



## CUMBERLAND HOUSING GROUP

# Tower Gazette

## Monthly Newsletter for May 2020



### Exterminator Schedule

May 7th Queen City Tower– Morning  
John F. Kennedy – Afternoon  
May 20<sup>th</sup> Grande View – Apts. 218 – 335

### Complaints

Reminder - All complaints must be put in writing and signed in order for action to be taken by the Housing Authority staff.

### COVID19

With “**social distancing**” still in place, there will be no activities scheduled for the use of the community rooms for the month of May and this could extend over to June as well. The same applies to the common areas. No congregating!

As of Saturday, April 18, 2020, all Marylanders must wear a face covering while inside an essential business or aboard public transportation. The directive made this week by Gov. Larry Hogan, like other orders made since he declared a state of emergency for COVID-19, carries the force of state law. Willful violations can carry up to one year in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

The CHG is requesting residents to wear a mask when out of their apartments to do laundry, checking your mail, going outside for walks, etc.

### Visitation Restricted Until Further Notice

Visitation is restricted until further notice. The only visitors permitted are: one immediate family member for the purpose of vital tenant care (bringing a tenant groceries or medications), or one professional care giver. Care givers must wear surgical gloves and a mask when entering the building. If you are found breaking visitation rules, there will be consequences.

### Conducting Business

Please conduct business with us by calling 301-724-6606 (**Main Office**), 301-724-2055 (**Maintenance**), and 301-777-1254 (**Willow Valley**). All Cumberland Housing Group offices are closed for general access until further notice.

### Rent Payments

As of this date, there is a large number of tenants that have not paid rent for March and April. Just because there is a Pandemic, HUD does not excuse you from paying your rent.

If you do not have the money for your rent, that is what you are to use the stimulus money for that you received from the government.

Those tenants that have not paid their rent will be filed in court for non-payment of rent when the court system opens back up.

### Annual Recertifications

In order for the agency to conduct your Annual Recertification, you will be mailed the forms to sign or they will be delivered to you. You will be given an envelope to return the signed documents back to our office. You can either mail the envelope back to the office or place in the security drop box located at your development.

Grande View tenants can place the envelope under the Property Managers Office door.

### UPS Packages

In case you have not heard; UPS will no longer be delivering your packages to your apartment due to COVID19. Packages will be left in the area of the mailboxes at John F. Kennedy and Queen City Tower.

### Medical Marijuana

Medical Marijuana is part of the No Smoking Policy. If you have a Dr.'s prescription for it, you must use another form of the drug. ANY SMOKING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED ON All Housing Property.

### Work Orders

CHG maintenance staff will only be completing work orders that are emergencies, or are determined to be critical to operations. If you have a work order that is not urgent, hold your requests until further notice.



### **Are You a Victim of Domestic Violence?**

If you or someone you know is in a Domestic Violence situation and needs help, please call the Family Crisis Resource Center Hotline 301-759-9244 for assistance.

### **What to do...**

If you are sick or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, you must self-quarantine and call your doctor or a healthcare provider.

### **Warning Signs & Symptoms of COVID-19:**

Difficulty breathing/shortness of breath  
Persistent pain or pressure in the chest  
New confusion or inability to arouse  
Fever  
Cough  
Bluish lips or face

### **If In Doubt, Call 2-1-1**

If you have questions about other resources specific to your situation. Who can you contact? 2-1-1 is a number you can dial and speak to someone about resources in your community that may be able to help. 2-1-1 is available 7 days per week, 24 hours per day. You can speak with someone at 2-1-1 about issues you may be facing like not having enough food, your mental health, health insurance, domestic violence, COVID-19 questions, help paying bills, or anything else health or human service related.

### **BE AWARE OF SCAMS**

During this uncertain time there are increased numbers of potential scams. Here are some helpful tips to guard against scammers from the Federal Trade Commission:

- Don't respond to texts, emails or calls about checks from the government. The details are still coming together. The government will not contact you by email, text, or phone. They will only ever contact you by mail.
- NO State, Federal, Local, or Community-Based Organization is authorized to accept or request payment and/or fees for assisting customers with public assistance related services. In addition, the customer should not give out their full SSN (Social Security Number) to people who call them.
- Ignore online offers for vaccinations and home test kits. There are no products proven to treat or prevent COVID-19 at this time.
- Hang up on robocalls. Scammers are using illegal robocalls to pitch everything from low-priced health insurance to work-at-home schemes.
- Watch for emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control or the World Health Organization. Use sites like coronavirus.gov and usa.gov/coronavirus to get the latest information. And don't click on links from sources you don't know.
- Do your homework when it comes to donations. Never donate in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money.

To receive real-time updates, tips and resources about the coronavirus by texting MdReady to 898211.

### **Need Help to Quit Smoking?**

Are you or someone you know trying to quit smoking? Did you know there are 2 FREE ways to quit? Just call the Allegany County Health Department at 301-759-5050 or Maryland's Quit line at 1-800-784-8669.



*All Housing Authority Offices  
Will Be **Closed**  
**May 25, 2020**  
In observance of Memorial Day*

### **Updated Contacted Information**

Please provide the housing office with a current phone number. There are times when we need to make contact with you and are unable to get you by phone due to not having a working number. It is quite important that we are able to get in touch with you by phone. You can call in with your phone number or email it to us at [housing.cumberlandhousing.org](mailto:housing@cumberlandhousing.org). Thank you.

