

RENTAL ASSISTANCE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM (RAD) RESIDENT INFORMATION NOTICE (RIN)

Si se necesita un aviso en español, se puede recoger uno en la oficina de administración de Glenwood Towers.

January 16, 2025

Dear Glenwood Towers Residents:

You are invited to a resident meeting to talk about Raleigh Housing Authority's plans to convert Glenwood Towers from the public housing program to Section 8 rental assistance under the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD). The meeting information is:

1St Resident Meetings

Due to space limitations please attend the meeting assigned to your floor. The same information will be covered at every meeting. If there is a scheduling conflict during the scheduled time for your floor, please let the property manager know that you will need to attend a different meeting.

January 29, 2025	January 30, 2025
10:00 am for Floors 2-4	10:00 am for Floors 8-9
2:00 pm for Floors 5-7	2:00 pm for Floors 10-14

January 29, 2025

6:00 pm zoom open to all residents

Zoom Login Information

https://bit.ly/GTJan29

Meeting ID: 828 2653 2933

Passcode: 347002

1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)



There will be a second meeting to follow-up on the information provided during the first meeting. The information for the 2^{nd} meeting is below.

2nd Resident Meetings

Due to space limitations please attend the meeting assigned to your floor. The same information will be covered at every meeting. If there is a scheduling conflict during the scheduled time for your floor, please let the property manager know that you will need to attend a different meeting.

February 19, 2025	February 20, 2025
10:00 am for Floors 2-4	10:00 am for Floors 8-9
2:00 pm for Floors 5-7	2:00 pm for Floors 10-14

February 20, 2025

6:00 pm zoom open to all residents

Zoom Login Information

https://bit.ly/GTFeb20 Meeting ID: 860 4422 4201

Passcode: 578849

1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

RAD is a voluntary program run by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Under RAD, HUD will change the way it provides rental assistance to the property from public housing to a long-term Section 8 assistance contract. The Section 8 program would make it easier for us to access money to repair and improve the property, either now or in the future or move the housing subsidy (the rental assistance) to a different property so that another property becomes affordable instead of the one you have been living in. This is called a transfer of assistance. In this case, you will have the right to a rent assisted unit at the new property once any construction is done.



This letter describes your rights under RAD and explains how a RAD conversion might affect you. Whether we participate in RAD or not, you will still get rental assistance.

Your Right to Information

With this letter, we have included "Attachment #1," which is a description of our current plans for the property. At the meeting, we will describe the RAD program and our current ideas in more detail. We will have a follow-up meeting to provide more information and answer any questions that have come up for you. The times for these meetings have been detailed at the beginning of this notice. If we submit an application to HUD and are accepted into the program, we will have at least two (2) additional meetings with you about our plans. You have the right to hear about major changes in the plans for the project, and we will invite you to additional meetings if key features of the plans change. You also have a right to organize and to form a resident council to serve as your voice and to help you become well informed about the RAD plans.

Your Right to Rental Assistance

Our decision to participate in RAD does not affect your rental assistance eligibility. You are not subject to new eligibility screening. If we satisfy all HUD requirements and the property is placed under a Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) contract, you have a right to ongoing rental assistance as long as you comply with the requirements of your lease. In most cases, your rent will not change with the conversion from public housing to Section 8. In the rare event that your rent calculation would change (most commonly, when you are paying a "flat rent"), the increase would be phased in over time if the increase is more than 10% or \$25/ month.

Your Right to Relocation Assistance

In some situations, we may need to relocate you from your unit in order to complete repairs or do construction. Since we are at the beginning of the planning process for



the RAD conversion, we don't yet know whether you will need to move. You **do not** need to move now.

If we require you to move, you are entitled to certain relocation protections under the RAD rules, including, in all cases, advance written notice and detailed information about the move. The other specific relocation protections depend on the situation, but may include advisory services, moving assistance, payments and other assistance.

In some cases, you have additional rights under other Federal laws, such as the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act, often referred to as the "Uniform Relocation Act." If the Uniform Relocation Act applies, we must give you a "General Information Notice" which is also referred to as a "GIN." To make sure we are complying with the Uniform Relocation Act, RHA will be providing the GIN either at an upcoming meeting or it will be delivered to your door in the coming weeks. The GIN describes rights you have, but may also describe situations that don't apply to you.

Your Right to Return

If you need to move temporarily for repairs, you have a right to return to an assisted unit once any construction work is done. However, we may need to move you during construction and your post-construction home may be a different unit than your current home. If the plans involve the transfer of the rental assistance to a different site, you may need to move to the new site to keep your rental assistance (provided that it is within a reasonable distance of your current home), but you still have a right to an assisted unit. RHA is in the pre-planning stages and is gathering information to determine if a transfer of rental assistance to a new site is the most effective option.

You get to return to a RAD Section 8 unit unless **you choose** to move somewhere else. If you believe the plans prevent you from exercising your right to return, you have the right to object to the plans. RAD program rules require us to make sure that anyone who wants to return can do so.

