

Things You Need to Know:

Office Visits and Application Screenings

For the continued safety of everyone, all walk-ins at NHA's central office have been suspended until further notice, including the departments of Occupancy and Section 8. In order to service applicants and residents on the waiting list, it is important to ensure contact information is updated at all times. This is necessary to ensure the agency is able to reach the client to schedule appointments and to address any additional inquiries related to a housing application or transfer request.

Applicant screening will occur by appointment only and a mandatory temperature reading will be required before entering the building. Please note that when visiting the central office, visitors are required to wear a mask. For your convenience, you can drop off any documents in one of the locked drop boxes located in front of 500 Broad Street during regular business hours between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Customer service agents are still available to assist clients by phone. For Occupancy, call (973) 273-6127 and for Section 8 call (973) 273-6208.

Large Gatherings

As of July 1, parties and large gatherings in common areas, including parking lots are prohibited without prior written consent of the Asset Manager, who must be notified at least 72 hours before the scheduled event. The NHA reserves the right to require a security deposit and/or security and insurance to be paid for in advance by residents. Children's activities must be supervised by a responsible adult at all times.



Social Distancing Cooling Stations

With senior buildings receiving and maintaining "A" letter grades during building reopenings, social distancing cooling stations are being reinstated in collaboration with the senior site manager, the tenant association, community room attendants and NHA's Resident Services. Each community room will be professionally fogged and sanitized before reopening and room attendants will be appropriately trained, given cleaning supplies and proper PPE equipment.

Residents will be granted a two hour window to enjoy the cooling station and capacity will be determined based on the size of each room. When the resident's two hour window is up, the room monitor will properly disinfect the room and prepare it for the next resident.

Work Orders

During the peak of the pandemic, the Housing Authority was only able to focus on emergency work orders and is now in the process of completing all other backorder tickets. Should there be another citywide lockdown, the Housing Authority will revert back to doing emergency work orders only, until it is cleared to revert back to regular orders.



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Important Contact Information

Customer Care (500 Broad St) – 973-273-6000
Security Operations Center (SOC) (500 Broad St) – 973-273-6070
Internal Investigative Office (26 Vanderpool St) – 973-273-6070

FAMILY SITES

Pennington Court 2-2 (214 South Street)
★ Tanesha Brown – 973-430-2686
Stephen Crane Village 2-6 (1 Stephen Crane Place)
★ Nazeema Massiah – 973-430-2047
Hyatt Court 2-7 (2 Ronoke Avenue)
★ Tierra Brown – 973-430-2700
Terrell Homes 2-9 (35 Riverview Court)
★ Sharon Mohammed – 973-430-2677
Bradley Court I 2-14 (46 N. Munn Avenue)
Bradley Court II 2-20A (46 N. Munn Avenue)
★ Michelle Graham-Jenkins – 973-430-2680

SENIOR SITES

Stephen Crane Elderly 2-16 (60 Cedar Lane)
★ Rene Selph-Ali – 973-430-2425
Kretchmer Elderly 2-17 (35 Van Vechten Street)
Kretchmer Elderly 2-21A (991 Frelinghuysen Avenue)
★ Wanda Wilson – 973-430-2710
Seth Boyden Elderly 2-21E (130 Dayton Street)
★ Rita Baskerville-Robinson – 973-430-2701
Seth Boyden Elderly 2-21F (46 Evergreen Avenue)
★ Kathy Waters-Grant – 973-430-2659
Baxter Elderly 2-22B (25 Summit Street)
★ Crystal Rodgers – 973-430-2616
Stephen Crane Elderly 2-22C (900 Franklin Avenue)
★ Tachell Winkey – 973-430-2635
Stephen Crane Elderly 2-22D (801 N. 6th Street)
★ Alita Thompson – 973-430-2631
James C. White Manor 2-25 (516 Bergen Street)
★ Venus White – 973-273-6824

TOWNHOUSES

Janice Cromer 2-36 (33 Triton Terrace)
Oriental 2-37 (33 Triton Terrace)
Kemsco Ogden St 2-42B (33 Triton Terrace)
Kemsco Broad St 2-42B (33 Triton Terrace)
Town Homes @ North Point 2-50A (33 Triton Terrace)
★ Jazmin Montalvo – 973-430-2095

