit housing units	1 ❍	0 ❍
Q34_F	f. Provide a listing of vacant rental units	1 ❍	0 ❍
Q34_G	g. Refer youth to property managers/landlords	1 ❍	0 ❍
Q34_H	h. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ❍	0 ❍
Q34_SPEC			

OTHER HOUSING OPTIONS FOR FOSTER YOUTH AGING OUT

We are interested in learning more about housing options other than FUP that are available to youth who have aged out of foster care in your partner PHA's jurisdiction.

35.   **What happens when former foster youth contact or return to your agency because they are homeless or have no place to live?**

Select all that apply

Q35_1	☐ The youth are referred to a homeless shelter 1
Q35_2	☐ The youth are referred to your partner PHA.. 2
Q35_3	☐ The youth are referred to other service providers 3
Q35_4	☐ The youth are informed about the option to re-enter care................................... 4
Q35_5	☐ The youth are referred to a housing program administered by your agency 5
Q35_6	☐ They don't receive any assistance 6
Q35_7	☐ Other (SPECIFY).. 7
Q35_SPEC	Specify [ ]

☐ Don't Know .... d

36.   **What happens when your agency is contacted by a homeless shelter or other homeless service provider in your partner PHA's jurisdiction about a homeless youth who has aged out of foster care? Please indicate what happens in the event that the homeless youth is 18 to 20 years old and what happens in the event that the homeless youth is at least 21 years old.**

	YOUTH AGE 18-20		YOUTH AGE 21 OR OLDER		
	YES	NO	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
a. Youth is referred to your partner PHA	Q36YOUTHAGE18_20_A		Q36YOUTHAGE21OLDER_A		
b. Youth is referred to other service providers	Q36YOUTHAGE18_20_B		Q36YOUTHAGE21OLDER_B		
c. Youth is informed about the option to re-enter care	Q36YOUTHAGE18_20_C		Q36YOUTHAGE21OLDER_C		
d. Youth is referred to a housing program administered by your agency	Q36YOUTHAGE18_20_D		Q36YOUTHAGE21OLDER_D		
e. Youth doesn't receive any assistance	Q36YOUTHAGE18_20_E		Q36YOUTHAGE21OLDER_E		
f. Other (SPECIFY)	Q36YOUTHAGE18_20_F		Q36YOUTHAGE21OLDER_F		
[ ]	Q36_SPEC				

The next question is about the different types of housing available to young people *who have aged out of or been emancipated from foster care* in your partner PHA's jurisdiction.

37.   **Please indicate whether the following housing options are available to youth who have aged out of foster care in your partner PHA's jurisdiction through YOUR AGENCY or another organization, including your partner PHA.**

		YES, AVAILABLE WITHIN THE NEXT 6 MONTHS	YES, BUT THE WAITLIST IS MORE THAN SIX MONTHS	NOT AVAILABLE	DON'T KNOW
Q37 A	a. **Scattered-site or semi-supervised apartments** (Youth live alone or with a roommate in an apartment rented from a private landlord)	1 ○	2 ○	d ○	d ○
Q37_B	b. **Clustered or supervised apartments** (youth live alone or with a roommate in an apartment located in an agency-owned building with 24/7 supervision)	1 ○	2 ○	d ○	d ○
Q37_C	c. **Shared homes** (several youth live together in and take responsibility for an agency-owned or rented house, with minimal supervision or live-in adults)	1 ○	2 ○	d ○	d ○
Q37 D	d. **Adult-roommate apartments** (youth share an apartment with an adult who serves as a mentor)	1 ○	2 ○	d ○	d ○
Q37 E	e. **Host homes** (youth rent a room and share facilities in a home)	1 ○	2 ○	d ○	d ○
Q37 F	f. **Boarding homes** (youth live in a room and share kitchen facilities with minimal supervision)	1 ○	2 ○	d ○	d ○
Q37	g. **Publicly owned housing units**	1 ○	2 ○	d ○	d ○
Q37	h. **Rental subsidies** for privately owned housing units	1 ○	2 ○	d ○	d ○
Q37_I	i. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ○	2 ○	d ○	d ○

Q37_SPEC [   ]

PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES USING FUP

The questions in this section ask about the challenges your agency has faced and the progress it has made helping youth address their housing needs using FUP vouchers.

