



Brazos Valley Affordable Housing Corporation

P.O. Drawer 4128

Bryan, Texas 77805-4128

Dear Brazos Valley Resident:

This year, the Brazos Valley Affordable Housing Corporation is undertaking a major study of the housing needs of residents in the Brazos Valley. **The purpose of this study is to learn about the housing preferences of those who seek to purchase or rent affordable housing within the Brazos Valley, yet outside the City Limits of Bryan College Station, and any barriers faced in entering the local housing markets as a renter or a buyer.** We realize that your time is precious. We strongly believe that your participation in this study will help us realize our goal of providing affordable housing opportunities for those residents who seek them.

We are working with a team of researchers from the Center of Housing and Urban Development at Texas A&M University. **This team of researchers will be conducting a series of focus groups and phone surveys with interested residents in each of the counties in the Brazos Valley.** The meetings will likely be held in the evening and not last longer than two hours. Dinner will be served. These focus groups will be held Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights during the last two weeks of March 2006 and the first two weeks of April 2006. **Focus group participants will be compensated with \$25.00 gift cards from a local retailer such as Wal-Mart or Brookshire Bros.** Gift cards will be distributed at the end of the focus group session.

It is important for you to know that **there are no risks to you associated with participating in this study.** The research team will keep your responses confidential and will not disclose your name to the Brazos Valley Affordable Housing Corporation. We want you to feel free to share your opinions.

Please contact Dr. Dawn Jourdan at Texas A&M University, 979-458-4121, djourdan@archmail.tamu.edu, to express your interest in participating in this study. If she does not answer, please leave a message for her stating your name, your telephone number, the county where you currently reside, and the best time for her to reach you. **If you are interested in participating in a focus group but may not have time to attend one, we would like you to participate in a short, 10-minute telephone survey.**

For more information about this study, please feel free to call Dr. Jourdan to discuss your concerns. We would like to thank you for your efforts to help us ensure that affordable housing is being built in the Brazos Valley.

Respectfully,



Paul Turney, Executive Vice President
Brazos Valley Affordable Housing Corporation