Dear Friends,

Whether building thousands of homes for shipyard workers during World War II or providing relief today for low wage earners unable to keep up with the rapidly escalating cost of shelter, Bremerton Housing Authority (BHA) has always stayed true to its mission. BHA exists to provide affordable housing opportunities for persons of limited financial means.

The focus of our attention and efforts this year has been addressing the twin crisis of housing affordability and chronic homelessness. We are proud to have partnered with the City of Bremerton in pioneering a local, flexible, rental assistance program that provides short-term help to avoid the devastating and long-term consequences of an eviction. Low wage earners have been able to draw upon this program at the first signs of economic distress – emergency car repair, loss of employment or temporary reduction in work hours, unexpected medical expense – to maintain stability in their housing. For many families, an unexpected expense of $1,000 can send them into a downward spiral leading to eviction. Based on the success of this program, the City of Bremerton has contributed another $100,000 for 2020, which has been matched by BHA. This year, we will be able to double the number of families served.

We are equally excited about progress toward the construction of Pendleton Place, a 72-unit permanent supportive housing development targeted for chronically homeless individuals. BHA was the first investor in this project, which is being developed by our partner Kitsap Mental Health Services. Our contribution of $3.1 million has led to a snowball of other investments in this project, which is now fully funded and ready for groundbreaking in 2020.

All the while, we continue to maintain and improve our diverse inventory of 573 apartment units in Bremerton. We also serve nearly 2,000 households scattered throughout Kitsap and Mason counties through the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program. Each month this program puts more than $1 million into the local economy in the form of payments to private rental property owners. Staying true to our mission is important to the board and staff of BHA. We appreciate the support we receive from the community and strive to live up to their expectations.

Kurt Wiest
Executive Director
BHA Housing department staff processes rental vouchers and project-based subsidies throughout Kitsap and Mason counties and manages a portfolio of affordable residential properties including: Wright Court, Charter House, Tara Heights, Winfield, Shadow Creek, Tamarack, The Firs, Casa Del Sol, Bay Vista South, Bay Vista West, The Summit, and Bay Vista Commons. The latter project, Bay Vista Commons, provides affordable assisted living. Additionally, BHA provides self-sufficiency programs, community connections services, and job training to the community.

As a department of BHA, CMS has been supporting affordable housing on a local and national level for almost 20 years. CMS is the current Performance Based Contract Administrator (PBCA) for Washington State, Nebraska, and Utah. Our expert staff successfully oversees more than 600 Housing Assistance Payment Contracts (HAP) and 28,000 units of affordable housing. We are driven by compassion, innovation and excellence; together we can promote independence and strengthen quality affordable housing communities through administration, training and consulting. Visit the CMS website to learn more at www.cms-results.com.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT BREMERTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

Want more information? We are located at 600 Park Avenue in Downtown Bremerton.
Lobby Hours 9:00am – 4:00pm Monday - Friday, Closed on holidays.
360-479-3694 or bremertonhousing.org | facebook.com/Bremerton Housing Authority
Telecommunication for hearing impaired TRS dial 7-1-1