



SYRACUSE HOUSING AUTHORITY
Building Neighborhoods. Growing Dreams.

Neighborhood News

Spring Edition 2022



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Welcome Everyone to the
Syracuse Housing Authority's Spring Newsletter!

Winter is coming to a close and we are excited to stay connected by resuming and increasing our resident events! We are also focused on our redevelopment projects (I-81 and The New 15th Ward). Please continue to participate in our resident update meetings to stay informed. I hope you enjoy this Newsletter and stay connected with us via our website:

www.syrhousing.org or Facebook: **@syracusehousing**.

Sincerely,

William J. Simmons, Executive Director





I-81 & NEW 15TH WARD UPDATES



"Following the release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in July of 2021, NYSDOT held two virtual public hearings, one in-person public hearing and nine subsequent meetings in neighborhoods and communities in and around the City of Syracuse to discuss the project and elicit feedback. An on-line Virtual Public Outreach Center was also established to provide information on all aspects of the project and instruct users on how to submit comments.

NYSDOT received approximately 8,000 comments from the community which were used to help develop the FEIS.

Based on the public feedback, a roundabout that was initially planned for Martin Luther King Junior East (MLK Jr. East) near the Dr. King Elementary School is no longer being proposed, and Business Loop 81 will no longer connect to MLK Jr. East. Instead, a roundabout is proposed at the intersection of Van Buren and Almond streets. The new location will increase the buffer of property between the elementary school and the proposed Business Loop 81 and will create an improved gateway to University Hill and the Community Grid corridor downtown." For more information visit I-81 Viaduct Project | Department of Transportation ([ny.gov](https://www.ny.gov)), or www.syracusehousing.org.



Senators Schumer and Gillibrand Show Support

Senator Schumer and Senator Gillibrand delivered a press release **request** for the \$50 million CHOICE Neighborhood Grant to be awarded to Syracuse to revitalize the Old 15th Ward Neighborhood and to use the transformation project and I-81 project as a national model for housing transformation in "Reconnecting Communities" divided by highways.





Syracuse Housing Authority is teamed up with RentPayment to provide you with the convenience and security of paying your rent online. Below is a reminder of the benefits of their services as well as the simple steps to sign up if you haven't already.




But there are even more benefits!

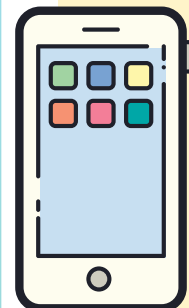
When you use RentPayment, you can:

- Pay rent anytime, anywhere
- Get credit (and peace of mind) for your payment instantly
- Use multiple payment options
- Receive FREE credit reporting service: RentPayment will report your payment to TransUnion
- Skip the paper checks... no more looking for stamps or hunting for envelopes
- Stop paying unnecessary fees!

Credit Card Payment: 2.95% of total transaction
Debit Card Payment: \$4.95 per transaction
Money Gram: \$3.50 fee per transaction
ACH: NO FEE
Check: NO FEE
Pay by Phone (automated): NO FEE
Pay by Phone (live operator): Determined by vendor

And, signing up is **easy**...

-  Simply download the app or visit **RentPayment.com**.
-  Select **New to RentPayment** to set up your account.
-  Add your **preferred payment method** and you're all set!



PAY RENT ONLINE!

Plus, you can securely pay from **anywhere**:



Your Rent. Your Way. **Sign up for RentPayment today.**

Sincerely,
 Syracuse Housing Authority and RentPayment

Have a question or need help setting up your account?
 Contact SHA Resident Support Services (315) 470-4375, your Property Manager
 or RentPayment at customerservice@rentpayment.com

EASY!

Get Banked - and get ready to pay your rent online!

Tired of running around and paying high fees every time you need to cash a check or pay your rent? Do yourself a favor. Start with a Coop Fed savings account which can be opened for as little as \$5; then, consider adding a checking account that works for you for just \$3 per month with no minimum balance requirement!

Syracuse Housing Authority tenants **join by 6/30/2022** and Coop Fed waives the \$10 new member fee!



3 ways to open your account


- **Online** quick and easy. <https://www.coopfed.org/getbankedSHA>
- **In person** at a local branch.* <https://www.coopfed.org/locations>
- SHA staff in your building can also assist.

