



## Health & Well-Being of Alaska Housing Residents is Paramount during COVID-19 Pandemic

### **PHYSICAL ACCESS CURTAILED**

#### **Electronic & Phone Access Encouraged**

Anchorage, Alaska, March 19, 2020 – Low income seniors, people with disabilities and families live in 1,612 public housing units owned and operated by Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. At 8 a.m. this morning, physical access to all buildings was curtailed while the state and individual communities respond to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

No new appointments or walk-in traffic will be allowed until further notice or by exception. Alaska Housing will continue to be fully staffed and is available to public housing residents and those seeking housing by telephone and email during normal business hours. Phone numbers are 330-6100 in Anchorage or 800-478-AHFC (2432) within Alaska. Public inquiry for other matters related to Alaska Housing Finance Corporation can be directed to (907) 338-6100.

“We’ve learned that a fourth Alaska community has individuals who tested positive for COVID-19. While none are believed to live in or have had contact in our housing, one of the most effective repellants to the disease is social distancing,” says Bryan Butcher, Alaska Housing CEO/Executive Director. “We know that many of the families who live in public housing were working part- or full-time. Schools have been canceled. It’s important that our staff have the resources they need to respond to prospective client needs by telephone and email not only to prevent the spread of the illness but to demonstrate to residents that we take CDC’s guidance seriously and are concerned about their physical and emotional well-being, as well as those of our employees.”

AHFCs community rooms, computer labs and those who deliver meal service adjusted their operations and were closed March 17.

In addition to public housing, the Corporation manages the federally funded housing voucher program that contributes nearly \$3 million each month to private landlords in 13 communities. Housing Assistance Payments to landlords will continue to be paid by direct deposit on its regular schedule.

Apartments leased in the private sector are subject to HUD rules, including physical inspections to confirm life and safety components. Inspections are being scheduled on a case-by-case basis in coordination with the landlord and prospective tenant. HUD allows for a 60-day “shopping” period. In consideration of extenuating circumstances caused by COVID-19, no Alaskan will lose their voucher because of a delayed inspection.

**Anchorage Properties**

- Alpine Terrace
- Chugach View and Chugach Manor
- East Anchorage
- Family Investment Center at 440 E. Benson Blvd.
- Headquarters at 4300 Boniface Parkway
- Park View Manor

**Bethel****Cordova**

- Sunset View

**Fairbanks Properties**

- Golden Ages and Golden Towers
- Southall Manor
- Birch Park I and II

**Juneau Properties**

- Cedar Park & Annex
- Geneva Woods
- Mountain View
- Riverbend

**Ketchikan Properties**

- Sea View Terrace

**Kodiak****Mat-Su**

- Williwaw Manor

**Nome****Seward**

- Glacier View

**Sitka Properties**

- Swan Lake Terrace

- Paxton Manor

**Soldotna****Wrangell**

- Etolin Heights

**Valdez**

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Alaska Housing Finance Corporation is a public corporation providing Alaskans access to safe, quality and affordable housing through home financing programs, energy efficiency programs, public housing and more. Since 1986, Alaska Housing has contributed more than \$2.1 billion to the State of Alaska's General Fund.

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