Clarksville Housing Authority A Smoke Free Community



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Interim Executive Director Update



The Clarksville Housing Authority is proud to announce the launch of our website <u>www.clarksvillehousing.org</u> on June 1st, 2020. The site is user friendly with several quick links to include a community calendar, resident services, staff members, newsletters, and resident council information. This will be your link to news and information that is important to you. The site will also allow residents to contact the central office, ask questions, and get emergency information. It is a work in progress, and we look forward to any suggestions you may have.

We are still under COVID-19 Quarantine, please follow CDC guidelines, keep your distance, wear a mask when you are out in public, and wash your hands often. There is a drop-box in front of the central office for payments, and of course, you can always call if you have any questions or concerns. Stay safe and healthy.

Property Management Update

- The after hours emergency new phone number for all sites is 931-575-1964.
- \Rightarrow Pest Control Week June 8-12, 2020, for the interior.
- \Rightarrow Remember to pick up items and trash during the mowing season.
- \Rightarrow All work orders must come through: the central office residents should not approach the maintenance staff for this request.
- All units with indoor furniture on porches will be charged a fee.
- Please update all new phone numbers with the Central office.
- Pet owners make sure to report pet \rightarrow information to the central office. Owners must clean all pet waste after walking and pets must be leashed while outside.
- There are no designated parking spaces for CHA residents: it's on a first-come basis.
- \Rightarrow All vehicles parked in disabled parking must have a disabled sign visible. Vehicles will be tagged and towed.

CLARKSVILLE MONTGOMERY COUNT CRIME

REWARD!! Crime Stoppers offers up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons involved in a crime. All callers will remain anonymous! Crime **510PPER5** doesn't pay! But Crime Stoppers do! 931-645-TIPS (8477)



Tenant Rental and Eviction Rights During COVID-19

COVID-19: What Does It Mean for Tenants?

Info on COVID-19 and housing changes daily. Please come back to keep checking for updates. This info was last updated on April 15th. For more information, please call 1-800-238-1443 or visit las.org.

What do I need to know as a tenant?

- You must still pay rent
- Tenants' rights have not changed because of COVID-19
- Tenants' duties have not changed because of COVID-19
- Your landlord cannot lock you out of your place
- Your landlord cannot turn off your electricity or water
- If your landlord wants to evict you, they still must take you to court

What if I can't pay rent?

You should try to pay your rent. Even though some landlords can't evict people right now, you still owe them rent money. If you don't pay your rent, these things could happen:

- You will eventually be evicted
- Your landlord can report that you aren't paying
- This could hurt your credit score
- Your landlord could sue you for any rent money you didn't pay
- If your landlord wins in court, they could take money out of your paychecks

Can I still be evicted for other things?

Yes. Tenants CAN still be evicted if they break the lease another way. You should still follow all state laws and rules from your lease. Just because there is a pandemic, you do not have the right to break the rules in your lease. Want to know what your duties are as a tenant? Click here for more information.

How soon can I be evicted for breaking my lease for something OTHER than not paying rent?

We don't know. Courts are not having in-person cases for evictions right now. Some judges may start doing video hearings for evictions soon. If they do, then you can be evicted sooner.

Can my landlord charge me late fees?

Maybe. Some landlords are not allowed to charge late fees until July 25th. These are some of the landlords that can't charge late fees until July 25th:

- Public housing
- Project-based Section 8 housing
- Low Income Housing Tax Credit housing
- Rural Development housing Landlords with a federally-backed mortgage loan

If you want to know if your landlord can charge you late fees, you can visit one of our legal clinics. Visit LAS.org/phone-clinics for a list of our upcoming legal clinics.

Should I agree to pay my landlord back later?

Maybe. Right now, there are no laws that say rent will be canceled or forgiven. That means you owe rent even if your landlord can't evict you right away. If your landlord is willing to give you time to pay any rent you can't afford right now, that might be a good thing.

What if I make an agreement with my landlord now?

Make sure your landlord agrees to follow new rules

as they come out. For example, if the law says you don't have to pay back rent in the future, your landlord should go by the new law.

What if my landlord locks me out or shuts off my utilities?

This is illegal. A landlord cannot force a tenant to move out without using the courts. If your landlord has locked you out of your place or turned off your utilities, call Legal Aid for help.

Society



Can I break my lease and move if I can't afford the rent?

Legally, no. The law says that if you rent a place, you need to stay there until the lease is over. But, you should talk to your landlord. They might let you out of a lease if you can't pay so they can rent it to someone else. You should ask your landlord to let you out of your lease without making you pay a "termination fee.

What if I don't have a written lease agreement?

If you don't have a written lease agreement you have an oral lease agreement. If you pay your rent monthly, then you have a month-tomonth lease. Your landlord can end your lease by giving you written notice thirty days before they want to end your lease.

If you pay your rent weekly, then you have a week-to-week lease agreement. Your landlord can end your lease by giving you written notice ten days before they want to end your lease.



Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee & the Cumberlands Working Together, Do

This booklet cannot take the place of legal advice. All cases are different and need individual at



| June 2020 | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Resident Council Meeting 61 A Vanleer St, at 11am | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 CHA Board Meeting 3pm | 18 | 19 Strong Father's and Families Block Party Summit Heights 10am-3pm | 20 Community Clean –Up at Chapel / Market and Lincoln Homes, 10am-2pm |
| 21 FOTHERS DAY | 22 summer camp 11am-4pm Summit Heights | 23 summer camp 11am-4pm Summit Heights | 24 summer camp 11am-4pm Summit Heights | 25 summer camp 11am-4pm Summit Heights | 26 summer camp 11am-4pm Summit Heights | 27 |
| 28 | 29 summer camp 11am-4pm Lincoln Homes | 30 summer camp 11am-4pm Lincoln Homes | | for all Reside | providing fa residents. Ca nt Services f ask today. S | all for your |

News Flash!!!! July 1, 2020, The CHA newsletter will be posted to www.clarksvillehousing.org website. If you would like to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, call the central office to request a monthly delivery.

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Monthly Clean-up, June 20, 2020, Meet at Chapel and Market park at 10 am. Meet at Lincoln Homes, park at 11:30 am. Clean-up and enter a chance to win a \$45 Walmart gift card.