

Sorry  
**IT'S  
LATE**

HERE IS FEBRUARY'S  
NEWSLETTER



### **A word from Housing Director Shirley “Dodie” De La Rosa:**

Dear Tulalip Community,

I want to share an update on the housing department including some big changes and exciting things, we have coming up:

#### **Changes in our department:**

Tanisha (Tawny) Fryberg has accepted a new position within our department; she is now the Emergency Housing Coordinator. Please join us in thanking her for being a part of our journey over the years. It has been an honor to work with her, and we are grateful for the skills and knowledge she has shared over the years. We look forward to all you will bring in your new role!

Regina Lane-Zackuse will be the new Housing Manager. She will be overseeing all housing developments, as well as continue to oversee the rental vouchers, emergency rental vouchers, and rental deposits.

We anticipate this move will take about three months for Regina and Tawny to work together to complete the changeover as seamlessly as possible. Thank you in advance for your patience during this transition.

#### **Up and Coming Projects:**

##### **Silver Village:**

Tulalip Housing Department understands there are drainage problems within our neighborhoods that may cause mold in the homes. Dean Henry has been a big advocate regarding these issues. He came to me and asked what we could do together in order to help with the drainage issues that may cause mold. We discussed which housing development we should start with that needs the most assistance at this time. As a collective, we agreed that Silver Village needed to be first. Thank you Dean Henry for caring for the community.

The Housing Department, Healthy Homes Department, and Grants Department worked together to apply for HUD’s Healthy Homes grant, which we were awarded. The Healthy Homes grant awarded is for \$1, 971,619 million. The grant will repair, refurbish and/or seal the crawl spaces and fix spouts. Please understand that this is a big project. I have broken down the Silver Village project into four phases. It will take more grants to complete this project.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR INFO ON ALL OUR PROGRAMS**

[HTTPS://WWW.TULALIPHOUSING.ORG/HUDHOUSING](https://www.tulaliphousing.org/ HUDHOUSING)

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I am currently working on applying for these grants when they come up. There will be income requirements for the grant, and it is only for houses in Silver Village. Each person will need to fill out an application and provide all documentation at the time the application is processed. The housing department will reach out to Silver Village tenants and homeowners before we start the project with more information and applications to apply.

Housing is still working on the required environmental review before we receive the grant award and will be hiring a project manager and intake coordinator to help follow all grant requirements and process all applications accordingly for Healthy Homes.

### **Tax Credit 1:**

The transfer plan is still under review with the Washington State Housing Finance Department. Once approved, I will have to present it to management and the Board of Directors and receive final approval from the board. I am currently working on the Tax Credit 1 policy for the conversion process to becoming a homeowner and all the agreements. I want to stress that if current residents do not want to buy their home, they do not have to; they can choose to rent. Please be on the lookout for more information. While we are waiting for final approval, you may opt to take the budgeting and credit classes the Wellness team facilitates to start on the journey of buying your home.

### **Church site:**

The park has just received grading, and the planning department has approved the building permits. The playground equipment will be here by the projected date of April 27, 2024. The playground is projected to be completed this year. There have been delays, and Housing Department wants to thank the community for their patience.

### **Department Differences:**

In the past and for many years, Housing, Leasing and Construction were one department. We are no longer one department.

I want to break down the two departments that house our tribal members. The Tulalip Housing Department (TTHD) is HUD, Low income, tax credit and rental vouchers: we are affordable housing. HUD housing works with people who have income below 80% of the median income and Low income tax below 60% median income.

The former Leasing Department has changed their name to Housing and Community Development Department. They manage land leases, workforce rental units, elderly and disabled individuals, and homes acquired through their mutual help housing program.

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### **Wellness Team Updates**

The Tulalip Housing Department (TTHD) had our first Community Events with the “Healthy Relationships” and “In Their Shoes” classes put on by the Children’s Advocacy Center and Legacy of Healing. We had a nice turn out at both classes and participants provided a lot of positive feedback. We look forward to working with them again in the future.

The Tulalip Housing Department (TTHD) is focusing on building community connection and improving the relationship between staff and tenants. One of the ways we have started this is by having Neighborhood Community Connections meetings. These meetings have occurred monthly over the last two years.

Starting this year we are going to start having Tenant and Community Events. Tenant Events are for anyone living within a TTHD units or a rental voucher. We had our first Tenant Event - Intro to Beading on Thursday February 22nd.

### **Maintenance Updates**

TTHD Maintenance teams have installed hose bib covers on all units. These hose bib covers are insulated and designed to help prevent pipes and water sources from freezing during the winter months. It is important that if you remove it to use the water source, you need to replace it.

Maintenance Grounds Crew have visited all the playgrounds in the neighborhoods and assessed them for missing, damaged and broken parts. The purchase and scheduling repairs for the playground equipment is underway and neighborhoods with playgrounds should expect to see repair crews in the coming months. In the meantime, if you see or notice any broken or damaged playground equipment, please report it to Tenant Services.

Grounds Maintenance will soon be looking to hire seasonal staff for the spring and summer months. As well as two maintenance techs. If you think are interested, or you think you may qualify, apply online at the Tulalip Tribes employment website.

### **Contact Numbers**

#### **Tulalip Utilities**

(360) 716-4840

#### **Leasing**

#### **Department**

360-716-4448

#### **Tenant Services**

360-716-4580

#### **Housing After Hours**

#### **Emergency Line:**

425-622-4855

#### *Emergencies include:*

- Leaks, flooding of sinks/toilets
- Electrical/hot water issues
- Appliances break
- Locked out/lost keys

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