



J. Wayne Felton, Executive Director

## **RHA COVID-19 Response – Updated February 21, 2022**

RHA has been monitoring information and guidance released about COVID-19 and is taking measures to protect our clientele and staff. We understand the hardships the pandemic has brought to our communities and are dedicated to continuing to provide essential housing services in a safe manner.

**RHA is currently implementing the following safety practices at all of its sites and properties:**

- **Closing office locations to walk-in traffic. Appointments can be made for in-person meetings when necessary.** RHA prefers to handle business remotely when possible and staff can be contacted by phone, email, fax, US mail or office drop box.
- **Limiting entry into occupied homes when feasible.** Staff will utilize RHA COVID-19 protocols including wearing masks and social distancing when entering occupied units.
- **Screening individuals for COVID-19 symptoms as necessary** to determine that individuals are not presenting symptoms while conducting in-person business with RHA.
- **Utilizing technology including teleconferencing and video conferencing** to carry out essential tasks safely including meetings and inspections.
- **Offering expanded online reporting and rent payment capacities.** Public housing residents wishing to set up a new account should contact their Property Manager for an account number.
- **Altering staff schedules and locations** when necessary to limit COVID-19 concerns.
- **Requiring all individuals wear a face mask** that covers the mouth and nose when around others and in common areas including restrooms, office locations, community spaces and hallways.
- **Maintaining a safe distance from other people** in all social settings including in lobby areas and in elevators.

**Staff may conduct business remotely** to ensure that RHA's essential business continues safely. Updated information, forms, and policies are provided on RHA's website, [www.rhaonline.com](http://www.rhaonline.com).

- **RHA business, general inquiries, and public housing** should be directed to (919) 831-8300 and [info@rhaonline.com](mailto:info@rhaonline.com).
- The **Section 8** department can be reached directly at (919) 508-1105 and [housinginfo@rhaonline.com](mailto:housinginfo@rhaonline.com).

Residents are reminded that they are responsible for paying their rent in accordance with their Lease Agreement. RHA is working with residents who report a loss of income or hardship due to COVID-19 during these difficult times and hardships are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Households experiencing hardships are encouraged to report a change of status and contact their property manager to discuss any further options that could benefit them.

**Please call or email your Property Manager if you are ill, have been exposed to the COVID-19 or are exhibiting symptoms including a cough, fever, or shortness of breath.** Per current Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations, please stay home and self-isolate if you are ill, have been exposed to COVID-19, or are exhibiting associated symptoms. RHA will work to accommodate you and address your needs in a safe manner.

Everyone is encouraged to lower the chances of contracting COVID-19 by assessing your risk, practicing good hygiene, and following recommended guidance from reputable health agencies. Safety precautions are subject to change as more information becomes available.

More guidance can be found on [www.ncdhhs.com](http://www.ncdhhs.com) and [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).