38.   Below is a list of factors that may affect your agency's ability to administer FUP to eligible youth. For each factor, please indicate how much of a challenge it presents/has presented to your agency.

Select one per row

		NOT A CHALLENGE	SOMEWHAT OF A CHALLENGE	MAJOR CHALLENGE
Q38_A	a. Rental market conditions (e.g., affordability and/or quality of appropriate rental housing)	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_B	b. The 18-month time limit on FUP assistance	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_C	c. Coordination with your partner PHA	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_D	d. Administrative costs	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_E	e. Service provision costs	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_F	f. Staffing resources	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_G	g. Wait list procedures and administration	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_H	h. Relationships with landlords/property managers	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_I	i. Duration of search process	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_J	j. Complexity of leasing process (for initial units and unit changes)	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_K	k. Inability to project-base FUP vouchers	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_L	l. Other (SPECIFY)	1 ○	2 ○	3 ○
Q38_SPEC				

39. **Please indicate how much progress your agency has made with respect to each of the following since it has been partnering with your partner PHA to serve FUP-eligible youth. Progress can refer to any aspect of implementation that is meaningful to your agency, such as increased efficiency or effectiveness.**

Select one per row

		NO PROGRESS	SOME PROGRESS	A GREAT DEAL OF PROGRESS	DON'T KNOW/ INFO UNAVAILABLE
Q39_A	a. Coordination with your partner PHA	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
Q39 B	b. Identification and referral process	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
Q39 C	c. Housing search and selection process	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
Q39 D	d. Lease-up and move in process	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
Q39 E	e. Providing required services	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
Q39 F	f. Increasing housing stability while youth are in the program	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
Q39 G	g. Reducing voucher turnover	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○
Q39 H	h. Reducing post-FUP homelessness and housing instability	0 ○	1 ○	2 ○	d ○

PERSPECTIVES ON PRACTICE AND POLICY

40. **The Foster Care Independence Act allows states to spend up to 30% of their Chafee funds on "room and board" for young people who are at least 18 but not yet 21 years old. In your opinion, should this percentage be higher, lower, or remain the same?**

Q40

Select one only

❍ Higher 1

❍ Lower 2

❍ Remain the same 3

❍ Don't Know .... d

41. **Under the current statutory requirements, FUP-eligible youth are limited to 18-months of housing assistance payments (HAP). In your opinion, should this time limit be eliminated, reduced, extended, or remain the same?**

Q41

Select one only

❍ Eliminated 1   SKIP TO Q43

❍ Reduced 2

❍ Extended.. 3

❍ Remain the same 4   SKIP TO Q43

❍ Don't Know .... d

42. **In your opinion, for how many months should FUP-eligible youth be eligible for HAP?**

Q42

[   ] MS

43. **Your agency is required to provide a specific set of services to FUP-eligible youth during their 18-months of eligibility for HAP. In your opinion, should this service requirement be eliminated?**

Q43

❍ Yes, eliminate service requirement 1

❍ No, do NOT eliminate service requirement 0

44. **This service requirement does not apply to FUP-eligible families. Should this service requirement also apply to FUP-eligible families?**

Q44

❍ Yes, service requirement should apply to families 1

❍ No, service requirement should not apply to families.......................... 0

45. **HUD policies state that youth must have left foster care at age 16 or older and must lack adequate housing before being eligible for FUP. A lack of adequate housing is defined in several ways, including but not limited to: being homeless, being in imminent danger of losing their housing (one week from eviction from a private dwelling unit), or living in an overcrowded unit.**

Q45

Based on your professional experience working with this population, should child welfare agencies be able to make FUP referrals to the PHA while the youth is still housed in the foster care system?

❍ Yes... 1

❍ No 0   GO TO Q47

46. **Based on your professional experience working with this population, how far in advance should child welfare agencies be able to make a FUP referral before youth leave care?**

Q46

Select one only

○ Less than 1 month before youth leave care 1

○ Between 1 and 3 months before youth leave care 2

○ Between 3 and 6 months before youth leave care 3

○ Between 6 months and 9 months before youth leave care 4

○ Between 9 months and 12 months before youth leave care 5

○ More than a year before youth leave care... 6

○ Don't Know .... d

47. **If there is anything else you would like to share with HUD about serving youth with FUP, please enter your comments below.**

Q47

Thank you for your time. We appreciate your responses. They will help the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development better understand and plan for housing services for transitioning foster youth.

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