★ = Building Manager

Section 8 (500 Broad St) – 973-273-6208
Occupancy (500 Broad St) – 973-273-6127

Bradley Court II 2-20B (93 7th Avenue)
Stephanie Thompson 2-31B (93 7th Avenue)
Kemsco 2-42A (93 7th Avenue)
★ OluSayo Burke – 973-622-5901
Woodlawn 2-29 (9 Ludlow Place)
Kretchmer Homes 2-70 (9 Ludlow Place)
★ Lateesha Easterling – 973-430-2639
West Side Village 2-35 (281 16th Avenue)
Bellemead 2-43 (281 16th Avenue)
Jose Rosario 2-44B (281 16th Avenue)
Claremont 2-45 (281 16th Avenue)
★ Shante Coleman – 973-430-2081
Betty Shabazz 2-39A (190 Court Street)
Oscar Miles Valley 2-41A (190 Court Street)
★ Kareen Genus – 973-430-2060
Chadwick/Mt. Prospect 2-31A (724 Hunterdon Street)
Serenity 2-40C (724 Hunterdon Street)
Clinton Ave 2-47 (724 Hunterdon Street)
Century 21 2-48 (724 Hunterdon Street)
Town Homes @ South Point 2-50B (724 Hunterdon Street)
Millennium Way 2-53 (724 Hunterdon Street)
★ Kelly Freeman – 973-273-6983
Park Place 2-38 (534 S. 12th Street)
Serenity 2-40B (534 S. 12th Street)
Oscar Miles Valley 2-41B (534 S. 12th Street)
Jose Rosario 2-44A (534 S. 12th Street)
Oak Brook Square 2-49 (534 S. 12th Street)
Sherman Ave & Vanderpool 2-50C (534 S. 12th Street)
★ Jeffrey Dodson – 973-273-6160
Wynona Lipman Gardens 2-52 (200 Cathedral Court)
★ Michelle Hall-Stapleton – 973-273-6879
Riverside Villa I 2-67 (14 Grafton Avenue)
Riverside Villa II 2-68 (14 Grafton Avenue)
Riverside Villa III 2-69 (14 Grafton Avenue)
★ Meshonda Nance – 973-430-2090
Bergen Street Village 2-30 (122 Avon Avenue)
Betty Shabazz 2-39B (122 Avon Avenue)
Serenity 2-40A (122 Avon Avenue)
Redevelopment 2-46 (122 Avon Avenue)
Town Homes @ South Point 2-50D (122 Avon Avenue)
★ Iris Yolanda Sanchez – 973-273-6813



A MESSAGE FROM THE NEWARK HOUSING AUTHORITY

COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

How NHA is Adapting to a New Normal from COVID-19



The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all of us and is affecting the way we work, travel, learn and interact. As we continue to adjust to a new normal way of living, the Newark Housing Authority is making necessary changes in the way the agency conducts business and provides services to its residents.

Business Kiosks

In the coming weeks, senior sites will see a self-service one stop kiosk in the lobby. These kiosks enable residents to pay rent, complete annual recertification, access Social Security and HUD portals, check the waitlist and application statuses for HCVP and Public Housing, among other tasks.

The kiosk is equipped with a printer and scanner to allow residents to submit their relevant documents to complete requests and allows residents to connect with a live NHA representative via Zoom for additional assistance.

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Story continued from cover

Three kiosks will also be installed at the central office for the Section 8 and Occupancy departments. At a time when social distancing is encouraged, these kiosks will eliminate lobby congestion and reduce staff exposure, while accommodating residents.

"With these kiosks, we will have limited face-to-face interactions and physical handling of paperwork or receipts," said **Vincent Rouse, Director of Operations**. "In the coming months, we plan to roll out additional kiosks at our senior sites and our central office, and eventually add kiosks at our family sites and townhouses."

Updated Building Curfews

The current visitation and curfew policy of 8:30 p.m. at Kretchmer Elderly and 9:30 p.m. at all other sites, will continue as well. Visitors must leave, and no new visitors are allowed in the building past the building's curfew time.

A New Addition at Senior Sites

The Housing Authority is moving forward with a plan to introduce the "EZ Lobby" system at the security desk of senior properties.

