



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### Section 8 Rent Assistance Waiting List to Open for Applications in November

*List Has Been Closed Since 2006 When Nearly 10,000 Applied*

**PORTLAND, OR — 18 October 2012 —**

Individuals and families with limited incomes who need help paying their rent will be able to apply for the Section 8 rent assistance waiting list this November. Home Forward, the agency that administers the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program in Multnomah County, is accepting online applications from November 1 through November 10, 2012.

The program helps eligible low-income renters afford homes and apartments at normal market rents. Home Forward's program currently assists about 8,700 households throughout Multnomah County.

The list last opened in 2006 when the agency received nearly 10,000 applications in two weeks.

"We're very pleased to be able to open our Section 8 waiting list," said Steve Rudman, Home Forward's executive director, "A voucher makes a tremendous difference in the lives of individuals and families who have limited incomes. We expect demand to be especially high this year, given the state of the economy and rising rents in the Portland metro area."

The agency is accepting applications online for the first time. Applications are not prioritized by date, so people can apply at any point during the 10-day opening. Three thousand (3,000) households will be randomly selected from all of the applications and placed on the Section 8 waiting list. Once a household is on the list, priority selection is provided for seniors, persons with disabilities, and people who are working or engaged in education or training programs.

Applicants must earn less than 50 percent of the area median income for their household size – \$25,550 for a single individual and \$36,500 for a family of four – to qualify for the program. Applicants can visit Home Forward's website for more information, including eligibility requirements, application guidelines, and locations where they can use computers connected to the internet. The application will be available online beginning on November 1 through November 10, 2012.

[A new name for the Housing Authority of Portland](#)

**About Home Forward**

Home Forward (the new name for the Housing Authority of Portland) is dedicated to providing safe, decent, and affordable housing for individuals and families who are challenged by income, disability, or special need. A public corporation, Home Forward serves all of Multnomah County, including the cities of Gresham, Fairview, and Troutdale and other East County communities. Home Forward is governed by a nine-member citizen commission, which ensures our continued accountability to the interests of the community.

**Home Forward's Mission**

The mission of Home Forward is to assure that the people of the community are sheltered. Home Forward has a special responsibility to those who encounter barriers to housing because of income, disability or special need.

**For More Information**

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