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Notes from Home
Your Quarterly Newsletter from the Evansville Housing Authority

YOUR LATEST RAD UPDATE

It seems like almost everything takes longer than expected, and that’s true for our Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program. There’s an enormous amount of preparation, research, verification, and execution of legal documents that needs to happen before we can proceed. Originally, we were hoping to have everything signed, sealed, and delivered no later than last January. Right now, however, we’re looking at September of this year before we can begin the first phase.

The positive side of the delay is that it gives our residents more time to prepare for the rehabilitation process. For some helpful tips on how to do just that, check out the article in this issue on de-cluttering your home.

YOUR LATEST RAD UPDATE

For Your Information

Housekeeping: Clearing the Clutter

Let’s face it: “Stuff” has a way of piling up. The RAD program can serve as a springboard to get you up and decluttering. Less clutter means more room and more usable space, and that’s good for your mental and emotional well-being, according to physician and author Roberta Lee. In her book, The Superstress Solution, she writes that a clutter-filled home is a source of stress for many people. Reduce the clutter, reduce the stress—and that’s something we can all use.

The decluttering process doesn’t have to be complicated. Take a look around. Start by identifying the things that are truly important to you, that you want to keep no matter what. Once you’ve done that, everything else is fair game. Pick one to three items a day to give away, donate, sell, throw away—or keep. You’re likely to find a few treasures.

Do that between now and the beginning of RAD’s first phase, and you can declutter your home by hundreds of unneeded items. Or, pick one room and spend ten, fifteen, or twenty minutes a day sorting through and disposing of “stuff.” That way, you’ll see clear progress without exhausting yourself or feeling overwhelmed.
Here are some of the improvements that will be made to Buckner, Kennedy, White Oak, and Schnute: new kitchen cabinets and countertops; new energy-efficient refrigerators; new metal entry doors; new light fixtures; new ceiling tile; new paint; new toilets, and much more. Not all units will receive every improvement. Visit [www.evansvillehousing.org](http://www.evansvillehousing.org) for more details.

**STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?**
Ask your Resident Council, call the Central Office at 812.428.8500 or use the Contact Us feature on our website to email your question.

**Evansville Housing Authority**
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We are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the Nation. We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin or any other classification protected by applicable federal, state or local law.

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**RAD QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Q: What does RAD mean for our residents, for Evansville, and for EHA?
A: 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.

Q: So, how is RAD going to work?
A: 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, and your well-being is our number one priority.

Q: Do I get to go back to my current home?
A: 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 your right under the Uniform Relocation Act. The only exception will occur when a structure cannot 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.

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**DURING CONSTRUCTION**

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