Through the new system, visitors will scan their ID card to check in when entering the building. A temporary visitor's pass will print out and the visitor will then surrender their ID card to the security guard. When the visitor is leaving the property, the security guard will then return the visitor's ID card in exchange for the visitor pass.

"This will be a centralized system with one database, so if a visitor or tenant has been banned from our sites, he/she will be flagged when they are checking in," said **Director Rouse**. "This will also help us keep track of who is entering and exiting the building throughout the day."

The Housing Authority is also implementing a new system to allow residents to use ID cards to open doors and gain access to residential areas. This will allow only residents to have access throughout their building, as well as limit other visitors or tenants from other buildings.

Upon successful implementation at senior buildings, the Housing Authority will seek to install the system at future sites.

To stay up to date with the latest updates, follow the NHA's Facebook page (@Newark Housing Authority) or check out our Coronavirus webpage at www.newarkha.org/coronavirus



NHA's Response to COVID-19

At the start of the Coronavirus outbreak, the Newark Housing Authority took immediate measures to protect its residents, especially those most vulnerable. By establishing multiple daily sanitizing protocols, professionally fogging sites, and forming strict quarantine procedures, the Housing Authority was able to stay ahead of the curve in containing and mitigating the spread of the Coronavirus.

"The record shows that the Housing Authority's sites have some of the lowest levels of positive cases," said **Executive Director Victor Cirilo**. "This is all due in part to us being the first public housing authority in the nation to test residents for the Coronavirus."

Even after the City of Newark's peak, the Housing Authority continues to vigorously test its residents throughout different sites.

Investing in Supplies

NHA's Quality Control Specialist, Terri Hurd spearheaded the ordering of thousands of supplies that continue to be distributed to sites.

"Our job has been to make sure our sites are fully stocked with supplies and our residents are taken care of," said **Hurd**. "There was a moment when supplies like toilet paper, gloves, and masks were scarce, so we made sure our residents were able to have access to those supplies."

Each site has received multiple large bags of individual care packages that were put together by Hurd and others from the operations department. Additionally, NHA is ensuring all properties have enough PPE and disinfectants for its staff. To date, over 39,800 masks and over 70,500 sets of gloves have been distributed to the sites and residents.

Food Drops

The Newark community has also come together to provide over 22,400 hot meals and groceries to residents.



"We've always done food drops for our residents through the Community Food Bank of New Jersey, but COVID has only increased that," said **Latonya Easterling, Supervisor of Resident Services**. "Now, our food drops have increased by 100% due to the fact that we have more resources to obtain food. Food is being provided to us for distribution by churches, the Newark Fire Department, Ambassador Fish and Chicken, the City of Newark, and other partners."

Many other local businesses and organizations have stepped up to help, such as Hello Fresh, World Central Kitchen and Newark Working Kitchen.

COVID-19 Grants Helping Housing Authorities

At the end of March, the Federal Government passed the CARES Act – a \$2 trillion financial aid package to families and businesses impacted by COVID-19. Within the CARES Act, Public Housing Authorities across the nation received additional funding to prepare, prevent and respond to the pandemic, with NHA being awarded \$7.5 million.

"The allocated funds come at a time when it's most needed for our agency to run efficiently and navigate through COVID," said **Executive Director Victor Cirilo**. "Part of the funds were allocated to purchasing PPE, cleaning supplies, and on quarantine enforcement while other funds were extended to balance financial shortcomings created by the emergency."

This money has been used to purchase disinfectant cleaners, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, supplies for COVID-19 testing, and gift cards to supermarkets for residents at senior sites. A portion of the funding was also used to restore vacant units for emergency housing and self-service one stop kiosks at senior sites.

Emergency Rental Assistance Grant

In partnership with the City of Newark, the Housing Authority has provided up to \$1,000 in rental assistance support to families through the City of Newark's Emergency Rental Assistance Grant Program.

"These are trying times, which have placed unexpected financial pressure on Newark renters and their families," said **Mayor Ras J. Baraka**. "In an effort to continue to support our City's most vulnerable residents, we have committed these much needed rental assistance funds to families financially impacted by COVID-19."

The grant's purpose was to help Newark residents who have experienced loss of income due to decreases in regular working hours, being laid-off, or furloughed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.