

under a management contract with the HA.

*Resident management corporation.* An entity that proposes to enter into, or enters into, a contract to manage one or more management activities of a HA.

*Resident-owned business.* Any business concern which is owned and controlled by public housing residents. (The term "resident-owned business" includes sole proprietorships.) For purposes of this part, "owned and controlled" means a business:

(1) Which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more public housing residents; and

(2) Whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more such individuals.

*Supportive services for FIC.* New or significantly expanded services that are essential to providing families living with children in public housing with better access to educational and employment opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency and independence.

*Tenant Opportunities Program (TOP).* The TOP program is designed to prepare residents to experience the dignity of meaningful work, to own and operate resident businesses, to move toward financial independence, and to enable them to choose where they want to live and engage in meaningful participation in the management of housing developments in which they live. Financial assistance in the form of technical assistance grants is available to RCs/RMCs to prepare to manage activities in their public housing developments.

*Vacant unit under FIC.* A dwelling unit that is not under an effective lease to an eligible family. An effective lease is a lease under which an eligible family has a right to possession of the unit and is being charged rent, even if the amount of any utility allowance equals or exceeds the amount of a total resident payment that is based on income and, as a result, the amount paid by the family to the HA is zero.

[59 FR 43636, Aug. 24, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 5215, Feb. 9, 1996]

**§ 964.11 HUD policy on tenant participation.**

HUD promotes resident participation and the active involvement of residents in all aspects of a HA's overall mission and operation. Residents have a right to organize and elect a resident council to represent their interests. As long as proper procedures are followed, the HA shall recognize the duly elected resident council to participate fully through a working relationship with the HA. HUD encourages HAs and residents to work together to determine the most appropriate ways to foster constructive relationships, particularly through duly-elected resident councils.

**§ 964.12 HUD policy on the Tenant Opportunities Program (TOP).**

HUD promotes TOP programs to support activities that enable residents to improve the quality of life and resident satisfaction, and obtain other social and economic benefits for residents and their families. Tenant opportunity programs are proven to be effective in facilitating economic uplift, as well as in improving the overall conditions of the public housing communities.

**§ 964.14 HUD policy on partnerships.**

HUD promotes partnerships between residents and HAs which are an essential component to building, strengthening and improving public housing. Strong partnerships are critical for creating positive changes in lifestyles thus improving the quality of life for public housing residents, and the surrounding community.

**§ 964.15 HUD policy on resident management.**

It is HUD's policy to encourage resident management. HUD encourages HAs, resident councils and resident management corporations to explore the various functions involved in management to identify appropriate opportunities for contracting with a resident management corporation. Potential benefits of resident-managed entities include improved quality of life, experiencing the dignity of meaningful work, enabling residents to choose where they want to live, and meaningful participation in the management of the housing development.