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**PHA RECEIVES \$2.9 MILLION FROM HUD TO HELP WILSON PARK RESIDENTS
SECURE EMPLOYMENT AND HIGHER-PAYING JOBS**

Housing Authorities in a dozen communities will receive funding under Jobs Plus

(Philadelphia, PA – April 28, 2021) – The Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) has received \$2,979,543 million from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help families increase their earned incomes and improve economic mobility.

Awarded through HUD’s Jobs Plus program, the grant supports work readiness and connects public housing residents with employment, education, and financial empowerment services — part of an evidence-based model proven to help public housing residents find and keep jobs. The grant is part of HUD’s broader \$28 million investment in 12 public housing agencies to support employment opportunities.

“Providing resources so that public housing residents can achieve economic and housing stability is an important part of HUD’s mission,” said HUD Secretary Marcia L. Fudge. “HUD is committed to empowering and working with our local partners to help residents reach their goals and uplift their families.”

“Today’s rapidly changing economic landscape makes it essential for workers to be job-ready and have the in-demand skills employers seek,” said Kelvin A. Jeremiah, President and CEO of PHA. “With this new grant, we can prepare residents for entry-level jobs in a number of priority sectors so they remain competitive, along with these vital industries.”

The Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA), which has been designated as a Community Connections partner of the PA CareerLink system, will use the funds to support employment and career readiness opportunities at Wilson Park, where only 26 percent of the work-able residents report employment income from wages.

Wilson Park residents who participate in Jobs Plus will have onsite access to employment-readiness services that otherwise are only accessible at CareerLink office locations.

In addition to assistance with resume, job search and interview skills, Wilson Park residents will have access to job training programs through the PHA’s Workforce Center (an Envision Center) to prepare for high demand, living wage jobs with good benefits.

Jobs Plus Grant will create career paths to employment

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Through its Workforce Center, the PHA offers job training and placement slots for entry-level positions in high-growth industries such as Early Childhood Education; construction and the trades, healthcare, pharmacy tech, and more.

The Jobs Plus program, which is designed to serve work-able residents aged 18-64, combines traditional employment, training, and job placement services with a rent incentive and a place-based investment in building community support for work. The program requires public housing authorities to partner locally with Department of Labor Workforce Development Boards and American Jobs Centers; PHA's local partner is Philadelphia Works. This is the second Jobs Plus grant for the PHA, which was awarded its initial grant in 2016 for the Raymond Rosen development in North Philadelphia.

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The Philadelphia Housing Authority is the nation's 4th largest housing authority, serving nearly 80,000 residents. PHA is also a major real estate developer. Learn more at www.pha.phila.gov.