

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

## USDA Provides Guidance on Multi-Family Housing in the Wake of COVID-19

**WASHINGTON, March 19, 2020** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) continues to monitor the effects that COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is having on the multi-family housing community and offers the following updates:

- All agency operations and functions will continue remotely. Owners and agents should contact their State Program Director or assigned field staff for property-specific inquiries.
- Adam Hauptman, the Assistant Deputy Administrator for Rural Development MFH Programs at USDA, is the main point of contact for USDA's national multi-family stakeholders.
  Adam.Hauptman@usda.gov; (202) 690-3306.
- Rural Development <u>State Offices</u> have been notified to follow all local and state directives for response to COVID-19. Regular status calls are held with State Directors, and guidance will be issued as needed.
- Owners and agents should follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines and the directions given by local health officials for emergency preparedness. Chapter 9, Section 6 of <u>Handbook 2-3560</u>, Special Procedures for Declared Disasters, should also be consulted if a Presidential Disaster Declaration is made.
- The CDC provides guidance for communities, businesses and schools that can assist housing providers.

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