



Rhode Island Housing

PROGRAM BULLETIN

To: HOME Program Recipients
From: Ainsley M. Cantoral, HOME Program Coordinator *AMC*
Date: July 12, 2017
Subject: Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) HOME Compliance
Bulletin: 2017-05

Pursuant to [24 CFR 92.359](#) and [24 CFR Part 5, subpart L](#), “an applicant for or resident of housing assisted under a covered housing program (The HOME Program) may not be denied admission to” or “denied assistance...on the basis that the applicant or resident is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, if the applicant or resident otherwise qualifies for admission, assistance, participation, or occupancy.” Also, a “resident of housing assisted under a covered housing program may not be terminated from participation in, or evicted from the housing on the basis that the applicant or resident is or has been a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, if the applicant or resident otherwise qualifies for admission, assistance, participation, or occupancy.”

As directed by HUD and in accordance with 24 CFR 92.359, Rhode Island Housing has developed the following documents for all HOME Program recipients:

- VAWA/HOME Emergency Transfer Plan
- VAWA/HOME Notice of Occupancy Rights (template)
- VAWA Lease Addendum (template)
- VAWA/HOME Emergency Transfer Request
- VAWA/HOME Certification of Domestic Violence (template)

These documents are required and are available on the Rhode Island Housing [website](#) under the “Compliance-Related Resources” heading.

Compliance with these requirements is only applicable for projects with a HOME funding commitment date (HOME Agreement date) on or after December 16, 2016.

A summary of VAWA and its impacts on federal programs can be found on the HUD Exchange in the [HOMEfires – Vol. 11 No. 1, December, 2013](#).

Please contact Brittany Toomey, HOME Compliance Specialist, at 401-429-1455 or btoomey@rihousing.com with any VAWA related inquiries.