PRESS RELEASE:

Ballinger Housing Authority's Plan to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

During this unprecedented time, the Ballinger Housing Authority's (BHA's) primary concern is for the health and safety of our community, residents and staff. As the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to impact Texas and the rest of the world, BHA is taking **extra precautionary** measures to limit in-person interactions as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and asking partners to call, email or mail inquiries rather than visit our offices.

BHA staff will continue to work, at this time, while we are closed to the public. We encourage the community to visit our website for important operational updates and changes.

Below, BHA outlines how we will operate our Public Housing program until further notice:

IMPLEMENTED ACTIONS FOR **PUBLIC HOUSING** PROGRAM/RESIDENTS

Effective Thursday, March 26, 2020, and until further notice, BHA will implement the following precautions to protect its residents:

- Suspension of notices to vacate
- Suspension of evictions for **non-criminal** activity
- Suspension of transfers, move-ins & move-outs
- Suspension of routine work orders
- Suspension of housekeeping inspections
- Suspension of late fees
- Suspension of all resident activities
- Closure of all property management offices and community rooms; residents should email or call
- Emergency work orders will require additional troubleshooting via phone call
- Existing repayment agreements will be extended
- Recertification deadlines will be extended
- Rent payments should be made by mail
- Visitors for social purposes, especially at elderly properties, are discouraged; medicallyrelated visitors and caregivers may continue to visit residents
- Pest control services will be conducted on the exterior of buildings and common areas (pest control services will be temporarily suspended in resident units)

Residents are encouraged to call BHA during regular work hours with questions or email questions to our ballpha@wtxs.net email address and continue to watch the website (www.ballpha.org) for updates on this rapidly changing situation.

BHA ENCOURAGES THE COMMUNITY TO STAY INFORMED OF COVID-19

Below are some information resources on COVID-19 that BHA currently uses to stay informed about the situation and that the community can use to get information:

- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) www.CDC.gov
- City of Ballinger Website https://ballinger-tx.com/
- 2-1-1 Texas A Call for Help/United Way www.acallforhelp.info/cms/
- Texas Health and Human Services dshs.texas.qov/coronavirus/

This is a fluid situation that is changing daily, we thank you in advance for your continued patience, understanding and flexibility.

BHA has implemented these items to ensure the safety of the communities we serve, its residents and its employees.

Sincerely,

Amy Fava

Executive Director
Ballinger Housing Authority