

Office of the County Executive

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Cecil County Housing and Community Development
Statement to program clients and business partners

March 17, 2020

Due to ongoing disruptions and precautions undertaken across the region resulting from the COVID-19 virus, the Division of Cecil County Housing and Community Development has determined it will make the following changes to operations effective Tuesday March 17, 2020:

General

- The office is closed to the public and visitors will be accepted by appointment only
- To the maximum extent possible all business to be conducted remotely by mail, phone, fax, and email

Housing Choice Voucher Program

- Waiting List mailings for new admissions are suspended until further notice
- Eligibility determinations already underway will continue as much as possible
- New vouchers will not be issued until further notice
- Vouchers to move or change units will not be issued
- Annual Recertifications- Paperwork will be completed by mail, email, fax and will be processed as much as it is possible to do so
- Income Reporting- Report only decreases in income to the office by phone
- Moves- Moves will not be possible until further notice, except where a Request for Lease approval and rental unit has already been submitted
- Portability – Portability move-in will be accepted, but interviews and voucher issuance will be suspended until further notice. It is **strongly advised** that portability clients check with their local PHA before deciding to execute portability. Portability Move-out will be permitted.
- Program Owners/Managers – The CCHA portion of rents will be paid as scheduled at this time. Owners should seriously consider setting up direct deposit payments. CCHA asks that owners please be reasonable if participants experience income changes as a result of Coronavirus events, and owners should also note that evictions are suspended. Owners should return paperwork and communicate with CCHA by email, or by phone if necessary.

Housing Counseling Programs

www.ccgov.org

- Homebuyer Education- First Time Homebuyer classes are cancelled until further notice. One-on-one appointments are available
- Foreclosure/Default- Services by appointment or remotely
- Financial Education/Capability- Services by appointment or remotely
- Reverse Mortgage Counseling- Suspended until further notice

All of the measures outlined above are designed to reduce the likelihood of virus transmission in the community and especially to protect everyone over the age of 60 and those with compromised health. Please contact us by phone or email if you have any questions about your circumstances.

General Communications

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