Build financial strength and reach your goals with Coop Fed and SHA!



NCUA Insured This project is funded in part by the NY Credit Union Foundation.
 *Masks are required at all Coop Fed locations due to COVID-19.



Cooperative Federal 

a non-profit credit union based in Syracuse. Since 1982, we've been dedicated to community empowerment and economic justice. Read more about our mission: www.coopfed.org/about





PARKING AND TOW POLICY

PARKING PERMIT REQUIRED

To park a vehicle on SHA property you **MUST** have a valid SHA parking permit issued by the SHA Security Office.
Any vehicles without a valid parking permit will be **TOWED**.

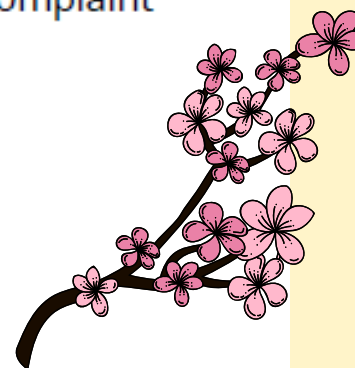
REPORT PARKING COMPLAINTS

If a vehicle is illegally parked or if you would like to report a complaint contact SHA Security.



SHA SECURITY

516 Burt Street, Syracuse NY 13202
315-475-6181 Ext 0



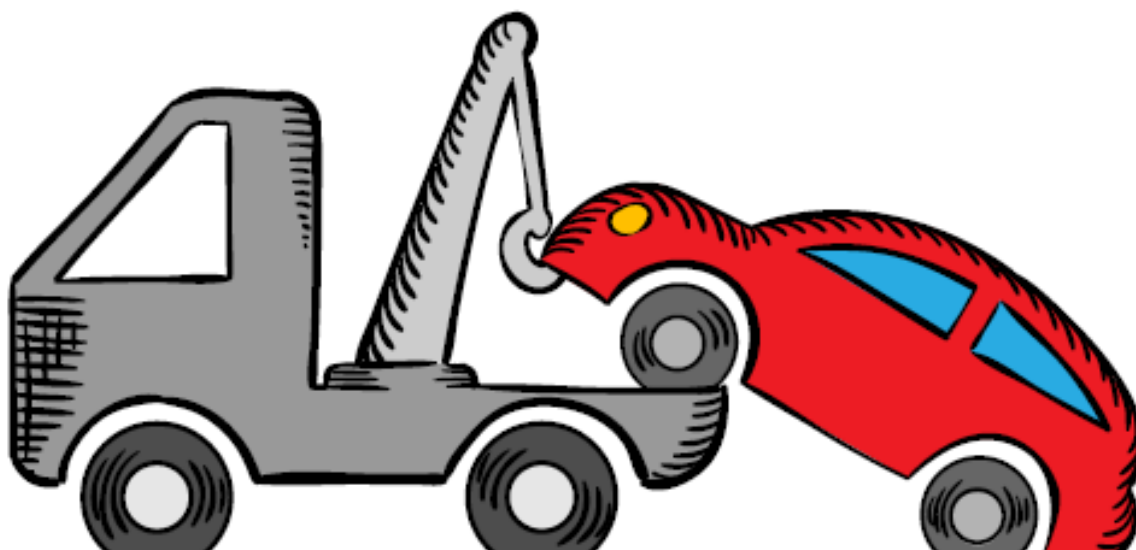
PARKING POLICY

www.syracusehousing.org/parking

TOWED VEHICLES

If your vehicle is towed contact:
Fields Towing

339 Riegel Street, Syracuse, NY 13206
315-475-2498, 315-475-9256



Congratulations

MADELINE COTTO-MORENO

SU CO-Gen Scholarship Award



**DREAM.
ACT.
ACHIEVE.**



SYRACUSE HOUSING AUTHORITY
Building Neighborhoods. Growing Dreams.

LEARN MORE ABOUT SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- SU Co-Generation Steam Plant
- PHADA Scholarship
- NYSPHADA Scholarship
- Todd Eudell SHA Resident Scholarship
- HAI Group Scholarship
- SHA Careers Scholarship and more.....

