

May, 2007

Dear Residents of Lafitte:

Many former Lafitte residents have been calling us with questions related to the re-opening of units at Lafitte, vouchers that will be expiring soon, and whether or not to re-new leases. We understand that you need this information in order to make important life and family decisions, including where to enroll children in school.

Voucher Update

Providence continues to advocate for the residents of Lafitte and, as mentioned in our last newsletter, has probed HUD and HANO on the status of the DVP vouchers. Recently we have learned that HUD has plans to extend these vouchers beyond their original September '07 deadline to at least December '07. Efforts are already underway in Washington to allow for an additional extension through June of 2008. It is our belief that this anticipated extension will give residents the stability they need to allow for more informed decisions regarding their future. We have also learned that only with the approval of a demolition process will the residents of Lafitte be removed from DVP vouchers and placed under what is known as "tenant protection" vouchers which allow for even more security and flexibility. We will continue to share with you updates on matters as we receive them.

Case Management is available in Houston and Baton Rouge

We are happy to announce that case management services are now available to Lafitte residents living in Houston and Baton Rouge (in addition to services already offered to Lafitte residents in New Orleans). If you are interested in receiving these services, please see the phone numbers on the back of this sheet.

As we work to redevelop housing at Lafitte and in the Treme and Tulane/Gravier communities, Providence and Enterprise remain committed to providing:

- An absolute opportunity for the 865 families who lived in Lafitte before Katrina to return to better quality homes and a healthier neighborhood as soon as possible;
- 900 subsidized homes, the same number as in the Lafitte development before the storm;
- Resident participation in planning and developing a more vibrant community; and
- Resident services, including case management and counseling.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families. Please contact us if there is additional information that you would find helpful, and we will work to get the information to you in future letters and newsletters.

Sincerely,



James R. Kelly
President & CEO
Providence Community Housing



Michelle Whetten
Director, Gulf Coast Rebuilding Initiative
Enterprise Community Partners

Please see reverse

CASE MANAGEMENT IS AVAILABLE IN BATON ROUGE AND HOUSTON

If you are a former Lafitte resident living in Baton Rouge or Houston, Case Management services are now available to you.

In Baton Rouge, please contact 225-242-0348 for more information.

In Houston, please contact 713-874-6776 for more information

DO WE HAVE YOUR MOST RECENT ADDRESS?

We are working hard to keep address information updated. If you or people you know are not receiving regular communications from us, please contact LaTonya Williams at Providence (phone 504-821-7226 or email lwilliams@providencech.org) with your new address information.

PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS ARE OPEN NOW

HUD and HANO have re-opened several hundred public housing units for former residents. Sarah McMorris of NOLAC (New Orleans Legal Assistance) has a list of the 600 units available, and any residents interested in receiving information can call her at (504) 529-1000 ext. 243.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NEW ORLEANS OFFICE

Providence Community Housing

LaTonya Williams

Ph. (504) 821-7226 or lwilliams@providencech.org