

## Caribou Housing Agency

More than 309 people rely on the Caribou Housing Agency for rental assistance each month. That, by itself, defines our mission. Most of them are low- and moderate-income people, with children and often extended family in the home – a grandmother on Social Security or an unemployed uncle. Our job is to provide them safe, decent and sanitary housing conditions, and connect them to the educational and economic opportunities that will help them prosper.

The rental assistance that the Caribou Housing Agency (CHA) provides is the Housing Choice Voucher Program (aka Section 8). Funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), this program provides rental assistance to about 2.2 million families nationwide.

### Property Owners/Landlords

It takes a lot of partnership to make this program work and CHA is proud of its 51 Owners and Agents (Landlords) who participate in the HCV Program. In 2017, CHA paid approximately \$862,287 in Housing Assistance Payments (HAP) to owners/landlords of rental properties in the Caribou area.

### Housing Choice Voucher: Waiting List

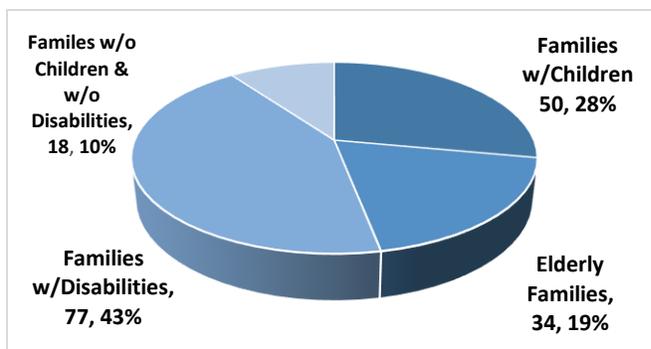
When vouchers are available, the CHA draws applications, by date & time of application, from the Waiting List. The eligibility determination process includes verification of family composition, income eligibility, and criminal background checks.

In 2017, CHA invited zero (0) applicants off the Waiting list, due to funding cutbacks from the HUD and the rise in contract rent to Landlords.

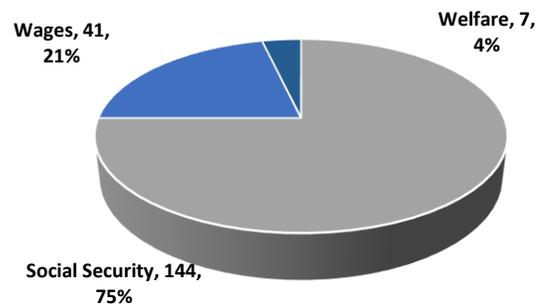
### Housing Choice Voucher: Program Participants

By the end of 2017, CHA administered 2198 vouchers, an average of 400 per month; putting us at a 95% unit utilization rate.

**Distribution by Family Type**



**Distribution by Source of Income (per family member)**



### Housing Choice Voucher: Housing Quality Standards (HQS) Inspections

Besides assisting Voucher Holder's pay their contract rent to their Landlord every month, CHA also conducts an inspection on each unit every year, to make sure that it passes HUD's criteria.

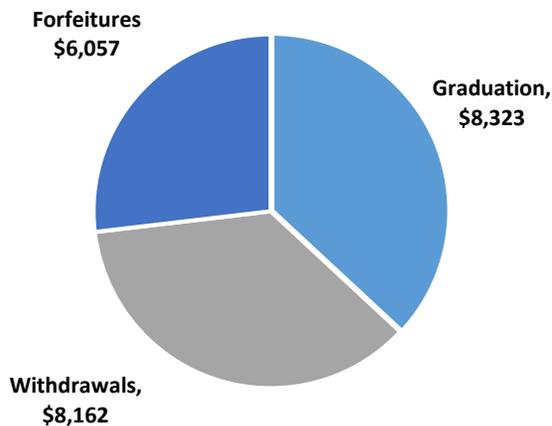
In 2017, the staff of CHA conducted 313 HQS Inspections within our jurisdiction:

New Unit	27
Annual	186
Special Request	7
Quality Control	93

### Housing Choice Voucher: Family Self-Sufficiency Program

The Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program promotes self-sufficiency and asset development by providing supportive services to participant to increase their employability, to increase the number of employed participants, and to encourage increased savings through an escrow savings program.

#### FSS Escrow Graduations/ Withdrawals/Forfeitures in 2017



#### Current FSS Data, 2017

Total FSS participants:	35
Participants w/an escrow savings account:	16
Average monthly escrow savings deposit: (participants with an escrow balance)	\$3,564
Average escrow savings account balance: (participants with an escrow balance)	\$222
Highest escrow account savings balance:	\$6,749

### Housing Choice Voucher: Homeownership

Eligible participants have the option of purchasing home with their HCV assistance rather than renting.

- 0 vouchers are currently active.

### Caribou Housing Agency Highlights for 2017

- Section Eight Management Assessment Program (SEMAP): Each year CHA undergoes an independent performance review by HUD. For Fiscal Year 2016) CHA scored 100% and was designed a "High Performer".
- Family Self-Sufficiency: CHA was awarded the 2017 FSS Grant for FY 2015 in the amount of \$48,729.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lisa A. Plourde  
Executive Director