



Housing Authority of the City of Hartford

Quarterly Newsletter

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April 2016

Nelton Court Opens

Housing Authority of the City of Hartford's Renovated Nelton Court Opens With a Ribbon Cutting

Residents have started moving into new Nelton Court housing in the North End of Hartford. Housing Authority of the City of Hartford (HACH) Executive Director Annette Sanderson and Chair of the Board of Commissioners Marilyn E. Rossetti joined U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Field Office Director Suzanne C. Piacentini for a ribbon cutting ceremony last October to open the new low-income public housing development.



The new low-income public housing is equipped with Energy Star qualified products, includes gas and heat, and features front and back yards. Many Nelton Court units have private entrances, front and back porches, and wide energy-efficient windows with insect screens. Ten of the units are specially outfitted for handicapped accessibility. In addition, the site is equipped with improved parking, sidewalks, open space recreation areas, and two community gardens for residents.

"We are pleased to support the transformation of this housing project for families living in Hartford," said U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Field Officer Director Suzanne C. Piacentini. "Modern housing projects such as Nelton Court are an important part of making sure every family has the resources they need to thrive."

The event also featured the dedication of "Alan E. Green Way," in memory of the former executive director of the Housing Authority of the City of Hartford. "Alan Green was committed to affordable housing and improving life in Hartford," said Marilyn E. Rossetti. "We think he would have been pleased to see the completed Nelton Court and we're delighted to honor Mr. Green and his lasting contributions with this street dedication in his native city."

Before the complete renovation, the antiquated barracks-style Nelton Court housing built in 1942 had a deteriorating infrastructure that failed to meet modern state and federal standards. Existing buildings were demolished and the new development is comprised of buildings with a density ratio more in harmony with the surrounding neighborhood. Now, Nelton Court offers duplex-style and walk-up affordable housing with eighty new one-, two-, three-, and four-bedroom units.



"We are excited to open the new Nelton Court. This new housing development will positively affect the lives of 80 families living in Hartford," said HACH Executive Director Annette Sanderson. "Working with the residents of Hartford and our other partners, HACH is gradually transforming public housing in the City of Hartford. We are grateful to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for their help in making this change a reality."

From the Executive Director



HACH Executive Director Annette Sanderson, pictured with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julián Castro.

Dear Housing Authority of the City of Hartford Residents,

Make every effort to provide safe, accessible and affordable high quality housing and homeownership choices – that's what we do at the Housing Authority of the City of Hartford (HACH).

As executive director, that's been my mission too. I was born and raised here in Hartford and for the last three and a half years I have worked with residents and other partners to gradually transform public housing in the City of Hartford. HACH owns and operates public housing in 11 developments and scattered sites throughout the city. We also locally manage the federal Housing Choice Voucher program, which provides rental vouchers to people seeking housing units in the private market.

Our goal at HACH is to work with resident and community partners to create independence and economic opportunities for the families who live in our properties. We offer value-added supportive services to our residents and a positive work environment for our employees. Communication is the key to fulfilling our mission, so starting this month we would like to introduce you to the HACH Quarterly Newsletter.

For more information on HACH, please visit our website at www.hartfordhousing.org.

Annette Sanderson
Executive Director,
Housing Authority of the City of Hartford

A Message from the Hartford Housing Tenant Organization

Our Mission

To enhance the quality of life for all Hartford Housing residents

Our Slogan

"We Are One Family"

Our Vision

To create HHTO to be the leading advocate for Hartford Housing residents on all issues affecting our quality of life



The Hartford Housing Tenant Organization, Inc. (HHTO) is actively involved with training our leaders to handle the many difficult challenges they face on property. Most of these challenges require extraordinary problem-solving skills. As American industrialist Henry Kaiser stated, "Problems are only opportunities in work clothes."

The basic steps we continue to teach our leaders are:

- (1) define the problem with the help of council members
- (2) generate and evaluate alternatives
- (3) implement solutions.

Too often we only see persons stuck in the problem and are unable to see outside of the box. We invite our leaders to clarify their goals and lead passionately with integrity and with heart.

The main resources necessary to serve the HHTO family are the ability to inspire, empower and motivate the community.

- President** – Dawn Green
Vice-President – Carmen Rivera
Secretary – Carmen Alverio
Treasurer – Wesley Stewart

Rent Questions & Answers

When is my rent due?

Rent is due on the 1st of every month.

How do I pay my rent?

You have several options for paying rent:

- **Mail.** Send in your payment by mail to:
180 John D. Wardlaw Way, Hartford, CT 06106.
- **Drop Box.** Put your payment in the drop box located outside the main office located at
180 John D. Wardlaw Way.
- **Collection Window.** Bring your payment to the Rent Collection window on Monday 8:30-1:30, Tuesday 12:00-4:30 or Friday 8:30-1:30.
- **Automatic Payment.** Apply for automatic rent withdrawal.

What if I still have questions?

Please call 860-723-8461 for more information.

Housing Choice Voucher Wait Lists and Handbooks

The Housing Authority of the City of Hartford is currently administering 1,810 housing choice vouchers, serving more than 4,500 Hartford residents through the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program.

