



HOUSTON
HOUSING AUTHORITY

Transforming Lives & Communities

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Houston Housing Authority Preparing for 2100 Memorial Move

Houston – (Sept. 21, 2017) – Alternate housing has been identified for residents of the 2100 Memorial building, which is home to approximately 185 senior citizens. Additionally, the building operator, V.J. Memorial Corporation, an affiliate of the Houston Housing Authority, is expediting a request to fund the move for all residents.

“V.J. Memorial and the Houston Housing Authority (HHA) are working with the City of Houston, FEMA and HUD to provide all necessary resources to smoothly transition the residents to safe, quality housing options which are in place and ready to receive them,” said HHA President Tory Gunsolley. “Current residents of 2100 Memorial will also be given priority if they choose to return to the building once repairs are completed,” he said.

Gunsolley said notices to vacate the property were distributed to residents on Sept. 18 after it became evident that Hurricane Harvey flooding had compromised vital systems within the building. Although only the first floor of the facility received flood water, the compromised systems impact the entire building, Gunsolley explained. Vacating the building is required so that management can make the extensive repairs to fire and electrical systems required to ensure the facility’s safety.

To effect the move as quickly as possible, while being cognizant of Mayor Sylvester Turner’s request for flexibility on the Sept. 23 deadline, Gunsolley is expediting a request to fund all moves for residents, which is estimated to cost \$250,000.

“The city’s priority is the safety of residents,” said Tom McCasland, director of the Houston’s Housing and Community Development Department. “We will work with HHA to assure that the move is handled as expeditiously as possible while ensuring the seniors living at 2100 Memorial have the information and resources they need.”

FEMA teams have already been onsite at 2100 Memorial and have assisted 111 residents in registering for assistance. Numerous residents had already registered prior to arrival of FEMA's Disaster Survivor Assistance team.

HHA, working with the city, is committed to protecting the affordability of the units as soon as the property is safe and habitable for the seniors.

Residents across the region who have been impacted by Hurricane Harvey are urged to register for assistance at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.

Homeowners needing assistance to gut their homes can report their needs to Crisis Cleanup by calling 1-844-965-1386 or going to www.crisiscleanup.org. Volunteers can report their hours helping the community at www.reportyourhours.com.

ABOUT HHA:

The Houston Housing Authority provides affordable homes and services to more than 58,000 low-income Houstonians, including over 17,000 families housed through the Housing Choice Voucher Program and another 5,700 living in 25 public housing and tax credit developments around the city. HHA also administers one of the nation's largest voucher program exclusively serving homeless veterans. More information about the Houston Housing Authority can be found at www.housingforhouston.com.

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