

Telephone 508.771.7222 FAX: 508.778.9312 TDD / TTY: 508-778-5333 146 South Street • Hyannis, MA 02601

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Dear Owner/Manager,

The Barnstable Housing Authority (BHA) is conducting a rent reasonableness survey as mandated by Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

To ensure rents charged by property owners in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program are reasonable, a comparison of the rent for voucher units to rents for similar unassisted units in the same premises and area is considered.

This survey is very important to the effectiveness of our program operations for two main reasons:

- BHA does not want to approve rents that are too high, wasting federal funding entrusted to us, and
- BHA does not wish to set rents too low, reducing the quality and quantity of units accepting the voucher.

Our goal is to adequately compensate property owners at a level comparable to the private market. This will enable our participants to rent from the best property owners with the highest quality of units. We strongly urge and sincerely appreciate your participation in this survey so we can make the appropriate rent determinations.

This information will not be used by anyone other than BHA for the reasons stated above. Please take a moment to complete the survey for the unit(s) that you own and fax the information to (508) 778-9312 or email it to bobbir@bha.barnstable.ma.us.

Please make copies of this survey to respond for multiple units. We ask that you complete a survey for <u>each</u> bedroom size you manage. List multiple unit numbers for the same unit size and price.

If you are interested in renting to a voucher holder, check the box on the form and we will list your unit(s) as a rental property available to our participants. **Please return the survey by February** 1, 2017.

Should you have any questions about this survey, I can be reached at (508) 771-7222, ext. 18.

Thank you,

**Bobbi Richards** 

Assistant Director