The demand for housing choice vouchers often exceeds the resources available and waiting lists are common. In June of 2015, the Housing Authority of the City of Hartford received 20,842 applications requesting to be placed on the HCV Wait List. After a random lottery and preliminary review of the applications, 715 applicants were placed on Hartford's HCV wait list.

Hartford's HCV wait list is closed and applications to the program are not being accepted at this time. Anyone interested in applying for a housing choice voucher can obtain information from any Public Housing Authority in the State of Connecticut with open Wait Lists by visiting the website www.cthcvp.org.

Property owners who are interested in participating in the voucher program can request a Landlord Handbook. The Handbook contains information on the responsibilities of landlords who provide housing to HCV participants. To obtain a copy of the handbook, please call 860-723-8409 or email your request to sdavis@hartfordhousing.org.

New Bowles Park Tenant Association Webpage and Computer Access; Relocation Interviews Begin

A new webpage for the Bowles Park Tenant Association is available on the HACH website: www.hartfordhousing.org. Click on the Chester Bowles Park Redevelopment tab to access association meeting notices and newsletters.



New computer and office supplies will arrive shortly. The Housing Authority provided funding for the Chester Bowles Association to open their office for residents to use the computer on occasion. Once the new redevelopment project starts, residents will be able to fill out applications and apply for jobs as they are posted.

The Housing Education Resource Center will conduct door-to-door interviews at Chester E. Bowles Park to assess each family's temporary relocation needs. It is important that each household participate in the interview process to make their family's move as seamless as possible. To begin the interview process, each head of household must provide their contact information: name, address, home telephone number, cell phone number, and email address to the Housing Authority of the City of Hartford office.

Bowles Park Tenant Association Contact Information:

Latoya Graves, President
860-970-1285

Rosemyn Falu-Rodriguez, Secretary
860-890-8369

Rose Price, Member at Large
860-243-2516

Kim Pietrorazio, Advocate
860-752-9239

CONTACT NUMBERS

Housing Authority of the City of Hartford Offices
180 John D. Wardlaw Way, Hartford, CT 06106
860-723-8410

All offices are open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Betty Knox Apartments Office
141 Woodland Street
Hartford, CT 06105
860-723-8467

President - Frankie Rivera
Vice-President - Ramon Nieves
Secretary - Victor Gonzalez
Treasurer - Dawn Green

Chester Bowles Park Office
3 Berkeley Drive
Hartford, CT 06112
860-723-8478
or 860-723-8512

President - Latoya Graves
Secretary - Rosemyn Falu-Rodriguez
Member at Large - Rose Price
Advocate - Kim Pietrorazio

Charter Oak Terrace Office
15 Pavilion Street, Hartford, 06120
860-723-8563 or 860-723-8557

Kent Apartments Office
188 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06105
860-723-8464

President - Eustace Wiggins
Vice-President - Esther Knight
Secretary - Elizabeth Stines
Treasurer - Ramon Vega

Mary Mahoney Village Office
73-81 Vine Street
Hartford, CT 06112
860-723-8472

President - Ramona Ramos
Vice-President - Jose Rosario
Vice-President - Jose Rosario
Secretary - Lourdes Sanchez
Treasurer - Carmen Diaz

Mary Shepard Place Office
15 Pavilion Street
Hartford, CT 06120
860-723-8563
or 860-723-8557

President - Maria Carmona
Secretary - Debra Anderson
Treasurer - Yesenia Rivera

Nelton Court
45 Alan Green Way, Hartford, CT 06120
860-723-8510

Scattered Sites I, II, III Office
180 John D. Wardlaw Way
Hartford, CT 06106
860-723-8510

President - Carmen Rivera
Vice-President - Mattlyn Rodriguez
Secretary - Catalina Rodriguez
Treasurer - Tammy Davis

Smith Tower Office
80 Charter Oak Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
860-723-8482

President - Wesley Stewart
Vice-President - Maria Costa
Secretary - Miguel Saninocencia
Treasurer - Carmen Alverio

Stowe Village I, II, III Office
15 Pavilion Street, Hartford, CT 06120
860-723-8563 or 860-723-8557

Westbrook Village Office
3 Berkeley Drive
Hartford, CT 06112
860-723-8478 or 860-723-8512

President - Janice Wallace
Advocate - Kim Pietrorazio

TENANT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS



Share your thoughts. Make your voice heard. Attend a tenant association meeting.

The tenant association monthly meeting schedules are generally as follows:

Betty Knox
3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Chester Bowles
Last Tuesday of the month, time TBD

HHTO
4th Wednesday of the month at 4:30 p.m.

Kent Apartments
1st Monday of the month at 4:00 p.m.

Mahoney Village
Last Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m.

Mary Shepard
3rd Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Scattered Sites
4th Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

Smith Tower
3rd Wednesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

Housing Authority of the City of Hartford
Board of Commissioners

Marilyn Rossetti, Chairperson
William Brown, Vice Chairperson
Richard Staples, Treasurer
Raquel Rivera, Commissioner

The Commission generally meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm in the HACH Administrative offices at 180 John D. Wardlaw Way, Hartford, CT 06106. Meeting dates and location are subject to change. Please visit our website www.hartfordhousing.org to confirm meeting dates, time and location.

If you need to report an issue with your unit or any other property-related issue, please contact the Housing Authority's Service number at 860-723-8500.