



RESIDENT SERVICES NEWSLETTER

MAY 2023

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Spring 2023 SMHA Resident Employment Fair



Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA) and the Greater Stark County Urban League are hosting an employment fair designed for SMHA residents only. The event will be held at the Edward Peel Coleman Community Center located at 1400 Sherrick Rd. SE, Canton, OH, 44707, May 23rd, 11:00 AM- 2:00 PM. Employers Present will be SMHA, First Commonwealth Bank, The M.K. Morse Company, Canton City Public Health, YWCA Canton, AWP Safety, and Spectrum. For more information contact Tiffany Ford, Lead Navigator, at (330) 331-6044.

More About the Greater Stark County Urban League

The Greater Stark County Urban League is located at 1400 Sherrick Rd. SE, Canton, OH. They have Workforce Development Navigators that will guide you whether you are unemployed and looking for work, or if you already have a job but want a better one. For more information go to www.starkurbanleague.org.



SMHA WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 29, 2023

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Staff at SMHA are eagerly working to find different ways we can help improve our sites, services and overall experience for you our residents. One area that SMHA is working on is increasing security at our various sites ahead of this summer. SMHA is doubling our security staff to ensure we have more patrols and presence at our sites. In addition, we are partnering with various police departments throughout Stark County to increase security at our sites on evenings and weekends. SMHA's goal is to ensure our families can enjoy their homes, properties, and communities. Our internal team is also looking for opportunities to improve the physical structures with HUD funding. SMHA staff will be working to get contracts in place to replace roofs, windows, hot water tanks and address other physical issues within our housing sites in Stark County.

Last, I wanted to mention that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Everyone struggles at different points of their lives with mental health issues. Some Serious Mental Illnesses (SMI) can affect an individual's ability to enjoy their lives and prosper. Other people struggle with day to day anxiety, depression and general unease. Its important that we normalize mental health and do not see it as a weakness. It's important that we treat mental health ailments just like we would a broken arm or a nasty cold. Seeking help and assistance can drastically improve lives.

I am excited for warmer weather and getting more opportunities to get out and meet many of you. I will be at Jackson Sherrick for community meetings in late April and May and look forward to many more soon.

Regards,
Josh

Josh Crites (he/him/his)
Executive Director
Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority

JURISDICTION WIDE RESIDENT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, May 16th at 6:00 PM
at SMHA's Central Office
400 E Tuscarawas St.
Canton, OH 44702

Please contact Diana Hickman at
(330) 413-3251 to reserve your space and
secure transportation by 5/9/2023

Congratulations to the new
Jurisdiction Wide Resident Council Officers

Panther Spurlin, President
and
Carol Paul, Secretary

ACTIVE RESIDENT COUNCILS :

Plaza Terrace Apartments- Canton
Next meeting Tuesday, May 9th at 5PM

RESIDENT SERVICES

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May is Mental Health Awareness Month

SMHA
Coffee, Crafts & Counselors
 Join us to talk about mental wellbeing
 Enjoy complimentary coffee, arts & crafts and speak with a local counselor about what's important to you!
Date: Friday May 5th
Time: 11am - 1pm
Location: SMHA Central Office
 RSVP Required
 ssweat@starkmha.org
 Only 20 spots available

To celebrate Mental Health Awareness Month, SMHA will be hosting a Coffee, Crafts, and Counselors event on Friday, May 5th, 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM. The event will be held at SMHA's Central Office Located at 400 Tuscarawas St. E., Canton, OH, 44702. Come enjoy a cup of coffee, crafts and have a conversation with a counselor. All conversations are confidential and held one-on-one with a counselor. There are only 20 spots available. You must RSVP.

Contact Sapri Sweat at (330)454-8051 ext. 365 or ssweat@starkmha.org to secure your spot.

Are You Pregnant? -Your Health and the Health of Your Baby are Important



Are you pregnant and can benefit from being connected to community services and support? Community Health Worker (CHW), Panther Spurlin, is available to assist you in decision making during pregnancy. She can link you to services in the community that can help you and your baby. This is a free program, covered by your insurance, that can help you have a healthy pregnancy and delivery. Your health and the health of your baby are important. Panther Spurlin, CHW, can help provide education, support, and connection to community resources.

Your interactions with Ms. Spurlin are confidential and protected under HIPPA. **If you or someone you know can benefit from the support of a CHW, contact Panther Spurlin, at 234-214-4286 or email pspurlin@starkmha.org to schedule an appointment today!**

www.StarkHelpCentral.com
 For connections to food, rental, utilities, health care, and other resources.
FREE, accessible 24/7/365 and completely confidential.

