

NOTICE REGARDING SENIOR/DISABLED HOUSING

The Housing Authority of the City of Bridgeport (BHA) operates two sites for Disabled and Senior Families, the Harborview Towers, located at 376 East Washington Ave. and the Fireside Apartments, located at 75 Stewart Street, 655 Palisades Ave., and 730 Palisades Ave. Disabled Families and Senior Families are entitled to a preference for these units. The BHA maintains a separate waiting list for Senior/Disabled housing units. All Senior Families (Families whose head of household is 62 years of age or older) and Disabled Families who complete an Application for a one-bedroom unit of public housing will be placed on the Senior/Disabled Housing Waiting List, in addition to the General Population Waiting List.

Applicants and residents who are under the age of 62 years and claim to be disabled must provide proof of disability by either:

- 1) Providing proof that he or she receives either Social Security or SSI disability benefits; or
- 2) Having a qualified medical professional with knowledge of the applicant or resident's disability (not necessarily a physician) complete a Disability Verification form provided by the BHA. The applicant or resident will be required to authorize in writing the release of information regarding disability status from the qualified medical professional.

You are not required to reveal the fact that you have a disability; however, if you do not, you may not necessarily receive any of the benefits that such status confers. The BHA is not permitted to ask you about the nature or extent of your disability, your diagnosis or the details of your treatment.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development defines a disabled person in 3 ways:

- (1) A disabled person is one with an inability to engage in any work activity that is both substantial and gainful because of any physical or mental impairment that is expected to result in death or has lasted or can be expected to last continuously for at least 12 months; or for a blind person at least 55 years old, inability because of blindness to engage in any substantial gainful activities compared to those in which the person was previously engaged with some regularity and over a substantial period.
- (2) A developmentally disabled person is one with a severe chronic disability that:
 - (a) is attributable to a mental and/or physical impairment;
 - (b) as manifested before age 22;
 - (c) is likely to continue indefinitely;
 - (d) results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas: capacity for independent living, self-care, receptive and expressive language; learning, mobility, self-direction, and economic self-sufficiency AND
 - (e) requires special interdisciplinary or generic care treatment, or other services which are of extended or lifelong duration and are individually planned or coordinated.
- (3) A disabled person is also one who has a physical, emotional or mental impairment that:
 - (a) is expected to be of long-continued or indefinite duration;
 - (b) substantially impedes the person's ability to live independently;
 - (c) is such that the person's ability to live independently could be improved by more suitable housing conditions.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I HAVE RECEIVED A COPY OF THIS FORM

SIGNATURE

DATE

Please Return this Signed Form to the BHA