# Affordable Housing Basics



#### Teaneck Township May 23, 2018



### Affordable Housing in New Jersey:

- Mt Laurel Court Decisions
- Constitution Obligation
- Realistic Opportunity
- New Jersey Fair Housing Act
- Regional & Municipal Need
- Administration & Enforcement



## Who is Served?

- Regional Median Income
- Up to 30% of RMI
  - = Very Low Income
- Between 30% and 50% of RMI
  - = Low Income
- Between 50% and 80% RMI = Moderate Income



### Affordable Housing Administration:

- Setting Initial Rents
- Affirmative Marketing
- Maintaining the Applicant Pool
- Randomization of Applications
- Certifying Households
- Managing Rental Rates
- Records Management



#### Prior to the Leasing Process:

Units are Marketed

 Regional Marketing (Bergen, Hudson, Passaic and Sussex Counties)

#### Applications are Distributed

- Mail & Email
- Downloaded On-Line at HousingQuest.com
- Leasing Office
- Municipal Building
- Applications are Received & Data Entered
  Letters of Preliminary Determination



#### Prior to the Process:

- No less than 60 days after the start of Affirmative Marketing.
- Random Prioritization
  - AKA "Lottery"
  - All Preliminary Applications are assigned a unique, randomly selected priority number.
  - All pre-screened applicants receive notice of #.
- After the "Lottery" Application are processed on a first-come, first -served basis.



## Affordable Housing Criteria

- Regional Preference Household Size Maximum Income • Per NJ-COAH Chart Minimum Income • Rent + Utilities <= 35% of Gross
  - Annual Income40% Senior Properties





## Managing the Waiting List



Associates

- Household Size
- Income Level
- Priority Order
- Notifications
- Annual MailingStatus Record



# #1 Notice of Availability - Rental

## Leasing Agent provides...

- Apartment Number
- Move-Out Date
- No. Bedrooms
- Affordability
  - very low
  - low

Associates

moderate





## #2 Final Applications Mailed

- 5 Applications per Unit
- Applicants Must...
  - Contact Leasing Office 7 Days
  - Submit Application to Piazza 14 Days
- Piazza Sends List to Leasing Agent
  - Includes Contact Information
- Leasing Agent Follows Up



## #3 Final Applicants Respond

## Leasing Agents...

- Show Unit & Answer Questions
- Complete Rental Application
- Maintain List of Applicants Responding

#### Piazza...

- Quick Review of "Stated" Income
- Coordinates Responses w/ Leasing Agent
  Tracks Priority Place on Waiting List



# #4 Credit Checks

## Piazza...

- Maintains Priority Order
- Authorizes Credit Review
- Only When Unit Available to Applicant

## Leasing Agent...

- Requests Credit Check from Management
- If Approved, Contacts Piazza
- If Denied, Sends Letter & Contacts Piazza



# **#5 Review of Final Application**



#### Piazza...

- Reviews Final Application
  & Docs.
- Makes a Determination
- Mails Status Letter to Applicant
- Informs Leasing Agent



# #6 Final Approval

#### Piazza...

- Notifies Leasing Agent
- Provides Copy of Letter
- And Certification Forms

## • Leasing Agent...



- Financial Form Signed by Tenant & Agent
- Regulatory Form Signed & Notarized
- Both Sent to Piazza w/ Copy of Signed Lease



# **#7 Annual Reporting**

Piazza...

Sends Management Allowable
 Increases and Income Limits

- Leasing Agent...
  - Sends Piazza a Rent Roll Every Year
  - Notifies Tenants of Maximum Increase



# Thank you!

#### Download Applications: www.HousingQuest.com Email us: Info@HousingQuest.com Phone us at: 609-786-1100

