

# 2015 FACT SHEET

**Lake County Housing Authority** provides rent opportunities and assistance for over 3,427 individuals and families residing in Lake County, Illinois. Established in 1946, LCHA is the fourth largest Housing Authority in Illinois and the largest of the three housing authorities servicing the county. It is currently supporting the housing of over 8,100 individuals and offering other services to touch even more lives within our community. It is a non-smoking agency. Individuals/families in the Low Rent Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) programs pay at least 30% of their household income for rent. The difference is subsidized by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

**Lake County Housing Authority** is governed by a Board of Commissioners currently consisting of seven members appointed for a five-year term. LCHA employs over 50 staff members.

**Low Rent Public Housing Program** owns and operates 6 buildings totaling 274 units of housing developed for seniors (aged 55 & older) and 58 units for disabled residents/seniors. It also maintains 161 single-family homes scattered throughout Lake County.

**Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program (Section 8)** provides rent assistance in privately-owned rental units for low income individuals and families. Federal funding allows LCHA to assist approximately 2,918 households with Housing Choice Vouchers. These vouchers assist over 6,900 individuals.

**Waiting Lists** as of December 31, 2014: 1,230 individuals/families are on the LCHA Housing Choice Voucher waiting list. There are a combined total of 4,230 applications on our thirteen Low Rent Public Housing waiting lists. LCHA's HCV Section 8 and Public Housing Waiting Lists are closed. The Waiting List for senior Public Housing remains open for those aged 55 and over. Preference is given to Head-of-Households who are residents of Lake County, veterans, or currently residing in nursing homes.

**Public Housing** – as of December 31, 2014: Average household income is \$14,094 and average tenant rent is \$210. 46% of the households are headed by persons over 62 years-of-age. 42% of the households are headed by persons with a disability. Average is approximately 87 unit turnovers per year.

**Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8)** – as of December 31, 2014: Average household income is \$14,587 and average tenant rent is \$255. 18% of the households are headed by persons with a disability. Averages approximately 25 voucher turnovers per month

## **LCHA Affordable Housing Acquisition & Rentals Program**

- Fostering affordable housing opportunities by obtaining HUD foreclosures, rehabilitating them and then utilizing these to house additional families. Once purchased and rehabilitated, houses are taken under the Rentals Inventory umbrella.
- 14 homes have been purchased in the LCHA Affordable Housing Rehab program (located throughout the county). Currently, there are 18 Homes and 4 lots in the Rentals program inventory. Seven homes were completely renovated in 2012, which totaled \$604,442.06.
- 1 New home was finished in 2014, approximately \$95,000 spread over a 2 year period in collaboration with Lake County High Schools Technology Campus.
- Program is funded using non-federal dollars.
- Goal is to make these properties home ownership properties.

**Chicago Regional Housing Choice Initiative** – As of December, 2014 LCHA works with seven neighboring Housing Authorities to combine efforts in housing families in need. Two developments are located in Lake County including 80 units that offer project-based rental assistance. The HUD funded Project Opportunity Pilot Program has helped a number of families relocate with assistance from a Housing Counselor. LCHA has referred over 200 of our Housing Choice Voucher families to assist in moving to better opportunity areas.

## **LCHA Supportive Programs:**

### **Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program**

### **Family Unification Program**

- Security Deposit Assistance Program

### **Assist Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) Landlords with Property Tax Savings Program**

### **Housing Counseling**

- First time homebuyer counseling
- Mortgage default counseling
- Foreclosure intervention
- Home equity conversion mortgages

*Service Above All Else*

