IMPORTANT NOTICE

YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA)

Please be informed that the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is a federal law that provides legal protections to applicants and tenants of assisted housing, male or female, who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The Housing Authority and/or your Landlord may not consider incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking for denial of assistance or as serious or repeated violations of the lease or other “good cause” for termination of assistance, tenancy or occupancy rights of the victim of abuse.

The Housing Authority and/or your Landlord may not consider criminal activity directly related to abuse, engaged in by a member of a tenant’s household or any guest or other person, cause for denial of assistance or for termination of assistance, tenancy, or occupancy rights if the tenant or an immediate member of the tenant’s family is the victim or threatened victim of that abuse.

The Housing Authority and/or your Landlord may request written certification or other documentation to prove or certify that the individual is a victim of abuse.

If you believe that VAWA protections apply to your household, you must complete the Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence or Stalking, HUD form 50066, or submit other documentation as noted on the certification form to the Housing Authority and/or your landlord within 14 business days after requested to receive protection under the VAWA.  Form 50066 may be obtained from the Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara Main Office at 808 Laguna Street, Santa Barbara CA or from our website at [www.hacsb.org](http://www.hacsb.org).

All information that you provide related to domestic violence incidents must be kept confidential by your housing provider. Failure to provide the certification or other supporting documentation within the specified timeframe may result in denial of relief for protection under VAWA and may result in eviction and/or termination of your housing assistance. For questions or further information, you may visit our office at the above address or contact us at (805) 965-1071.

For help and advice on escaping an abusive relationship, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 or for persons with hearing impairments, 1-800-787-3224 (TTY). You may also contact Domestic Violence Solutions for Santa Barbara County, 24-hr Crisis Hotline at (805) 964-5245, or for information and non-emergency calls (805) 963-4458. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA