



IOUSING AUTHORITY of the

VICE CHAIRMAN: **COMMISSIONERS:**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 21, 2020

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

Mr. Patricio Sampayo Mr. Noe Guerrero Mr. Luis E. Garduño Ms. Laura Villarreal Mr. Jesse A. Miller Ms. Carla Mancha

P.O. BOX 4420 2606 BOCA CHICA BLVD BROWNSVILLE, TX 78523-4420 MAIN PHONE (956) 541-8315 MAIN FAX (956) 541-7860 EMAIL: info@hacb.us WEBSITE: http://hacb.us

HACB is awarded a Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Grant by the Department of Housing and Urban Development

BROWNSVILLE, TX JANUARY 21, 2020—The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded more than \$79 million in Grant Awards to nearly 700 public housing authorities across the nation for their respective Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program. Funds will help residents of public housing and voucher-assisted housing increase their earned income and reduce their dependency on public assistance and rental subsidies.

The Housing Authority of the City of Brownsville (HACB) has been selected as one of the Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) to receive the 2019 Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Grant allocation in the amount of \$166,274. Funded through HUD's Family Self-Sufficiency Program, these grants enable PHA's to collaborate with social service agencies, community colleges, businesses, and other local partners to help participants further their education, gain marketable skills, and otherwise increase their income potential through new employment or by advancing in their current workplace.

Participants in the program sign a five-year contract requiring the head of the household to obtain employment. In addition, individuals who successfully complete the requirements of their FSS contract receive the escrow funds upon completion and are able to apply those funds to advance their personal circumstances, including but not limited to, paying educational expenses or making a down-payment on a home.

"On behalf of the HACB Board of Commissioners, I would like to thank HUD for their support towards our FSS program", said HACB CEO Carla Mancha. "Thank you to our FSS Coordinators Cesar Barrera, Magda Fernandez, Ana Trejo and their supervisor Supportive Services Director Hilda Ledezma for providing the quality counseling and guidance to our families. This program has helped families stop the cycle of dependency. I encourage all of our families to take advantage of this program. It has proven to transform families for the better."

We would like to thank our Board of Commissioners, Chairman Patricio Sampayo, Vice-Chairman Noe Guerrero, Commissioner Luis Eduardo Garduño, Commissioner Jesse Miller and Resident Commissioner Laura Villarreal for their support and leadership. On behalf of Administration we would also like to recognize Grants and Special Project Manager, Ana Trejo for securing these funds for our families.

ABOUT HACB:

The Housing Authority of the City of Brownsville is a High Performing Housing Authority for both the Housing Choice Voucher and Public Housing program. HACB serves over 3,700 low-income families in our community. HACB is the twelfth largest housing authority in the State of Texas and the largest south of San Antonio, Texas. HACB has authority to administer 2,582 Housing Choice Vouchers, operates and manages five Public Housing developments, six RAD properties and is the General Partner to nine tax credit developments all located within the City of Brownville. It is the mission of the HACB to provide access to affordable, quality housing, and achieve self-sufficiency through education and collaborative partnerships, for all residents of our community.

###

For more information, please contact communications@hacb.us or 956-589-0937