

PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL

InterOffice Memo

To: Section 8 Owners & Property Managers
From: Dominic Mitchell, Section 8 Programs Manager
Date: October 29, 2015
Subject: Formation of Section 8 Owner Discussion Group

I would like to thank each of you who attended our Annual Landlord Workshop on October 13, 2015 at the Wellstone Center in St. Paul. We received some good comments on the presentations and also some good ideas for next time.

One of the owners at the workshop suggested forming a Section 8 landlord group, where owners could meet periodically with each other and Section 8 representatives, and work together to solve problems.

I believe this is an excellent idea, and would be happy to set it up. The idea is not that this would be used as a platform to simply vent or complain, but to present and discuss solutions to common or uncommon problems. There may also be simple solutions the PHA can assist with, or ideas that we can use to inform program decisions down the road.

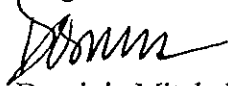
To that end, I am asking for volunteers. An ideal volunteer would have the following characteristics:

- Section 8 Owner or Property Manager with more than one Section 8 client,
- A desire to solve problems, or help others solve problems, and
- Be willing to meet, informally, quarterly for between 1 and 2 hours, with other like-minded owners and property managers.

From those who indicate interest, I will select a handful of owners and property managers to participate. The goal would be to make this a useful/helpful discussion for all, where we can all learn something and build our resource network.

If you are interested, please contact Ying Moua, at ying.moua@stpha.org, or at (651)298-5105.

Thank you for your consideration, and as always, thank you for participating in the Section 8 Program.



Dominic Mitchell
Section 8 Programs Manager



ARE YOU USING THE "PARTNER PORTAL" AND "DIRECT DEPOSIT"?

NOW FREE TO PROPERTY OWNERS PARTICIPATING IN THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM (SECTION 8)!

The St. Paul Public Housing Agency (PHA) has two new FREE tools for property owners and managers who participate in the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8), that provide better communications and easier financial transactions.

WHAT?

- The online **Partner Portal** gives participating owners 24/7 access to information about their payments from the PHA (past and upcoming), inspections, program news, etc.
- **Direct Deposit** of PHA payments is available to all owners who enroll in the Partner Portal.
- You can access the **Partner Portal** at www.stpha.org/partnerportal.html to read the User Agreement and enroll. Property owners/landlords and management companies that are now registered with the PHA can then access the pages of the website with their data (owner and tenant information, unit addresses, etc.).
- When enrolling in the **Partner Portal**, users accept the User Agreement that appears during the log-in process. **Direct Deposit** may begin after the owner/manager enrolls online to use the Partner Portal, executes the direct deposit user agreement, submits the necessary information to the PHA (by fax, email or U.S. Mail) and is approved.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

- There is no fee for using the Partner Portal or Direct Deposit.

WHAT CHOICES DO I HAVE?

- Enroll in the Partner Portal online and sign up for Direct Deposit; *OR*
- Enroll in the Partner Portal online, but keep getting paper checks instead of using Direct Deposit; *OR*
- Do nothing - Continue to rely on paper checks and communications. (But why would you want to do that?)

For more information, please go to www.stpha.org/partnerportal.html or call or Ying Moua at 651-298-5105 or email her at ying.moua@stpha.org. Ying's fax is 651-292-6649.

