

WHA RATED A HIGH PERFORMER BY HUD



Worcester, MA — The Worcester Housing Authority is once again thrilled to announce that it has received high marks on its most recent performance evaluation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The WHA earned a score of 94 out of a possible 100 points on HUD's most recent evaluation through its Public Housing Assessment System, receiving another "high performer" designation. The score released publicly on March 24, 2020, measures the authority's performance in areas such as management and the condition of its housing units. Last year, the WHA was also designated a high performer with a score of 93.

"It is of great importance to the WHA to give our residents the best to champion self-sufficiency and feel safe in their communities,"

— WHA Executive Director, Alex Corrales.

"I am very proud of the continuous hard work by the WHA staff in order to accomplish this feat. Receiving a high performer designation is a reflection of how dedicated and committed our staff, Board of Commissioners, and residents are. The yearly increasing score demonstrates how working as a team towards common goals will produce great results."

HUD's annual report, known as the Public Housing Assessment System or PHAS, represents an in-depth look at all aspects of a housing authority, including the physical condition of housing developments management systems, occupancy rates, rent collections and accounts to payable, financial condition and systems, and capital fund programs.

"For the coming years, we are looking at some big changes for improvement including but not limited to our goals to build a new Economic Opportunity Center as well as revamp the Great Brook Valley area and the new development of 38 Lewis Street. With the designation, the WHA can be eligible for a bonus in its capital funding, a reduction in certain inspection requirements, and better positioning for certain HUD grants, among other advantages." said Corrales.

The Worcester Housing Authority manages almost 3,000 public housing apartments spread across 24 sites in Worcester and administers over 4000 rental vouchers, making the WHA the 2nd largest authority in New England. In November 2018, the Holden Housing Authority entered into a Management Agreement with the WHA, which allows the Worcester Housing Authority to bring the management experience of a strong work force to Holden, increasing the services that are provided to the HHA residents.

A VIEW FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"It's a fantastic team and this score really encompasses that it's a team effort to achieve this. We are scored on all facets of our agency operations. Not one person is responsible for this... it takes an entire team to perform at a high level to score this well."

- Alex Corrales, WHA Executive Director