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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**OAKLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES OPEN APPLICATION PERIOD  
FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSING PROGRAM**

OAKLAND, CA, January 17, 2006—The Oakland Housing Authority (OHA) is pleased to announce an open enrollment period for its Housing Choice Voucher program. Also known as “Section 8,” the Housing Choice Voucher program allows very low-income families, the elderly, and disabled to lease safe, decent, and affordable housing from private landlords.

OHA is able to help over 10,000 Oakland families afford a place to live through the Housing Choice Voucher program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A family that is issued a Housing Choice Voucher can rent any apartment or house anywhere in Oakland when the owner agrees to participate in the Housing Choice Voucher program. If the rental unit meets OHA standards of health and safety, the family enters in to a lease agreement with the landlord. The family will contribute approximately 30% of their monthly income to pay the rent. The remainder of the rent is paid directly to the landlord by OHA on behalf of the family.

Families earning less than 50 percent of the area’s median income are encouraged to apply. For example, a family of four may earn up to \$41,400 and be eligible for the Housing Choice Voucher program.

Applications will be available beginning Monday, January 23 through Friday, January 27, 2006. All applications must be completed and postmarked by February 3, 2006.

Interested person may apply in the following ways:

1. Online at [www.ddatam.com/oha](http://www.ddatam.com/oha).
2. Download the application at [www.oakha.org](http://www.oakha.org) and mail it in as described in the instructions.
3. Pick up the application at participating locations (as listed in the Oakland Tribune on January 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>) and mail it in as described in the instructions.

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