

Department on Aging

Sedgwick County Housing Authority

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Annette Graham Director

September 6, 2017

Bruce Ladd, Deputy Regional Administrator
United States Department of Housing and Urban Development
Kansas City Regional Office
400 State Avenue
Room 200
Kansas City, KS 66101-2406

Re:

Voluntary transfer of Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program from the Sedgwick County Housing Authority to the Wichita Housing Authority

Dear Mr. Ladd:

This letter is being submitted as part of the request from the Sedgwick County Housing Authority ("SCHA") to seek the approval of a voluntary transfer of its Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program to the Wichita Housing Authority ("WHA").

The Wichita City Council is the governing body that administers the WHA and the Board of County Commissioners of Sedgwick County is the governing body that administers the SCHA. Please see the enclosed agreement reached between both governing bodies, which includes the terms of the agreement, contingent upon HUD's approval of the voluntary transfer. Also enclosed is a copy of the resolution approved by the Board of County Commissioners of Sedgwick County to transfer the authority / jurisdiction for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (currently handled by the SCHA) to the WHA. Both items were approved by the Board of County Commissioners during its meeting on September 6, 2017.

Sedgwick County and the City of Wichita are requesting that the voluntary transfer be approved by HUD such that it is effective January 1, 2018. There are two (2) key reasons that the parties have requested the transfer. First, the parties believe that tenants and landlords that participate within the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program will be better served by having a single agency be the point of contact to handle Section 8 housing matters within Sedgwick County and the greater region (including Harvey County and Butler County). Due to the WHA's volume, which is significantly larger than the SCHA's, a voluntary transfer from the SCHA and WHA is a logical way to achieve a single agency point of contact. Second, the parties

believe that a voluntary transfer from the SCHA to the WHA would result in the realization of economies of scale that would increase efficiency of Section 8 housing operations within the region.

Thank you for considering this request for voluntary transfer. If you need any information from Sedgwick County, please contact Annette Graham, Executive Director of the Sedgwick County Housing Authority.

Sincerely,

David M. Unruh, Chairman Board of County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas Annette Graham, Executive Director Sedgwick County Housing Authority