Contact us:

315-418-5254

Contact: Kim Jackson
kjackson@syrhousing.org

Left to right: Chris Montgomery, William Killory, William Simmons, Madeline Cotto-Moreno, James Ryan, Kaitlyn Jackson, Naya Wallace, Marlene Moreno, Jerline Harper





SECTION 3 PROGRAM NEWS

Minority Prime Contractor Delivers & Installs Rooftop HVAC Systems Using Minority Sub-contractor and Section 3 Workers.



Andrew James is the owner of Heat & Cool Solutions. HCS is a Minority and Section 3 Business Enterprise. Recently they won the prime contract opportunity to install new Make-up Air Units on the roofs of 418 Fabius and 427 Tully Streets. To complete the job he used Section 3 Workers Kinyatta Johnson and Anna Kay McCubbin along with minority sub-contractor John Gomez Jr., of Gomez Comfort Systems.




InfoSHARE
Information for Syracuse Housing Authority's Residents & Employees
"Building Neighborhoods Growing Dreams"



Does your business qualify?

rseigler@syrhousing.org or (315) 470-4270

SECTION 3 PROGRAM NEWS



Reahna McCarthy (C) is a Syracuse Housing Authority resident and a recent high school graduate of the Institute of Technology at Syracuse Central. After graduation she enrolled in the construction technologies class at BOCES. She is pictured with her Instructor John Sweeney (L), and SHA Maintenance Tech, Luis Segarra (R). Luis mentored her throughout a 30 day internship with SHA. She completed the internship as a part of her obligation to graduate from BOCES. SHA has partnered with John Sweeney and BOCES for many years to provide real life learning experiences for his students.

Some of his students have been hired on to work with SHA while others have found opportunities with our contractors and beyond. We will miss the relationship we've built with him as he will be retiring soon after Reahna's graduation and are looking forward to building new relationships once his successor is named. Thanks Mr. Sweeney for the opportunity to work together providing pathways for Section 3 Residents to gain economic stability. Congratulations on your retirement!



DOT Training Class: Pictured L-R Poe Koe, Antwon McMullen, KeShawn Robinson, Eric Deas, Amaury Cepeda, Omar George, Shawncire Gunn, Nlosha Smith, Ralesha Garbutt, Chion Burrage, Marchello Lavender and Kunicha Chisholm.



There are a lot of highly-publicized high-paying-jobs that will be developing in our region over the next few years with Syracuse Surge, BluePrint 15, Interstate 81 and other initiatives. Motivated individuals can take advantage of these upcoming opportunities by positioning themselves with the training and employment experience necessary to land a job and SHA's Section 3 program can help!

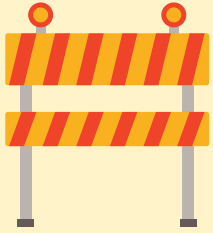
The Department of Transportation and SUNY EOC are hosting programs that train local residents for the upcoming jobs on the I 81 Project. SHA has partnered with EOC to provide the projects and work facilities for their trainees to get real time hands on training.

If you or someone you know are looking to learn more about how you can become a part of the training, reach out to the Section 3 coordinator at (315) 470-4270 or rseigler@syrhousing.org, to be pointed in the right direction.





SECTION 3 PROGRAM NEWS



Above: Purchasing Officer, Kim Muniz and Section 3 Coordinator, Reggie Seigler shows off the pile of RFP responses received from contractors interested in doing Vacant Apartment Preparation and Cleaning, (VAPC) work.

Syracuse Housing Authority (SHA) manages 2,675 public housing units and roughly another 100 low-income tax-credit properties and free standing homes. When the units become vacant the authority uses Section 3 qualified contractors to prepare them for new residents to move in.

Recently eight (8) new contractors were selected to participate in the work. The process to find them began in January when over forty (40) were recruited and invited to attend a workshop to hear about the opportunities and to learn about responding to SHA's Requests For Proposals (RFP).

An RFP is the formal process that the housing authority uses to alert contractors about upcoming work. Contractors are given a few weeks to gather their information and a time and date to respond to respond to the RFP.

