

The attached letter was sent from Tamara Garrett, a resident of Meadowlark Court Apartments in Myrtle Creek, to Rob Prasch with the Network for Oregon Affordable Housing. Meadowlark is one of two Oregon Rural Development properties with a maturing mortgage in 2015. On March 28, 2015, the Meadowlark residents received notice that their RD Rental Assistance will be terminated in August of 2015. 5 month notice does not provide adequate time for residents to try to locate alternate subsidized housing or secure tenant-based assistance. Tamara is understandably upset and worried about what she will do when her Rental Assistance is terminated in August.

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Rob Prasch,

4-7-15

Thank-you for taking your time to talk with me, for your concern with Meadowland and the people who live here. You were a light of hope in a dark place. I am not a down or depressed person. But lately I have been just that. The thought of leaving my home, #19 Meadowland, has me in a depression and sadness I can't seem to pull out of. I can't imagine being anywhere else. Meadowland #19 has been my home for the past 18 years. My life is settled here. I have made true friends here. Some have moved, yet, friends for a lifetime. My family is close by. My Doctor is across the street. I have a little garden. Most plants my children have given me. To leave my garden would be like leaving my children, never to see them again. I have watched 18 years of beautiful sunsets from my back porch. I have seen my grandchildren from the play ground here at Meadowland to graduating from college. I have had Christmas parties, small gathering of friends. I have so many memories here.

It's a Simple Life I have. I exist at an almost poverty level. Still, there is nothing I want for. Never a day goes by that I am not grateful for all I have, my family, friends, my home. I am 73 years old. I have lived 18 years of my life here at Meadowland. I have no where else I want to be. I cannot afford to move. I feel safe here. I have this little 4 pound dog. for the past 2 years she has been my friend, my companion, and a service dog for my hearing impairment. This is her home too. The river across the street. the Trails we walk. We don't want to be anywhere else. Meadowland is our place, our nest.

It's hard to put down in a few pages the joy I have had here at Meadowland these past 18 years. The friends, the memories, my garden. How lucky I have been to plant a flower and watch it grow. Harder still is the thought of loosing all that has been my home for these past years. I am really much too old for this to be happening at this stage of my life.

I have felt a Sadness of depression ever since the first letter of talking Meadowlark out of low income. I Wake up at night with this fear of moving and leaving all this behind. To go where? I roll these what if's through my mind a hundred times a day. What if Meadowlark Sells at the last min. & can be put back into low income or R.D. housing. What if by chance my rent doesn't go up that much. What if there be a miracle.

Well Rob, you and your wonderful company are our miracle. You are our only hope. You brought light to a dark place in my life. Thank-you for talking to me. As I said you were the answer to a prayer. I read your pamphlet and find it amazing what you do and have done for communities. With your Affordable Housing Preservation, you're all we have left to hope for. Please consider Meadowlark in your A.H.P. program. Thank-you for your time and giving hope and light to a dark space.

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