# EQUAL HOUSING

## NOTICE OF SMOKE-FREE POLICY



The Owner of the housing project in which you reside has determined that it is in the best interests of the residents, Project employees, visitors/guests, and Owner to prohibit smoking anywhere on the premises of the Project. This Notice will provide you information about this new policy, which Is to be effective **September 1, 2024**.

#### WHERE?

All Project buildings and offices shall be smokefree. Smoking is prohibited in all living units, including any associated balconies, decks, or patios, and in the common areas of the buildings, including, but not limited to, community rooms, community bathrooms, lobbies, reception areas, hallways, laundry rooms, stairways, offices, and elevators.

Smoking is prohibited anywhere on the grounds of the Project, including but not limited to entryways, patios, parking lots, gazebos, green space, and patios.

## WHY?

This smoke-free policy is intended to benefit the Project and the residents, guests, and staff of the Project by mitigating (I) the irritation and known adverse health effects of secondhand smoke; (2) the increased maintenance, cleaning, and redecorating costs caused by smoking; (3) the increased risk of fire from smoking; and (4) the higher costs of fire insurance for a non-smokefree building.

## WHAT?

"Smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other lighted tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, including hookahs and marijuana, whether natural or synthetic, in any manner, and in any form.

#### WHO?

This smokefree policy is applicable to all persons present on the grounds of the Project, including but not limited to residents, Project employees, guests of residents, guests of employees, visitors, contractors, volunteers, and vendors.

Under Arkansas law, a person granted the privilege of utilizing marijuana for medicinal purposes must still comply with a smoke-free policy, but may utilize other methods otherwise legal and not in violation of the smoke-free policy.

# WHEN?

This smokefree policy will be effective **September 1, 2024**, which provides at least one (I) year's notice to affected persons. Prior to the end date of your current lease, if you intend to remain a resident, a new lease will be executed (or an addendum to lease) that includes your agreement to abide by the smoke-free policies that will be effective September I, 2024. If you are currently under a month-to-month lease, you must sign a new lease agreement (and addenda as necessary) prior to August 1, 2024 that will include an agreement to abide by the smoke-free policies that will be effective September 1, 2024.

#### **REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION?**

HUD has made clear that a request for an accommodation to not apply the smoke-free policy and allow smoking on the premises, based on a covered class such as disability, is NOT a reasonable accommodation. HUD has also made clear that addiction to nicotine is not itself a disability. Upon request, PPM can provide information on where to find assistance with quitting.

[Acknowledgement of Receipt of Notice of Smoke-Free Policy on following page]

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The Fair Housing Act, as amended, prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings, and in other housing related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status (including children under the age of 18 living with parents of legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18), and handicap (disability), Complaints of discrimination may be forwarded to the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Room 5204, 451 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20410-2000 or call (voice) 1-800-669-9777, 1-817-978-5900 or (TTY) 1-817-978-5595.

USDA's Non-Discrimination Statement In accordance with Federal civil rights Jaw and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, USDA, its Mission Areas, agencies, staff offices, employees. and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language) should contact the responsible Mission Area, agency, or staff office; the USDA TAR GET Center at (202) 720- 2600 (voice and TTY); or the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF SMOKE-FREE POLICY

I acknowledge and agree that I have received a copy of the Notice of Smoke-Free Policy, have read such Notice, and understand that, to remain a tenant after September 1, 2024, I will have to contractually agree, in writing, to abide by the Smoke-Free Policy that will become effective September 1, 2024.

Tenant Name - Printed
Signature
Date
Tenant Name – Printed
Signature
Date
Project Name
Unit Number
Management Representative
Date