An RFP review committee is assembled and upon receiving the responses, score them individually in a variety of areas. Scoring areas include, experience, value, capacity etc. From there each contractor's score is averaged and the top eight are selected.

We would like to congratulate the following new contractors who will be onboarded in April:

•TJ Construction • JCS Contractors • Dr Janitor and Landscaping • Mt Vernon Roots
•BB Construction • Henry Restoration • Leo the Floor Specialist • Solid Rock Construction
The addition of the new contractors brings the total number of Section 3 Business doing VAPC Work at SHA to fourteen (14).





SECTION 3 PROGRAM NEWS



Kalice Strothers sitting in his SHA work-van wearing his SHA uniform.

Section 3 Worker, Kalice Strothers is a former Pioneer Homes' resident and was a regular participant in the Tenant Assistance Program, (TAP). He started participating in TAP as a young teenager and began his working career through the program by doing summer jobs at the Syracuse University's Steam Plant on Burt Street. When he got a little older SU hired him to work full-time on the campus. He then spent nine more years there building up his work experience and learning new skillsets. Finally, he had heard about an open position at SHA and decided to apply. He was hired as a Maintenance Helper and was placed with the crews at James Geddes.

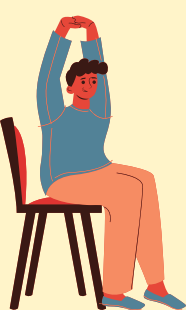
All SHA and Section 8 residents have the potential to become Section 3 workers.

Qualified residents can receive preference on training, employment and contracting opportunities when they arise from the opportunities made available by SHA's spending of HUD's finances. Most of the opportunities become available through SHA's contractors and other partners but sometimes they can be at the Authority itself. It took a while for Kalice to get hired at SHA, but he kept looking ahead and moving forward. **To find out more about becoming a Section 3 program participant contact rseigler@syrhousing.org. As Kalice has shown through his example, it can be a process, but persistence pays!**



SHA hosted an in-house job fair for Section 3 Contractors and workers at Toomey Abbott Towers. There were 18 contractors invited including VAPC Contractors and HVAC contractors, all doing business with SHA. The job seekers were from Syracuse Build, BOCES. DOT and SUNY EOC's training programs

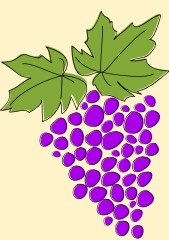




BRYANT AND STRATTON BRING OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TO SHA RESIDENTS



Senior Services Programs are Supported In part by: Onondaga County Department of
Adult & long Term Care Services



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS EDUCATE RESIDENTS ON NUTRITION



Healthy Eating Habits Checklist

Start My Day Healthy

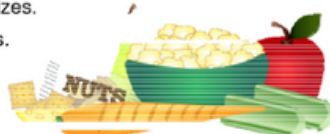
- ☐ I had a healthy breakfast.
- ☐ I ate breakfast within 2 hours from getting up.
- ☐ I limited caffeine.

Healthy Food Choices

- ☐ I chose healthy snacks such as fruit, vegetables, nuts, whole grain crackers, cheese, light popcorn.
- ☐ I ate at least five servings of fruits and vegetables today.
- ☐ I limited foods with lots of sugar.
- ☐ I limited foods with lots of salt.
- ☐ I drank plenty of water.

Eating Tips

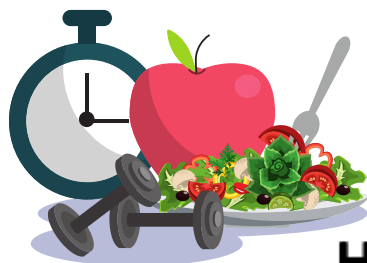
- ☐ I watched my portion sizes.
- ☐ I tried a variety of foods.
- ☐ I enjoyed my food!
- ☐ I ate s-l-o-w-l-y.
- ☐ I ate when hungry.
- ☐ I stopped eating when full.



Keep my Food Safe and my Kitchen Clean!

- ☐ I washed my hands.
- ☐ I put away food after eating.
- ☐ I cleaned up the kitchen before and after eating.





