Long-Term Impact on Residents
A Better Quality of Life

All residents who are relocated have the right to return to their original facility once renovations are complete. That's both an EHA promise and their right under the Uniform Relocation Act. The only exception occurs when a structure is past the point where it can be rehabilitated and must be demolished. In those cases, which we expect to be rare, residents have the right of return to the housing that replaces the demolished structure.

You might be wondering what financial effect these RAD conversions will have on residents. The answer: Residents will keep their housing assistance and no eligibility rescreening will be needed. Most Section 8 residents will see that their rents remain the same, which is 30 percent of adjusted income. For those paying a flat rate, any slight rate increase will be phased in over time.

Rental Assistance Demonstration Project
The Bottom Line

What does RAD mean for our residents, for Evansville, and for EHA? It means transformation. It means we can repair and improve our facilities and sustain them into the future. It means increased energy efficiency, safer places to live, and a better quality of life for our residents. And it means that, in these new, more stable environments, low-income people will have a better chance to reach self-sufficiency.

About the Evansville Housing Authority

The mission of the Evansville Housing Authority, or EHA, is to enhance the Evansville community by creating and sustaining decent, safe, and affordable living environments that foster stability and increase self-sufficiency for people with low incomes. We've been doing that since 1942; with the Rental Assistance Demonstration project, we anticipate continuing to fulfill our mission for many years to come.
Why RAD?
Better Funding, Better Housing, Better Futures

In the nearly 80 years that the Evansville Housing Authority (EHA) has been in business, the primary funding source for public housing has been money allocated by Congress. However, not enough money was allocated recently to allow public housing authorities across the nation to maintain and improve the properties in which clients reside. As a result, public housing across the nation has deteriorated; in some cases, badly.

EHA is excited to announce a new, transformational program that will provide our residents with a better quality of life while also helping to ensure that EHA will continue to fulfill its mission far into the future. That program is known as the Rental Assistance Demonstration project, or RAD.

We firmly believe this project will benefit our current and future residents in many ways.

About RAD

The Rental Assistance Demonstration project is an initiative of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or HUD. RAD provides new, stable means of funding for public housing renovations and improvements. Under RAD, selected public housing authorities, including EHA, will be able to maintain and improve properties regardless of Congressional funding.

RAD is a voluntary, limited program; fewer than 60,000 public housing units around the country will be selected. EHA is proud to have been chosen as one of the demonstration sites. This is an incredible opportunity for our city and our residents.

The RAD program is still in its early stages, and there are many things that must be accomplished legally before any renovations or improvements begin. We anticipate that renovations will begin in 2015 and continue through 2016.

Our Primary Focus:
Protecting Residents

As we embark on this transformation, our first consideration is for the residents we serve. EHA will keep residents informed at every step of this process through face-to-face meetings, the Resident Councils, and a variety of other information sources. We firmly believe in the legal requirement that our actions cause no adverse impact on residents. Our goal is to protect residents and to improve the conditions in which they live.

Most needed repairs and upgrades are likely to be small, and we expect that many, if not most of our current residents will remain in their current homes. For those units requiring more extensive work, we will handle the entire relocation process for the residents—packing, moving, and unpacking—as they are housed in other units. We want this process to be as easy and enjoyable for our residents as possible.