



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 got 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 to 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

(330) 454-8051

Milistine Tatum, MPA

Director, Resident Services - Ext. 318 mtatum@starkmha.org

Tenicia James

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Service Coordinator, Alliance Towers (330) 823-5120 jtroese@starkmha.org

Sapri Sweat

Family Self- Sufficiency Coord. Ext. 365 ssweat@starkmha.org

Panther Spurlin

Community Health Worker Ext. 386 pspurlin@starkmha.org

Marilynn Schoen

Resident Opportunity Self-Sufficiency Service Coord.-Plaza Terrace (330)705-1120 mschoen@starkmha.org

May is Mental Health Awareness Month



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.



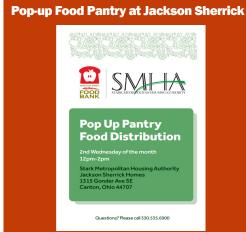


/StarkMHA









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.







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