PRESENTS

"Investing in your Health"

Sponsored by: Nascentia Health

Health Lunch & Learn Series

Location:	Ross Towers BUILDING TENANTS <u>ONLY</u> (Est. 25 people)	
Thursday	Time: 12-1pm	Caterer: Ernie Tuff Catering
5/12	Topic: COPD Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	
5/19	Topic: Diabetes Care	
5/26	Topic: Nutrition- Health Eating	
6/2	Topic: Alzheimer vs. Aging	



IF YOU COMPLETE ALL 4 Thursdays you will be eligible to win a \$100.00 GIFT CARD

More you go the more chances you have to win!

Location:	TAT Towers BUILDING TENANTS <u>ONLY</u> (Est. 25 people)	
Thursday	Time: 12-1pm	Caterer: Ernie Tuff Catering
6/9	Topic: COPD Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	
6/16	Topic: Diabetes Care	
6/23	Topic: Nutrition-Health Eating	
6/30	Topic: Alzheimer vs. Aging	



IF YOU COMPLETE ALL 4 Thursdays you will be eligible to win a \$100.00 GIFT CARD

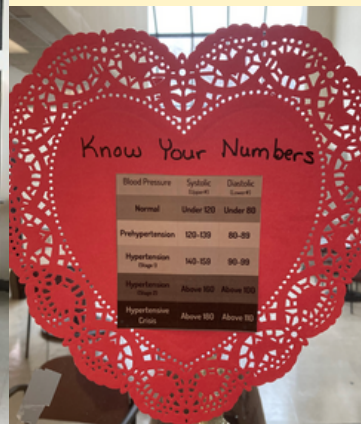
More you go the more chances you have to win!

LIMITED SEATING

MUST SIGN UP: Kjackson@syrhousing.org

See Sign Up Sheet on Bulletin Board





HEALTHY HEART WALK AT TOOMEY ABBOTT TOWERS

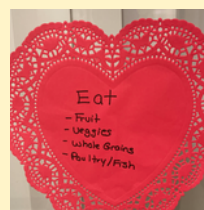
Syracuse Housing Authority would like to say **thank you** to all who attended the Toomey Abbott Healthy Heart Walk on the Plaza on Friday, February 18th. We had a great turn out of over 60 residents who walked the plaza in honor of raising Heart Health Awareness during the month of February. Residents walked 127 laps, or almost 9 miles. **Congratulations!!!**

Residents also visited with our vendors including, Nascentia Health, who provided Blood Pressure Screens, and Black Health who provided a variety of swag. SHA gave away a basket filled with items for living a healthy lifestyle and a gift card from Bradey Market.



Residents wrote down a Heart Health pledge of one healthy habit they could adopt in the new year. The Heart Health pledges ranged from drinking more water, having less stress in their life, quit smoking, taking one walk per day and more.

Thank You to all who participated and special shout out to our MPH Brockport Intern Lisa Hart



Senior Companions

InterFaith
works
Affirm Dignity



**AmeriCorps
Seniors**

Senior Companions must:

- Be over the age of 55
- Meet income criteria
- Be available a minimum of 5-40 hours a week
- Be fully vaccinated

Senior Companions receive:

- A Tax-Exempt Stipend
- Mileage Reimbursement
- Monthly In-Service Training
- Yearly Luncheon Recognition

Making Independence a Reality

It's not work. It's friendship!

Volunteers Needed!

Would You Enjoy:

Engaging an older adult in conversation?

Helping them prepare light meals?

Running errands or taking a walk together?

OR

Delivering Meals to homebound seniors?

Providing weekly transportation?



To learn more contact InterFaith Works'
Senior Companion Program at (315) 449-3552,
ext. 224 or 110

She Matters™



HIRING

NEW
RESIDENT HEALTH ADVOCATES



JOIN OUR TEAM!

CONTACT RACHEL AT
(315) 484-4237
for an application

DESCRIPTION

- Get paid a stipend to help your neighbors.
- Resident Health Advocates (RHAs) are trained by Upstate professionals in breast cancer education, prevention, and screening.
- RHAs assist in scheduling mammography appointments.

