

The Ladybird Resident Council Charter

DRAFT Document January 2025

BACKGROUND

THE AUSTIN GERIATRIC CENTER DBA RBJ SENIOR HOUSING

The Austin Geriatric Center is the nonprofit corporation that owns and operates The Ladybird apartments and does business under the name RBJ Senior Housing. Hereafter, the nonprofit corporation will be referred to as RBJ Senior Housing. According to the corporation bylaws of RBJ Senior Housing, for each property that it owns and operates, including The Ladybird, a Resident Council will be established and have specific duties as outlined below.

MISSION, PURPOSE & MEMBERSHIP

MISSION

The Resident Council is a tenant-led group whose mission is to improve the lives of residents living at The Ladybird.

PUPORSE

This Resident Council Charter summarizes the responsibilities and authorities for the Resident Council as defined by RBJ Senior Housing and the tenants.

MEMBERSHIP

All residents who hold a lease at The Ladybird apartments are members of the Resident Council and can attend and participate in Resident Council meetings. In addition, the RBJ Senior Housing Board of Directors will appoint five members to oversee and lead the activities of the Resident Council, “Resident Council Leadership,” which shall be informed by the larger membership.

OVERVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Resident Council will follow these guidelines to ensure that the resources, activities, and coordination of the Resident Council are organized and structured to achieve its mission of improving the lives of residents living at The Ladybird.

OPERATING A RESIDENT COUNCIL

I. REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular and consistent meetings of the membership are critical to the functioning of the Resident Council. To that end, the Resident Council will strive for monthly meeting and at a minimum meet at least 4 times per year. Other Resident Council Committees and Workgroups will establish meeting schedules necessary to carry out their purpose and scope of work.

II. RESIDENT COUNCIL SELECTION

The Resident Council follows the RBJ Senior Housing Board of Directors bylaws in selecting Resident Council Leadership. The RBJ Board of Directors bylaws state, “the members shall be selected by [RBJ Board of Directors] or its agent. The Resident Council shall have no more than five members seated on Resident Council Leadership, and each member shall serve for a term of one year. A Chair for the Resident Council leadership will be elected by the membership.

III. DUTIES OF RESIDENT COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The duties of the Resident Council shall be:

- Communicate problems and other needs of the fellow residents to the RBJ Senior Housing Board of Directors;
- Identify property improvements that may be needed; and

- Make recommendations to the RBJ Senior Housing Board of Directors for the types of services the nonprofit corporation should be providing for the Property's residents.

IV. GROUP AGREEMENTS

Group agreements are essential for creating a safe, productive and collaborative environment. Resident Council membership is expected to uphold the following group agreements:

- Respect each other's opinions and differences. We don't always have to agree.
- Remember to raise your hand if you have a question or comment.
- Be an active listener and "try it on," be open to new ideas and possibilities.
- Keep your remarks under 2 minutes to give everyone a chance to speak and avoid interrupting others when they speak.
- There are no dumb questions. Ask for clarification if there is something you do not understand.