Don't Put Your Rights at Risk!

You are always welcome to move based on your household's needs and personal goals. However, if the RAD effort will require relocation and you choose to move from the



property on your own without waiting for instructions from us, you may lose your eligibility for relocation payments and assistance.

The RAD conversion, and any relocation associated with it, must be implemented consistent with fair housing and civil rights requirements. If you need a reasonable accommodation due to a disability, or have other questions about the RAD conversion, please send your question or request to GTowersinfo@rhanc.gov and RHA staff will be in contact. If you need to appeal a decision made by us, or if you think your rights aren't being protected, you may contact the HUD Greensboro field office at (336) 547-4000.

Because we are very early in the process, the plans for the RAD conversion are likely to change. We are holding resident meetings to share our current ideas and gather resident input and will keep you informed about major changes to these ideas as we develop our plans.

We hope this letter gives you useful information about your rights. We are also including with this letter a fact sheet that may help you understand the RAD program better. We encourage you to come to the resident meetings to learn more about how the RAD conversion would impact your property and you. If you have additional questions about RAD and would like to contact HUD directly, you can do so by sending an email to rad@hud.gov.

Sincerely,

Ashley Lommers-Johnson

CEO, Raleigh Housing Authority

Attachments: Project-Specific Fact Sheet

Fact Sheet #1: RAD Overview



Attachment #1 Project-Specific Fact Sheet

Raleigh Housing Authority ("RHA") is pursuing a conversion from the Public Housing program to the Section 8 Project Based Voucher program using Rental Assistance Demonstration ("RAD"), or a RAD/Section 18 Blend. These programs will continue to require the tenant paid portion of the rent be based on household income. RHA is at the pre-planning stage of this process and no formal plan has been developed. We are gathering information and will complete an analysis to determine if rehabilitation of the property or developing new subsidized housing at another location is the most feasible way to improve the living conditions and quality of life for the residents of Glenwood Towers.

The pre-planning and information gathering stage involves such things as:

- resident input,
- reports from independent construction, engineering, and design professionals, and
- a review of the cost to operate the property compared to actual funding received from HUD and other available resources.

Again, a detailed plan is not available at this time. RHA will keep residents informed as this process evolves and additional information becomes available.



Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD)

FACT SHEET #1 **RAD Overview**



What is RAD?

RAD stands for Rental Assistance Demonstration. RAD is a tool developed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to address living conditions in public housing properties. RAD allows public housing authorities to "convert" public housing subsidy into a Section 8 subsidy that is tied to the property. These fact sheets are intended for residents of public housing properties that may be participating in RAD.



Why was RAD Created?

Public housing properties across the country need billions of dollars to pay for the repair of broken systems or replacement of outdated appliances. Public housing authorities (PHAs) do not have enough money to keep their public housing properties in good condition and make the necessary repairs. As a result, many public housing residents nationwide have seen conditions at their property worsen.

RAD was created to allow PHAs to access additional sources of funding to maintain, repair, and replace public housing properties. After a RAD conversion, the federal government continues to provide rental assistance through a Section 8 contract and ensures the property remains permanently affordable; residents continue to benefit from the same rights and protections that they had under the public housing program.



What is a RAD Conversion?

A RAD Conversion is the process of changing how the rent subsidy is delivered to a property from the Public Housing program to a Project-Based Section 8 program.



What are PHAs Required to do in a RAD Conversion?

The requirements that PHAs must follow in order for a public housing property to participate in RAD is described in the RAD Implementation Notice published by HUD (PIH 2019-23/H 2019-09). They include:

- **☑** The PHA is required to consult with residents throughout the conversion process and consult with the community and Resident Advisory Board (RAB) through the **PHA Plan process.**
- Mo resident may be displaced involuntarily. Every resident has a right to remain in the property or to return to the property if temporary relocation is necessary in order to complete repairs or construction.
- The PHA is required to show that it is repairing or replacing all broken or outdated items at the property. While an inspector will identify the items that need to be replaced or repaired, residents are encouraged to communicate known issues directly to the PHA.
- **☑** The public housing units must be replaced one-for-one, with limited exceptions. This means that generally there must be the same amount of affordable housing after the RAD conversion. HUD allows units to be eliminated that have been vacant for 2 or more years, permits up to 5% reduction in total affordable housing units, and allows housing units to convert to community space for services. However, such reductions are rare.
- ☑ The PHA or a non-profit must continue to own or control the property following RAD conversion. In most cases the PHA continues to own the property directly. In some cases, the PHA will partner with other affordable housing providers.
- ☑ All properties enter a long-term (15 to 20 years) Section 8 contract that must be renewed each time that it expires. This ensures that the property will remain affordable permanently.
- Residents keep the same basic rights from public housing and gain a new right to request a "choice-mobility" voucher. After living in a RAD property for either 1 or 2 years, a family may request a voucher that they can use to rent a qualifying home of their choosing. With the voucher they will continue to pay 30% of their adjusted income towards rent.

These and many other topics are covered in the remaining fact sheets.

Fact Sheet #1: RAD Overview



Will I Keep My Rental Assistance?

In a word...Yes. No resident can be displaced involuntarily or pay an unaffordable rent.

Residents of public housing developments participating in RAD are guaranteed the right to ongoing housing assistance. All residents will either remain in their property, or if temporary relocation is needed to make repairs, be offered the opportunity to return to the property after repairs have been completed. Residents may also choose to accept an alternative housing option, if offered. Residents under lease in the public housing program cannot be rescreened when the property comes under a Section 8 contract.



Will RAD Affect My Rent?

Most residents will not have rent increases because of RAD. Like in most public housing, Section 8 residents pay 30% of their income towards rent and utilities. As in public housing, your rent will increase if your income increases and decrease if your income decreases.

However, if you are currently paying a "flat rent" in public housing, your rent will transition to a new formula based on the lower of the Total Tenant Payment minus any utility allowance or other rents in the area. If this transition leads to a rent increase, your new rent may be phased in over 3 to 5 years. Under RAD, you will never pay more than 30% of your household's adjusted income towards rent. (For more information, see Fact Sheet #6: Rent)



Will I Have to Move?

Most repairs made as part of RAD allow you to stay in your home during construction. However, some apartments and buildings need more extensive repairs that require residents to move out during construction.

In these cases, the PHA will pay for temporary relocation and you will be protected by RAD relocation rules. You will have the right to return to the property once construction is completed.

If construction at your property takes longer, the PHA may offer you other housing options, such as another public housing unit or a tenant-based voucher that you can use to rent a qualifying home you choose and continue paying 30% of your income towards rent. (For more information, see Fact Sheet #9: RAD and Relocation)

Fact Sheet #1: RAD Overview



Will RAD Affect My Rights Under My Lease?

RAD maintains the resident processes and rights under public housing, including:

- Requires lease renewal, except with good cause (For more information, see Fact Sheet #7: Your Lease)
- A right to organize and have access to tenant participation funds to support resident organizing and participation (For more information, see Fact Sheet #8: Resident Organizing and Funding)
- Procedures for hearing grievances and minimum timelines for being notifed if your assistance is being terminated. (For more information, see Fact Sheet #10: Resident Grievance and Termination Rights)
- Continued participation in FSS, ROSS, or Jobs Plus, while funding remains available. (For more information, see Fact Sheet #11: Family Self-Sufficiency & Resident Opportunities And Self-Sufficiency)

RAD also gives residents a significant new right to request a tenant-based, "choice-mobility," voucher. (For more information, see Fact Sheet #12: Choice Mobility)



Who Will Own and Manage the Property?

Most but not all public housing is owned by a public housing authority (PHA) and most, but not all, RAD converted properties are also owned by a PHA. Sometimes, the owner of the property changes through RAD. However, in all cases RAD requires that a public entity, generally the PHA, or a non-profit retain ownership or control of the property. In some cases, particularly when the PHA is using the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program to fund repairs, the PHA may partner with other housing organizations to own the property together. As with some public housing properties today, the PHA may partner with another company, including a for-profit, to manage the property day-to-day.



How Can I Be Involved?

HUD encourages residents and their PHAs to work together during the RAD conversion process. PHAs are required to hold meetings with residents and send notices at various stages in the conversion process to educate residents about RAD and provide updates on plans. Once the RAD application has been accepted, HUD encourages PHAs to hold quarterly meetings with residents. During these meetings, you can learn about the conversion plans, ask questions, express concerns, and provide comments. The PHA must submit your comments and its responses to HUD. (For more information, see Fact Sheet #5: Resident Engagement and Consultation)

Fact Sheet #1: RAD Overview



How Will the PHA Ensure Everyone Can Participate in the RAD Process

PHAs must provide adequate notice of meetings and work to reduce barriers to resident participation. For example, by providing childcare or refreshments. Meetings should be convenient (place and time) for residents and accessible to residents with disabilities.

Meeting notifications and materials must be available in accessible formats. PHAs must use effective communication for people with disabilities including providing materials in appropriate alternative formats (Braille, large type, accessible email, etc.), and providing sign language interpreters and assistive listening devices at meetings as needed. Electronic (virtual) or in-home meetings should be offered when needed.

The PHA must provide meaningful access to its programs and activities for people who have a limited ability to read, speak, or understand English. Language assistance may include providing translated notices and oral interpretation of meetings.



Who Can I Talk to if I Have Questions?

You should talk to a PHA representative if you have specific questions about the RAD conversion process and the specific plans for your property. You may also direct any questions to HUD at rad@hud.gov and Office of Recapitalization staff will respond confirming receipt and indicating next steps.