

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM  
“GIVING BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY”

On April 1, 2003 the PHA began a community services program called “Giving Back to Your Community”. This program will help public housing residents meet a new requirement in federal law and regulations from HUD (the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development):

**Every adult living in public housing must complete eight hours of volunteer community service each month, except for adults who are exempt for one of the reasons listed below.**

Public housing residents who are not exempt must complete **eight hours of volunteer community service per month** in order to remain eligible for public housing.

*Who is exempt from this requirement?*

- Adults who are employed or involved in work activity at least 10 hours per week
- Adults who are participating in MFIP or other qualified work/training programs and complying with all requirements of that program.
- Adults age 62 or older
- Adult who are blind or are disabled and unable to perform volunteer service
- Adults who are primary caregiver for a blind or disabled family member or a family member under the age of 6.

For lease renewals, this requirement is effective August 1, 2003 and later. For residents moving into public housing, the requirement is effective for residents signing leases April 1, 2003 or after.

Public Housing Agency staff will talk about the requirements during the interviews for annual eligibility reviews. The Housing Manager will help you determine if you and/or any adult household members meet the exemptions of this requirement or if you must participate in the community service program.

The PHA will provide information on volunteer service bureaus but you also have the option to propose and participate in other types of community service. You can get credit for participating in your Resident Council. Economic self-sufficiency activities like school, job training, job search, adult education, activities to remove barriers to work may also meet the requirements.

If you have questions about eligible activities, contact the Human Services Coordinator in your management office or your hi-rise.