

## **NOTICE TO APPLICANTS WITH DISABILITIES REGARDING REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION and NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY**

### **Notice to Applicants with Disabilities Regarding Reasonable Accommodation:**

The Rogersville Housing Authority (RHA) is a public agency that provides low rent housing to eligible families, elderly/handicapped/disabled households and single people. The RHA does not discriminate against applicants on the basis of their race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, marital or familial status, gender identity, disability, age, receipt of public assistance or sexual preference. Under applicable law, the RHA provides “reasonable accommodation” to applicants if they or any household member(s) have a disability or handicap and if the reasonable accommodation is necessary to provide an equal opportunity to use and enjoy the housing.

A reasonable accommodation is some modification or change the RHA can make to its apartments or procedures that will assist an otherwise eligible applicant with a disability/handicap to take advantage of the RHA’s programs, provided that the change does not pose an undue financial and administrative burden to the RHA or require a fundamental change in its program. A reasonable accommodation may also include providing an appropriate auxiliary aid to an applicant with a disability/handicap where such assistance is necessary to enable effective communication with the applicant.

Examples of an RHA reasonable accommodation may include but are not limited to :

- Installing flashing light smoke detectors in an apartment for a household with a hearing impaired member;
- Allowing an assistance animal or live in aide
- Making a physical change to your apartment to make it more accessible
- Permitting an outside agency to assist an applicant with a disability/handicap to meet the RHA’s applicant screening criteria

An applicant household that has a member with a disability/handicap must still be able to meet essential obligations of tenancy—they must be able to pay rent, to care for their apartment, to report required information to the housing authority, to avoid disturbing their neighbors, etc. This requirement takes into consideration whether any requested reasonable accommodation would permit the applicant to be considered eligible. If you or a member of your household have a disability or handicap and think you might need or want a reasonable accommodation, you may request it in writing at any time in the application process or after admission. This is up to you. If you would prefer not to discuss your situation with the housing authority, that is your right.

You can get a Request for Reasonable Accommodation form from the Rogersville Housing Authority office at 902 Locust Street, Rogersville, TN 37857. If the RHA turns down your request, the RHA will explain why and you can provide more information if you think that will help. The RHA will also advise you of your appeal rights if your request is denied. If you require help in filling out that form or need to submit your request in some other way, you should contact the Housing Administrator at (423) 272-8540 opt. 3, or TDD # 1-800-877-8339.

### **Notice of Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability:**

It is the policy of the Rogersville Housing Authority to fully comply with all federal, state, and local nondiscrimination laws; the American with Disabilities Act; and the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations governing Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. The Rogersville Housing Authority shall affirmatively further fair housing in the administration of its public housing program.

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, religion, national or ethnic origin, familial status, gender identity, sexual preference, or disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under the Rogersville Housing Authority’s programs.

The Rogersville Housing Authority will assist any family that believes they have suffered illegal discrimination by providing the family copies of the appropriate housing discrimination forms. The Rogersville Housing Authority will also assist them in completing the forms if requested, and will provide them with the address of the nearest HUD office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. In addition all written information and advertisements will contain the appropriate Equal Opportunity language and logo.