JACKSON SHERRICK RESIDENTS- YOU'RE INPUT IS NEEDED

Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA) will be applying for a Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grant that will be funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. What this means is that Jackson Sherrick may qualify for funding due to its status as a neighborhood with distressed housing. Choice Neighborhoods will focus on three core goals: Housing, People, and Neighborhood. We invite you to attend an informational session on **Thursday, May 11 at 12:00 p.m.**, in the Jackson Sherrick community room. Come learn more about the grant proposal and share your feedback, comments, and suggestions on how to move forward. **If there are any questions, please call (330) 454-8051.**

social media /StarkMHA @StarkMHA @StarkMHA

Pop-up Food Pantry at Jackson Sherrick

Pop Up Pantry Food Distribution
 2nd Wednesday of the month
 12pm-2pm
 Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority
 Jackson Sherrick Homes
 1315 Gonder Ave SE
 Canton, Ohio 44707
 Questions? Please call 330.535.6900

The Akron-Canton Food Bank is partnering with SMHA to provide a pop-up food pantry at Jackson Sherrick Homes. The pop-up pantry visit is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 10th at 12:00 PM- 2:00 PM.** If you have any questions about the pop-up pantry, call (330) 535-6900.

Save-the-Date
 for SMHA's Summer PASS 2.0
Summer Lunch Program
 Your Summer PASS to
Summer FUN!
 What Happens During the Summer PASS 2.0 Program?
FREE LUNCH and Fun Activities
 Visits from: YMCA, Stark Library, Stark Parks, and Many More
JUNE 5TH - AUGUST 11TH
MONDAY-FRIDAY, 11:30 AM-2:00 PM
 Lunch Locations: Linwood Acres, Jackson Sherrick, Mahoning Manor, Creeks Crossing, Ellisdale/Leshdale
****lunches have to be eaten on-site, no grab-n-go****
 Contact Resident Services at (330)454-8051 ext. 309 or rs@starkmha.org for more information
KIDS EAT FREE! No Registration • 10 or Younger
 SMHA
 STARK METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY

CANTON SENIOR EXPO
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023
 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
 Cultural Center for the Arts & Canton Memorial Civic Center
 Downtown Canton | 1001 Market Ave. N. Canton
FREE ADMISSION & PARKING
 • 70+ Local Vendors • Health Screenings
 • Autman Health Chats • Bingo
 • Welcome Bag • Price is Right Game
 • Photo Booth • Refreshments
 • Chair Massages • Lunch Available for Purchase (\$3 ticket at the door)
 GET A FREE RESERVATION TICKET
 Pre-Registration online is encouraged, not required. Just come and bring a friend!
 For more information, visit www.facebook.com/CantonSeniorExpo or call 254-347-0032.

Save-the-Date
FRIDAY
August 11, 2023
 Back-to-School Giveaway & Community Resource Fair
 Jackson Sherrick Homes
 1315 Gonder Ave. SE Canton 44707
 Call (330) 454-8051 ext. 309 or email rs@starkmha.org for more info.

STARK COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION PATHWAYS HUB PRESENTS
A GRAB, GO, & GROW BABY SHOWER
 AN EVENT FOR FAMILIES WITH GIVEAWAYS FOR EXPECTING PARENTS AND PARENTS OF CHILDREN UP TO 1 YEAR OLD
 June 3, 2023 | 11 AM to 3 PM
 William Hunter Center
 3015 Mahoning Rd. NE, Canton, OH 44705
 330-454-1676
 GIFTS, PRIZES, FAMILY ACTIVITIES, RESOURCES AND MUCH MORE!
 COMMUNITY ACTION PATHWAYS HUB STARK COUNTY
 HEAD START
 Stark County SCCAA
 Community Action Agency
 CareSource
 Health Care with Heart

Volunteers Needed
 EN-RICH-MENT appreciates the support of volunteers to support the organization. Areas of support include social work, clinical support, event crew and more. Fill out a volunteer form to get started.
 You can find the form here: <https://www.en-rich-ment.org/jobs>
 More Information ☎ 330.544.9724 🌐 WWW.EN-RICH-MENT.ORG

Partnership Summer Camp
June 4 - July 13 2023
 AGES 5 - 18 • 10AM - 3PM
 Does your child enjoy art, singing, cooking, gardening, dancing, acting, learning new things, making new friends and having lots of fun?
IN ADDITION, YOUTH WILL LEARN
 ✓ Team building life skills through games, reading, and interpersonal skill development
 ✓ Artistic skills through vocal music, dance, acting, reading music, creative writing, and production skills
 ✓ Healthy living skills through lessons on eating healthy, gardening, food preparation, and physical exercise with recreation
REGISTER TODAY AT WWW.EN-RICH-MENT.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 330-545-7724