
Housing Authority of the City of Pocatello – Newsletter Fall 2015

As I look at my calendar, I realize that Thanksgiving is just around the corner. It makes me stop and consider the things I am thankful for. One of the things highest on that list is home. I am so grateful that I have a roof over my head and a place to call home.

Over the last few years my concern for those who are homeless has grown considerably. I have done a lot of reading, research, and even visited with those who have experienced, or are experiencing, homelessness.

Home is the key to so many things that are easily taken for granted: safety, security, health, employment, education, and even something as simple as getting your mail which may include a benefits check.

Last year the Housing Authority implemented a homeless preference for our Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list, making homelessness our top preference for housing vouchers. I have been shocked at the number of households this preference is served. Keep in mind, the certification process tests for true homelessness, not near homeless or couch surfing. This has been a testament to the true need within our community. There is so much work to be done.

As you spend time enjoying the holiday season this year, I hope that you have home on your list of things to be thankful for, as well. I also hope that you will give some

thought to those who really are less fortunate than anyone who has the basic need of a warm and stable place to sleep. This may help you to realize, like me, just how grateful you are to have a “home”.

Sunny

HACP will be closed on November 24th for Thanksgiving; December 24th and 25th for the Christmas Holiday; and January 1st for New Year's Day!



HACP recently received national recognition for our role in the Mayor's Task Force to End Veteran Homelessness within our city.



55 NEW UNITS

On October 1st HACP became the managing agent for 55 additional units located at five different locations. These properties are part of the Section 8 New Construction program which is the same program that funds Portneuf Towers. Although, like Portneuf Towers, they are income based and have a subsidy attached to them, the big difference is that these are family properties with units that are 2, 3, and 4 bedrooms.

The properties are Hawthorne Terrace, El Rancho Heights, Franklin Heights, Swisher Terrace, and Stockman Terrace. We welcome the residents of these properties to the HACP family.

Each of these properties do currently have vacancies so if you are aware of any families that would be interested in living at any of these locations, have them contact our office for an application.



HACP Board of Commissioners: Barbara Martin, Bobbie Branch, Karina Rorris, Darlene Gerry, Jared Marchand, and Executive Director, Sunny Shaw

Contracting Opportunities for the City of Pocatello

As part of its RENEWAL Program, the City of Pocatello's Neighborhood & Community Services Division offers bidding opportunities to area contractors. Rehab projects include plumbing, electrical, and HVAC work, as well as roof replacement or repair and sidewalk installation. Interested contractors can request to be placed on bid mailing lists by calling 234-6255, or can view current bids at the Housing Authority office, at City Hall or on the City's website at www.pocatello.us. Preference is given to Section 3 residents and business concerns. For more information, please call 234-6185

A BOOK FOR EVERY CHILD

HACP is excited to begin work on a new initiative. We plan to send an age appropriate book home for every child listed on redetermination forms when a parent has an appointment in our office.

This is no easy task since the housing authority now serves over 1,000 families within the city of Pocatello. To reach our goal, we are asking for your book donations. We will gladly take your gently used books and insure that they get into the hands of a child.

We believe that education is key to the future success of the children we serve and reading is the first step to ignite the desire for a solid education. Help us help our children!