

Bethlehem Housing Authority

645 Main Street
Bethlehem, Pa. 18018

As we continue to prioritize the health and safety of our staff, clients, and community, BHA will be implementing the following operational decisions in keeping with the changes adopted by PHA's in the Commonwealth, HUD guidelines, as well as directives from both the Governor of Pa. and our President:

- Effective March 16, 2020 at 8:00 am, ALL BHA offices will be closed to the public and plans to reopen on May 1st if possible, dependent on the Coronavirus outbreak in our community and government decrees. Should this date change, we will be sure to update you with new plans.
- Effective Wednesday March 18, 2020, all non-essential/non-emergency employees should remain home. Employees should contact their department heads/supervisor to determine if they are considered an essential and/or emergency employee. You may also contact your Executive Director if necessary.
- Employees who are exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (running nose, cough, fever, headaches, diarrhea etc.) should NOT report to work regardless of their status as an essential or emergency employee.
- The "stay at home order" has made it necessary to reduce the operations at BHA to key functions and services. Essential and/or Emergency employees are expected to report to work as normal or work remotely if so advised by the Director.
- Effective Wednesday March 18, 2020, BHA will only be conducting emergency service repairs and plans to resume to normal operations on May 1, 2020. However, residents with maintenance related issues should continue to call BHA's Call Center at 610-865-8319.
- Effective Wednesday March 18, 2020, BHA's Leased Housing Department will postpone all HCV HQS inspections, and plans to resume to normal operations on May 1, 2020. Only Emergency HQS inspections will be conducted. Clients and landlords can reach the HCV Inspections Department via email at info@betha.com or by phone at (610) 865-8319 to schedule, reschedule or request an inspection. BHA will be reaching out to every landlord to communicate and answer any questions that have arisen during this critical time in our administration of the HCV-Section 8 program.

While exposure and risk levels are changing daily, it is important to exercise precautionary measures to limit the spread of this virus. We understand that this is a challenging and dynamic time. We will continue to monitor the situation closely, using resources from HUD the CDC, the World Health Organization, and the City of Bethlehem.

We remain vigilantly open to modifying our plans as things develop or change and appreciate your continued partnership, support, and understanding as we all work to adapt to this unprecedented situation.

Sincerely,

Jay D. Schuster

Executive Director