Subject: Clarification of Leave/Discharge/Delayed Reentry Policy for AFRH-Gulfport Residents Affected by Hurricane Katrina

Since our AFRH-Gulfport Town Hall meeting held in the Scott Auditorium on September 15, 2005, many Gulfport residents have visited the AFRH-Washington Resident Services Office to obtain further guidance on this issue. Effective immediately the following policy is in effect for all AFRH-Gulfport residents displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

DEFINITIONS:

a. **Residents of the Home Status**: This category pertains to all Gulfport residents who decide to remain at AFRH without interruption. These individuals will be given **top priority** when reconstruction occurs – hopefully to their same, or similar room, depending on the results of environmental and structure surveys being conducted. (Residents in this category are assigned Priority 1A.)

b. **New Residents residing at AFRH-Washington who have AFRH-Gulfport Report Dates**: Residents who made application to AFRH-Gulfport and subsequently decided to reside at AFRH-Washington awaiting availability of a room at Gulfport and who have lived at AFRH-Washington continuously (without Discharge) are assigned Priority Code 1B.

c. **Regular Leave Status**: A Gulfport resident can sign out on leave anytime he or she wishes. While in a Regular Leave Status, the resident will continue to pay his normal monthly resident fee.

d. **Discharge Status**: Residents who decide to leave the Home with no intention of returning can take a Discharge from the Home. When a resident elects a Discharge they discontinue paying their normal Resident Fee starting the day after their discharge. Residents who are discharged under this category do not receive any priority or waiver from the readmission process. Residents taking a normal Discharge should process out with the AFRH Resident Services Office (Ms. Becky Perry, AFRH Resident Services Office, (202) 730-3336).

e. **Delayed Reentry Status**: If you are a Gulfport resident who has recently been relocated to Washington, and for whatever reason you decide you don’t want to reside in Washington, you can notify the AFRH Agency Admissions Office – Ms. Sheila Abarr on (202) 730-3043, that you wish to be put on the Delayed Reentry list. When you actually depart the Washington facility you will also stop making your monthly resident fee payments the day
after your discharge. As a Delayed Reentry resident, you may return to the Home without going through the normal reapplication process for up to one year from the date of your discharge. However, any Delayed Reentry resident who does not return to the Home during the first five months from the date of their discharge will be required to obtain and submit updated “physical” medical documentation. Gulfport residents who wish to take advantage of the Delayed Reentry status must do so before September 15, 2006. (Residents in this category will be given a Priority 1C status.)

Example: If you are a Gulfport resident and you decide to leave the Home on September 26, 2005 and have requested Delayed Reentry status prior to leaving the Home, you would be able to reenter the Home on a priority basis without taking a physical up to February 26, 2006 (five months) and up to September 26, 2006 (one year) without reapplying for readmission, but you will be required to obtain and submit updated physical documentation after February 26, 2006.

Delayed Reentry residents will be given priority on gaining reentry to the Home for one year from the date of their original discharge – immediately following those residents who never left the Home. In the event the Home(s) reach capacity, Delayed Reentry residents will be accommodated in the order their name appears on the Delayed Reentry List maintained by the AFRH Admissions Office. It is strongly suggested that any Gulfport resident who leaves the Home add their name to this list prior to leaving to ensure they have priority and that they do not have to go through the readmission process for one year. Residents who choose the Delayed Reentry category should process out through the AFRH-Washington Resident Services Admission Office, Ms. Becky Perry (202) 730-3336, and then contact Ms. Sheila Abarr (202) 730-3043 to register for the Delayed Reentry list.

f. **Current Prospective Gulfport Residents with Report Dates:** Individuals who were prospective residents of AFRH-Gulfport when Hurricane Katrina occurred and who actually had report dates will be assigned Priority 1D status. Priority 1D status prospective residents will be admitted to the Home when no Priority 1A/B/C resident name appears on the waiting list. Priority 1D residents must have an up-to-date application and medical documentation available when they are admitted.

g. **Current Prospective Gulfport Residents who have been Approved for Admission to the Home, but who do not have Report Dates:** Prospective residents who were approved for admission to the Gulfport facility when Hurricane Katrina occurred, but did not have a report date assigned, will be assigned Priority 1E.

All category 1A individuals will be assigned rooms first, followed by Priority 1B, 1C, 1D or 1E names (in that order) awaiting admission. After all priority lists have been satisfied, applications will be processed from new prospective (post Hurricane Katrina) residents.
QUESTIONS/GUIDANCE

Residents who have questions or need additional guidance on this policy should contact Ms. Sheila Abarr on (202) 730-3043.

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Chief Operating Officer

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