



The HAE Chronicle

A monthly newsletter publication of the Housing Authority of Elgin



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Table of Contents:

From HAE	2
HUD VASH	3
October At a Glance	4
FSS	5
Meetings and Events	6
Calendar	7
Updates	8
Employee of the Month	9
Our Staff	10



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Highlight: October At a Glance

On page 4 there is a quick recap of last month's events. Have a look!



From the HAE Team

As we enter into the 4th quarter of the year, we want to provide some updates on the Authority. At the NAHRO national conference in Atlanta, Georgia, HAE's CEO, Damon Duncan, was elected to as the VP of Community Revitalization & Development for the North Central Region.

This is a true honor for our CEO and the Authority to be considered a leader in the industry in the area of real estate development. In addition, HAE will be assisting the Housing Authority of Joliet, through an inter-governmental agreement (IGA) with its RAD conversions.

Also, HAE was the recipient of the HUD VASH funding award, designed to assist homeless veterans with housing. This award will assist fifteen (15) veterans on an annual basis.

HAE is not only a leader in development, but Housing Choice Voucher operations and opportunities as well. We look forward to finishing the year off strong!

Happy November!



HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) Program

This past month, The Housing Authority of Elgin was selected as a recipient of the HUD VASH program award. Region V Administrator, Joe Galvan, presented the check to HAE.



About HUD VASH Program

The HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). VA provides these services for participating Veterans at VA medical centers (VAMCs) and community-based outreach clinics.

Every year since 2008, HUD and VA have awarded HUD-VASH vouchers based on geographic need and public housing agency (PHA) administrative performance. The allocation process for HUD-VASH vouchers is a collaborative approach that relies on three sets of data: HUD's point-in-time data submitted by Continuums of Care (CoCs), VAMC data on the number of contacts with homeless Veterans, and performance data from PHAs and VAMCs. After determining which areas of the country have the highest number of homeless Veterans, the VA Central Office identifies VA facilities in the corresponding communities. HUD then selects PHAs near to the identified VA facilities, taking into consideration the PHAs' administrative performance, and sends the PHAs invitations to apply for the vouchers. There is at least one site in each of the 50 states, in the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam. (via hud.gov)



October At A Glance



We said goodbye to Monica Smith, who served as our Deputy Director since 2012. We wish her the best in all of her future endeavours!



HAE Family and Friends gathered for an awesome evening dinner with Monica Smith.



October's Conversation over Pizza was great. We welcomed new Chief of Police Commander Anna Lalley and enjoyed tasty pizza with our community.

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

Everybody can recognize motivation when somebody truly has it. All the signs are there: passion, work ethic, never truly switching off. But how can motivation be developed and retained? Below are simple ways of thinking that act as motivational kick-starters.

1. Turn negatives into positives

That set back? It's just an opportunity to do things differently. Any problems that occur, you can use these not only to grow as a person, but also to grow your business idea or take it in a different direction. Think optimistically and take it as an opportunity to further your craft or idea so it is even better.

2. Be fearless

This means no dwelling on decisions. Jump right in there. Set a standard decision making process for yourself; if it means you can't fulfil your talents, it's a no. Anything else is an opportunity you should commit to chasing.

3. No more complaining

Let's be honest. We all love a good rant, vocally or internally. This again is a time waster. Instead use the fuel from your complaint to brainstorm a new idea for improvement.

4. Be grateful

A grateful person is usually a happy person. Don't compare yourself to others. Don't compare your ideas to someone else's ideas. Instead be grateful for your talents, your friends and family, your perseverance and that you have been inspired to even get this far.

5. Be kind to yourself

Positive motivation comes from rewarding yourself. Take an evening off, do what you enjoyed before or spend quality time with your loved ones. Reward yourself, even for little things. It's all indicative of just how far you have come.

(By Laura Morrisey on addicted2success.com)



The ACC Corner

ACC Property Management manages
Central Park Tower Apartments and HAE's
Family Courts/ Townhomes.

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Job Corps Pizza Chat



HAE in partnership with Joliet Job Corps hosts a Pizza Chat meeting on the second Thursday of every month in the WDI-Elgin Training Center. The orientation includes an overview of the life changing programs offered and on-site housing options at the Joliet Job Corps Facility.

