



Oakland Housing
Authority

NEWS RELEASE/MEDIA ADVISORY

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MEDIA CONTACT: Greer McVay
(510) 874-1563
gmcvay@oakha.org

Oakland Housing Authority Receives \$2.7M Grant to Assist Public Housing Residents with Jobs

Oakland, CA—The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced Thursday that Oakland Housing Authority (OHA) has been awarded \$2.7 million, as part of the *Jobs Plus* pilot program. Nine housing authorities nationwide received a total of \$24.3 million through *Jobs Plus* grants and another \$75 million was awarded for Family Self-Sufficiency programs, of which, OHA received \$275,000. The *Jobs Plus* grant supports work readiness and connects public housing residents with employment, education and financial empowerment services—and it's a model proven to help public housing residents find and keep jobs.

Ophelia Basgal, Regional Administrator, HUD Region 9, was joined by City of Oakland Mayor, Libby Schaaf, Oakland City Council President, Lynnette Gibson McElhaney and OHA Executive Director Eric Johnson, in a press conference to make the announcement at OHA's Peralta Village, a 390 unit public housing site in West Oakland benefitting from the grant award.

The \$2.7M will be leveraged for additional funding bringing the total to over \$4M. In a statement, Congresswoman Barbara Lee said, "I am pleased that Oakland Housing Authority has been selected to receive this highly competitive funding." She continued,

“Linking public housing residents to these critical workforce services empowers them to take control of their lives and prepares them to succeed along with the rest of the East Bay.”

Oakland Housing Authority Executive Director Eric Johnson stated in his comments “OHA is excited to receive this grant award which will provide our West Oakland public housing families access to the economic opportunities that are growing within their own community. The Job Plus program provides the resources and partnerships needed to create neighborhoods and communities that support work for our families, and we in Oakland are grateful for the myriad opportunities HUD brings to communities in this country, and for the *Jobs Plus* program.”

Implementation of the OHA *Jobs Plus* program will begin immediately in partnership with the Oakland Private Industry Council, a provider of accessible, high- quality training and employment services, and in cooperation with a host of community-based organizations, including Oakland Technology Exchange West, Tekperfect and Youth Uprising, as well as local and minority owned businesses, such as Pyramid Business Systems and Turner Construction, each committed to expanding employment opportunities in Oakland.

About Oakland Housing Authority (OHA)

The Oakland Housing Authority is the largest provider of affordable housing in the City of Oakland and proudly delivers diverse housing choices to over 16,400 households in a service-oriented environment, while improving and expanding housing options for future generations. For more information about the OHA, please contact us at info@oakha.org, visit our website at www.oakha.org, or call 510-874-1653.

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