# Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency

701 S. SIXTH ST. \* NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37206 \* TELEPHONE (615) 252-8400 \* FAX (615)252-3677

TELEPHONE DEVICE FOR DEAF (615) 252-8599

James E. Harbison Mailing Address: P. O. Box 846

Executive Director Nashville, TN 37202

March 24, 2020

To Our Residents and Their Family and Friends,

We’re sure you’ve heard by now about the spread of the COVID-19 virus, more commonly called the coronavirus. MDHA’s top priority is the health and safety of our residents and the COVID-19 threat means that we must take every precaution possible. While employees have been taking preventative measures to reduce the risk of exposure to residents and on-site staff, the significant spike in the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Middle Tennessee calls for additional measures.

Experts identify adults who are 60 years and older, or who have severe or chronic medical conditions, as those at higher risk for developing serious complications from COVID-19. Most residents at MDHA tower properties are 62 years of age or older. Many others have disabilities or health complications. Expert evidence also indicates that people can contract COVID-19 and have no apparent symptoms for up to five days. A visitor to a tower property could have no apparent COVID-19 symptoms, appear healthy, yet be carrying the virus. This visitor poses an infectious risk to our tower residents, who are at a higher risk for severe health complications.

Effective 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 25, 2020, MDHA will begin a “Help Us Prevent the Spread of COVID-19” campaign for our tower properties. In addition to closing community areas, and repetitively cleaning corridors and common areas, **only visitors that provide direct and essential services to a resident will be allowed to enter MDHA tower properties and visit a resident.**  The property manager will approve all visitors to ensure that no one without a specific, essential purpose to support our residents is allowed inside. Limiting visitors to only those providing essential resident services required will help make our campaign to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 a reality.

Our goal is to keep COVID-19 out of the Towers, and hence, out of you. We need your help to do so. Please follow the COVID-19 personal preventive measures established by Metropolitan Nashville’s Public Health Department. Wash your hands – a lot. Maintain six feet of separation between you and any other person. Stay home in your apartment as much as you can. If you feel ill, immediately seek medical treatment.

These are unusual times with exceptional threats. We understand that this new policy may be burdensome to you, and your family and friends. We hope you understand we do not take these measures lightly. We do so only because we value your health and safety, and want to do everything we can to protect you.

Please contact your property manager with any questions. Thank you for supporting these efforts. Stay safe.

Sincerely,

James E. Harbison

MDHA Executive Director