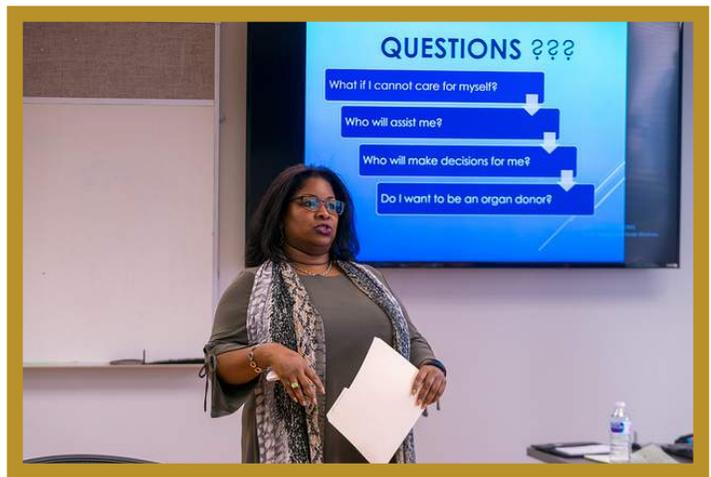
Job Corps is the nation's largest FREE education and job training program for young adults ages 16 - 24!

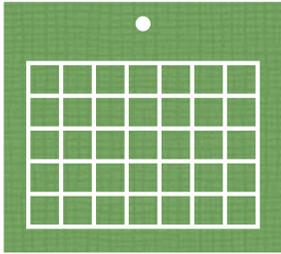
Check out our Upcoming Events section for the date of our next pizza chat.

Central Park Tenant's Association/FSS Meetings

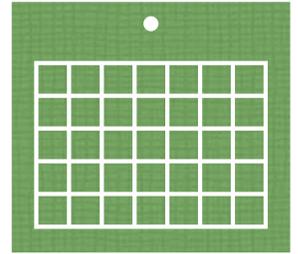
No FSS meetings at this time. Any possible November meetings will be posted on our Facebook page.

Anyone interested in learning more about the Family Self Sufficiency Program is welcome to attend any meeting.





Mark Your Calendars



Upcoming Events



Job Corps Pizza Chat
November 8th 2018
5-7 pm
WDI Training Room



Board Meeting
November 27th 2018
5:30 pm
130 S. State St Conference Room



Holiday Closures:

Veteran's Day
Monday November 12th

Thanksgiving
Office is open half-day on November 21st
Closed November 22-25th

Project Development Updates

The Housing Authority's non-profit, Fox River Affordable Housing Corp. currently has three projects under construction. Here is a brief update on each:

Marison Mills - A \$21M, 70-unit project is located in South Elgin. Marison Mills is an elderly development, designated for seniors 62 and above.

Construction commenced on October 1, 2018. At the time of this newsletter, the footings and foundation have been poured.

Chelsea Commons >> -

A \$12M, 40-unit project located in Sugar Grove. Chelsea commenced construction in October and is in the process of grading and pouring footings.



Spring Hill Senior - A \$20M,

elderly project located in West Dundee. This 61-unit project is designated for seniors. The vertical construction has been completed and skill trades are currently installing plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems. Siding will be going on the building during the next two months and the parking lot paving will be completed by December. The Spring Hill project will be open for occupancy by March 2019.

Farewell, Ms. Monica Smith

Last month we celebrated the departing of Ms. Monica Smith, Deputy Director for the Housing Authority of Elgin. Ms. Smith served the agency for almost seven years, dating back to March 2012.

In her role as Deputy Director, she was responsible for securing numerous grants for the agency including, Family Self Sufficiency, DCEO, CDBG and Kane County Riverboat grants.

Her work as the lead coordinator for relocation activities proved to be very instrumental as the agency worked on numerous redevelopment and public housing conversions under the HUD Rental Assistance Demonstration program. For her efforts, HAE was featured as a HUD case study in resident involvement.

The agency will certainly miss Ms. Smith and is a much better agency because of her efforts. We wish her well in future endeavours.

Employee of the Month

For the month of October



Tina Ceballos

The Employee of the Month Award was presented to Ms. Albertina Ceballos, Chief Administrative Officer. Tina is well-known for her ability to address the ever-changing compliance matters with HUD, Labor and IRS regulations.

Tina has advanced from the position of Executive Administrator to handling the agency's human resources, accounts payables and payroll matters.

October's award goes to Ms. Tina Ceballos for her tireless work ethic at the Housing Authority of Elgin. It is employees like Tina that make the agency a High Performer!

"Change your life today. Don't gamble on the future, act now, without delay."

-Simone de Beauvoir



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CPT'S ROOFTOP GARDEN

The Rooftop Garden began as 22 empty planter boxes filled with dirt and the starter plant called Sedum which takes up the surrounding space along the perimeter of the garden. The Sedum plant is a self sufficient plant and provides greenery as well as meeting one of the requirements for the green energy/environmental grants that were made available for this project. Currently the Garden contains several different plants and vegetables such as kale, collards, carrots, herbs, onions, peppers and watermelon.