

October 16, 2020

Dear Families,

As you may already be aware, the statewide moratorium on evictions is coming to an end on Saturday. We want to express both our concern and support for those of our families who are struggling with housing insecurity.

We want to ensure that you know what to do if you or someone you know, is behind on their rent or receives an eviction notice:

- 1. If you are behind on your rent:
 - a. Apply to **<u>RAFT</u>** immediately.
 - b. If you can pay a portion of your monthly rent, no matter how small, you should do so. Set up a payment plan with your landlord, and you can sometimes avoid an eviction notice.
 - c. Declare your eligibility for the federal eviction ban, which extends through the end of 2020, to protect yourself. You can download the form <u>here</u> or pick up a copy at one of Excel's meal distribution sites, and then email a photo of it to City Life/Vida Urbana at <u>communications@clvu.org</u>.
- 2. If you receive an eviction notice, or a Notice to Quit:
 - a. You should not leave your home or make plans to move until you have spoken with a housing advocate.
 - b. Immediately call:
 - i. City Life/Vida Urbana
 - 1. English: 617-934-5006
 - 2. Spanish: 617-397-3773
 - ii. Greater Boston Legal Services: 617-603-1807 (call and leave a message)
 - iii. Nicole Summers Harvard Legal Aid Bureau: 617-384-5594
 - iv. Joseph Michalakes Greater Boston Legal Services: 857-540-5543

We have compiled a list of additional resources below. You can also find more information and resources on our <u>Family</u> <u>Resources</u> page.

We want you to know that Excel is here to support you during these extraordinary times and the COVID-19 pandemic, including helping with making rent payments if you are not able to. **If you need assistance**, <u>please fill out this form</u>. We will never ask about your immigration status to be able to provide support, but will need a copy of your last rent payment deposit stubs.

We know these are difficult times and we are here for you.

Sincerely, Owen Stearns

Resources | Recursos:

Program | Programa: <u>City Life/Vida Urbana</u> Resource Language | Lenguaje del recurso: English & Spanish

Program | Programa: <u>RAFT & Metro Housing</u> Resource Language | Lenguaje del recurso: English

Program | Programa: <u>Public Housing Application</u> Resource Language | Lenguaje del recurso: English, Spanish, Portuguese

Program | Programa: <u>Chelsea Housing Assistance</u> Resource Language | Lenguaje del recurso: English

Program | Programa: <u>Mutual Aid Eastie</u> Resource Language | Lenguaje del recurso: English

Article | Articulo:

"10 Steps to Take to Try to Prevent Your Own Eviction"

Support Contacts | Contactos de Ayuda:

Mayor's Office of Housing Stability Email: <u>HOUSINGSTABILITY@BOSTON.GOV</u> Phone: 617-635-4200

Gloria Devine

East Boston Family Engagement Network | East Boston Social Center gdevine@ebsoc.org

Lina Tramelli- Office of Neighborhood Services | East Boston Liaison Phone: 617-635-2681 Email: <u>lina.tramelli@boston.gov</u>