



Berkeley Housing Authority

BHA Client Newsletter

Winter 2021



Dear BHA Program Participants,

May 2021 bring you and your family hope, peace, and good health. We are still in very trying times. Perhaps some of you have received your Covid-19 vaccine, while the vast majority are likely awaiting your turn at the chance to be vaccinated. The Berkeley Public Health Department has an interest list providing Berkeley residents updates on vaccine information. Here is the website link: in case you are interested in signing up: <https://cityofberkeley.jotform.com/210145406660951>.

While BHA remains closed to the public, we continue to work hard to process annual reexaminations, and interim changes when you report income or household changes. The best way to be in touch with BHA staff is phone or email (see next page for contact info.).

Our office has moved! Now located at 1947 Center Street, we are informed a drop box will be installed for BHA clients. In the meantime, if you need to drop documents off or pick up, you may do so Monday through Thursday, 9 am – 4 pm by calling the number listed on the sign posted on the front doors of 1947 Center Street. Someone will come down to greet you.

Although we remain closed to the public, you must continue to pay your rent portion to your landlord; an eviction moratorium remains in effect in the State of California through the end of June. If you experience a decrease in income or job loss it is important to let BHA know immediately so your rent portion can be readjusted (see below).

Please remember your obligation to provide true and complete information to BHA, such as notifying your Housing Specialist when someone in your household gets a new job, loses a job, has a decrease in income, or is receiving unemployment. You must also inform your Housing Specialist before you want to add or remove someone from your assisted household, or move. Check out our website for many of our forms:

https://www.cityofberkeley.info/BHA/Home/Forms_for_Owners_and_Tenants.aspx.

Annual inspections are still on hold, but we continue to conduct Special Inspections and Move in Inspections (“RTAs”). If your landlord is not making an urgently needed repair, please contact rgonzales-levine@cityofberkeley.info or 510-981-5490 to schedule a Special Inspection.

Two Important Surveys

We would like to encourage you to share your voice and opinion on crucial affordable housing issues such as displacement of African Americans, and a local affordable housing preference for newly constructed affordable units (**please complete soon** – the surveys will close shortly):

(1) **Healthy Black Families Right to Return survey:** <https://tinyurl.com/ShowUp94703>

(2) **City of Berkeley Open Town Hall Survey on Affordable Housing Preferences:**
https://www.opentownhall.com/portals/257/Issue_9777.

2021 Resident Advisory Board (RAB)

We are seeking additional members of our Resident Advisory Board (RAB), which is asked to review proposed changes to our Administrative Plan (guiding programmatic document), and provide comment during a meeting held at a date to be determined (**Zoom meeting/call**). RAB members receive \$50 for attendance at the meeting, which won't be counted as income. To volunteer for the RAB contact us in writing by **Thurs. Feb. 18, at 12:00 noon**, with your name, address, phone number, and email. You can email caguilar-vasquez@cityofberkeley.info, or send by regular mail, or drop off Mon-Thurs. With questions, please call Celinda at 510-981-5483.

Contacting BHA Staff

Staff	Position/Client Last Name Begins with:	Phone: 510-981-	Email: @cityofberkeley.info
Lynda DeShazier	Housing Specialist A, B, C, D, K, L, O	5482	ldeshazier
Tracy Jackson	Housing Specialist E, F, G, H, I, J, M, N	5486	tjackson
Althea Maybon	Housing Specialist Mc, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z	5478	amaybon
Tilda Barnes	Supervisor/New Contracts/ Ports/Mod Rehab.	5484	tbarnes
Tyra Pumphrey	Office Assistant I (Reception)	5470	tpumphrey
Celinda Aguilar-Vasquez	Exec. Assistant/FSS Coordinator	5483	caguilar-vasquez
Jesy Yturalde	Finance Manager	5488	jyturalde
Jayla Fuentecilla	Office Asst. II/Accounting	5474	bfuentecilla
Maggie Wang	Accountant	5477	ywang
Rachel Gonzales-Levine	Acting Executive Director/ Management Analyst	5485	rgonzales-levine

Upcoming Office Closures

- Thurs., February 11 – Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
- Mon., February 15 – Presidents Day
- Thurs., May 20 – Malcolm X's Birthday
- Mon., May 31 – Memorial Day
- Closed every Friday.



Take good care!

