Direct to You

Tuesday 6/1/20

Patricia Wells, OHA Executive Director

Season of Change

Good Morning OHA:

I have crafted several versions of this email over the past 24 hours, but how to adequately express what this "season" means for all of us in a short email has proven difficult. Therefore, I decided to take on the recommendation of one of our co-workers, and share from the heart.

First, I want to start this Monday morning by acknowledging thankfulness. Thankfulness that the OHA family, from all reports, have gotten through the weekend safely. Thankful for those who worked throughout the weekend to respond timely to help keep our OHA community safe, in good repair and moving forward.

Secondly, I want to affirm that the violence that ended Mr. George Floyd's life, and the lives of too many others, is not acceptable and must end.

Thirdly, I am struck by the fact that we, as a nation, are in this "season" once again. For this to end requires a sincere and immediate change, in systems, and in ethics, in our culture and community.

Finally, I affirm that we, as the Housing Authority of the City of Oakland California, are committed to being a leader for that change.

With that as our charge, in this season of change, I call upon each member of this agency to join me as we respond with righteous indignation, to denounce the violence and destruction and use OHA's influence and resources as an agency, to model the change we want to see.

We will lead by re-examining our own organizational culture through respectful engagement, communication, and actions amongst ourselves, our clients, and our partners.

We will lead by continuing to improve our policies, procedures and methods for delivery of service.

We will lead by actively contributing to local and nationally advocacy to influence systems change.

I echo the words of former President Barack Obama:,

"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."



Please remember to practice social distancing and wear a face covering.

REMEMBER: if you have reasonable suspicion that you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 or if you are experiencing symptoms of fever (100.4 Fahrenheit or higher), coughing, or shortness of breath, do not report to work. Immediately contact your primary care provider and then your supervisor for instructions on what you need to do next. If you have any questions regarding your schedule, please contact your supervisor or Director. If you have questions in regards to pay or leave time, please contact Human Resources at (510) 874-1575.

REMINDERS

Social Distancing and Face Masks

Use a cloth face covering that covers the nose and mouth whenever interacting with another person at OHA, walking through common spaces, and if you are in the rare situation that you are in a vehicle with another person. Team members working independently in a vacant unit may opt to not wear a face covering while working alone in the unit. Similarly, if working in an office, you may opt to not use a face covering while in your work area alone and you are keeping to the 6 ft. Social Distancing Space requirements. If someone comes into your office or within 6ft, you must put on your face covering.

Daily Check-In

Each employee, whether working remotely (at home) or at an OHA site must complete the Daily Check-In each morning prior to 9:15am. This is a short form that indicates where you are physically located and assist your supervisor and/or director in easily identifying which team members are available and where they are, for safety and scheduling purposes.

The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) now recommends use of face masks. Read more.

Download, print and use patterns below to make properly fitting face masks.

How to make a face mask (with YouTube video)

Large Adult Mask Pattern Small & Medium Face Mask Pattern

Young Kids (7-12 Yrs) Face Mask Pattern Small Kids (3-6 Yrs) Face Mask Pattern

To learn about resources that are available to OHA employees during this current health crisis, visit the previous **Direct to You**:

https://mailchi.mp/6770d9e99283/direct-to-you?e=822c0d5b41



