March 16, 2020

Administrator Bruce Lammers  
Rural Housing Service  
1400 Independence Ave. SW, Rm 5014  
Washington, DC 20250-0701

Dear Administrator Lammers:

In light of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, we are writing to encourage the Rural Housing Service (RHS) to release much-needed guidance to rural housing stakeholders.

As you know, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has released a variety of guidance materials for their stakeholders. RHS multifamily property owners, operators and tenants, as well as those with loans through RHS’s single-family programs, could benefit from similar guidance and an open flow of communication with RHS during this uncertain time. We encourage RHS to make guidance available, in consultation with the White House Coronavirus Task Force, HUD, and – most importantly – stakeholders on the ground.

HAC stands ready to help in any way we can and encourages RHS to take swift action to release COVID-19 guidance for both multifamily and single-family stakeholders.

Thank you again for your time and consideration, and we wish you and the RHS team health during this time of uncertainty.

Sincerely,

David Lipsetz  
CEO, Housing Assistance Council