



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

AREA OFFICE

1 NORTH DEARBORN STREET
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

February 6, 1980

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REGION V
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5.1G:ELSON

Mr. Duane Thompson
Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance
Foundation, Inc.
Post Office Box 278
610½ Park Avenue
Champaign, Illinois 61820

Dear Mr. Thompson:


Subject: Champaign County Housing Authority

In reply to your November 28, 1979 letter to the Office of General Counsel which was referred to our office and received on January 4, 1980, local Housing Authorities must comply with the Federal regulations at 24 CFR 812.2. They do not have the authority to define elderly as "55 and over" nor do they have the authority to exclude handicapped persons under the age of 55 from their programs.

It is the responsibility of each Housing Authority to house eligible applicants if appropriate units are available. The Authority does have some flexibility and discretion in determining the appropriate unit for a particular applicant.

Our Assisted Housing Management staff has advised us that the Champaign County Housing Authority's Admission and Occupancy Plan is in compliance with 24 CFR 812.2. We hope that this information answers your questions. If you have further concerns you may wish to contact Mr. Ted Williams, of the Management staff, (312) 353-6183.

Sincerely,


Estelle Linn
Area Counsel

cc:
Mr. Edward Finney
Executive Director
Housing Authority of Champaign County
Post Office Box 183
Urbana, Illinois 61801