**Low Poverty Area**

**Security Deposit Assistance**

As you search for a unit in MaineHousing’s jurisdiction please think about the value of moving to an area with **LOW POVERTY** **rates**.

Recent studies have indicated that policies that allow some low-income people, who have an inclination to do so, to move to better quality neighborhoods through vouchers or some other kind of affordable housing policy offer greater opportunities for low income families and their children.

Some of the benefits are better school systems, lower crime rates and access to medical care. There is also potential for better jobs and overall well- being.

To demonstrate our commitment to assisting our participants in moving out of poverty, we will be offering an incentive to landlords that lease rental units to voucher holders in the following towns:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **● Eliot** | **● Hollis** | **● New Gloucester** | **● Pownal** |
| **● Gray** | **● Kittery** | **● North Yarmouth** | **● Sebago** |
| **● South Berwick** | **● Standish** | **● York** |  |

These towns were selected because they are located in the HUD-established Metropolitan Statistical Areas in MaineHousing’s jurisdiction and have a poverty level under 8%.

**For a limited time, MaineHousing will pay a security deposit (up to $1,000) for existing tenants leasing a new unit in these areas.**

We will be offering the incentive to tenants who are moving and will send the landlord a form to complete when the HAP contract is signed.