



Gloucester Housing Authority P.O. Box 1599, Gloucester, MA 01931-1599 (978) 281-4770
FAX 281-6945

March 16, 2020

Dear GHA Residents, Program Participants & Landlords,

The advent of the COVID-19 Coronavirus is impacting all of us in the Commonwealth and we are now all required to make some immediate changes in our lives. The Gloucester Housing Authority (GHA)'s primary concern is for the health and safety of those we serve. In order to preserve everyone's health & safety and to comply with Governor Baker's Emergency Orders and continue essential operations we are taking the following steps immediately:

- The GHA's Main Office at 259 Washington St. and Resident Services Office at 1-A Veteran's Way are closed to the public, **but our staff will continue to be available by phone at (978) 281-4770**. Paperwork should be mailed, left in the drop box next to the front door at our Main Office, faxed to (978) 282-5640 or e-mailed to the appropriate staff person. E-mail addresses can be found at our website at www.ghama.com
- Our maintenance staff will only be entering occupied units to address emergency calls and health-status screening questions will be asked of residents prior to staff entering.
- All Community Rooms are closed until further notice.
- Laundry rooms remain open at this time, but all individuals should keep 6' away from others doing laundry.
- Only 1 person or household should use an elevator at a time unless they need assistance.
- All residents and staff should practice social distancing by staying at least 6' away from anyone.
- We will further increase the frequency of sanitizing touchable areas of our building's common areas.
- Residents are recommended to also sanitize touchable areas in their units and to wash their hands frequently. Also make sure that you have surplus food and medications.
- If you are over 60 years of age or have significant health issues, we recommend that you self-isolate in your unit. Please share your phone number with your family & neighbors so they can check in on you by phone and let us know if you have a neighbor you are concerned about.
- **If you become sick with flu-like symptoms stay in your unit and contact your health care provider.** You should remain in your unit until you are symptom free.
- Residents who experience loss of income, should contact their Public Housing Manager.
- Additional information on COVID-19 is available on our website at www.ghama.com

I appreciate that this is a difficult time for all of us, but I remain confident that if we can all work together our lives will soon return to normal. Most importantly, if you have any additional needs in the coming days please contact us and we will do our best to assist you as your health & safety is most important to us.

Yours truly,

GLOUCESTER HOUSING AUTHORITY

David S. Houlden
Executive Director