She Matters is an Upstate Community Outreach program that helps women schedule free screenings for breast cancer. Mammograms are the best way to screen for breast cancer when a lump is too small to feel. She Matter Resident Health Advocates (RHAs) live in various buildings throughout Syracuse Housing Authority. Connect with an RHA or call us at (315) 484-

Upcoming Events: 4237 for more information. **Upcoming Events:**

5/17 Eastwood Heights Educational Session **11 am** **5/5** Mammogram Party 550 Harrison Womens Imaging Center **1-4 pm**
6/7 Vinette Tower Educational Session **11 am**

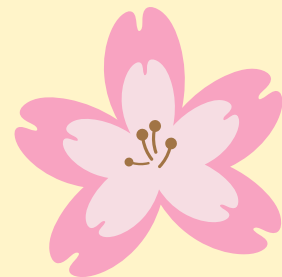
***Free lunch provided
at all educational sessions***

***Free T-shirt & \$10 gift card
for all completed mammograms***

5/21 Mammogram Party 550 Harrison Womens Imaging Center **8-11 am**
6/2 Mammogram Party 550 Harrison Womens Imaging Center **1-4 pm**
6/18 Mammogram Party 550 Harrison Womens Imaging Center **8-11 am**

HOPE





Supreena Small's

Where: Pioneer Homes, Coffee House

When: 3rd Thursday of the Month

5-6pm

Women's Empowerment Group



STORY TIME AT THE COFFEE HOUSE IS BACK!



HAPPY EARTH DAY!





RELATIVES AS PARENTS PROGRAM (RAPP)

The **Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP)** assists grandparents and other relatives who have taken on the role of primary caregiver for related children. RAPP offers a wide range of services, including a support group for adults that offers a social network of grandparents and relatives and referral and access to appropriate community based services and resources.

Please contact SHA RSS staff Lilian Asasira at (315) 247-1704 to participate!

RAPP Program Scheduled Events

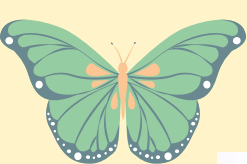


May 12th Bus will leave 516 Burt St. at 9:30am	Continental School of Beauty in Mattydale
May 27th Bus will leave 516 Burt St. at 3:30pm	Billy Bees at Destiny Mall
June 9th at 1001 South McBride St. from 10am to 11:30am	Support Group
June 24th Bus leaves 516 Burt St. at 3pm	Walk on Onondaga Lake Park
July 14th at 1001 South McBride St. from 10am to 11:30am	Support Group
July 28th Bus leaves 516 Burt St. at 3pm	Get wet at Thornden Park



SENIOR FUN FAIR AT CENTRAL VILLAGE





Resident Support Services

FINANCIAL LITERACY

Household budgeting
personal savings programs
*1st time HOME buyer programs
Credit repair

LEASE COMPLIANCE

Understanding your lease
Housekeeping issues
Counseling or support to maintain successful tenancy
Conflict resolution, Grievance disputes

JOB SKILLS TRAINING

Computer training and access for jobseekers
ESL and High School Equivalency (GED)
College applications and scholarships
Job training programs, skilled trade job training
Finding a job, or a better job

CHILD AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Summer programs, swim lessons, and camp scholarships
College scholarships
Computer access for children and youth

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Access to health insurance
Finding a doctor or dentist
Nutrition and cooking classes
Community gardens
Becoming more active

**Please call (315) 475-6181 Ext. 4 for information
or
to make an appointment !!!!!!!**

SHA
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f @syracusehousing

🐦 @HousingSyracuse

📷 @syracusehousingauthority

Follow
us

SHA CONTACTS

SHA Security
315-475-6181 Ext. 5

Emergency Work Orders / Maintenance
315-475-6181 Ext. 3

Resident Support Services / Social Work
315-475-6181 Ext. 4

Toomey Abbot Towers
(315) 428 0187

Central Village, Almus Oliver Towers &
McKinney Manor
(315) 478-1671

Ross Towers, Vinette Towers, Fahey
Court & Eastwood Heights
(315) 422-0408

James Geddes & Benderson Heights &
Scattered Sites
(315) 470-4421

Pioneer Homes
(315) 473-6810

Freedom Commons
(315) 470-0556

Eastwood Homes, Leonard Buildings &
Homes of Syracuse
(315) 433-1262

