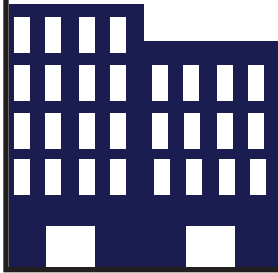


Seniors



The Hagerstown Housing Authority is committed to providing quality, affordable housing in a safe environment. Through partnership with our residents and other groups we will provide opportunities for those we serve to become self-sufficient.



August 2021

# Neighbors

To associate on neighborly terms ♦ To be friendly ♦ Persons who live near others



## Family Self Sufficiency Program

**Have you considered joining the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program?** More individuals are learning how becoming a participant in the FSS program can assist them with their future goals.

Your goals can be anything you set your mind to, and as a participant you receive:

- An individual case manager to assist you in identifying your goals within time frames.
- Goals will vary based on each individual's needs and may include:
  - Employment
  - Going back to school
  - Budgeting
  - Credit repair
  - Financial Literacy
  - Home Ownership



- Connections to Community Resources to help you accomplish your goals.
- For eligible participants, as employment is obtained or earned income increases, FSS participants may be eligible to build an escrow savings account that is held by the Housing Authority.
- Any individual who is a recipient of the Public Housing Program and Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program is eligible to take advantage of this opportunity!

If you or someone you know would like to learn more about the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, please contact:

**Tacy Myers, 301-733-6911, ext. 157.**  
[tmyers@hagerstownha.com](mailto:tmyers@hagerstownha.com)

**Kelly Mills, 301-733-6911, ext. 158**  
[kmills-thompson@hagerstownha.com](mailto:kmills-thompson@hagerstownha.com)

**Pamela Schnebly, 301-733-6911, ext. 167**  
[pschnebly@hagerstownha.com](mailto:pschnebly@hagerstownha.com)

Congratulations to recent Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) Graduate **Michelle Lyles!** Michelle recently completed the FSS program after working very hard to accomplish all of her goals, including maintaining employment, purchasing a vehicle, increasing her education and training skills, improving her credit and researching home ownership. Michelle was able to build an escrow savings account throughout her participation in the program as well. If you see Michelle give her an extra congratulations! She accomplished so much for herself! We here at the Hagerstown Housing Authority are all so very proud of her!

You did it!  
*Congratulations*



## August 2021 Pest Control Schedule

August 4th: PT: G16-G29, 113-127      August 5th: WTA: 201-214

August 11th: PT: 101-112, 216-232      August 12th: WTA: 215-216, 301-311

August 18th: PT: 201-215, 320-331      August 19th: WTA: 312-316, 401-408

September 1st: PT: 301-319, 425-432      August 26th: WTA: 409-417, 501-504

Meals for Paws food donation drop will be on Friday August 27, 2021 between 9:00 am - 9:30 am at Potomac Towers, Walnut Towers, & CWB  
If you would like to sign up for this program please contact the Resident Services Department

## VFF Produce

*Veterans, Faith, Farmers*



High quality, locally grown fruits and vegetables at affordable prices.

Cash, Credit and Snap Benefits accepted!

**The Market will be open on Wednesdays:**  
**Potomac Towers/C.W. Brooks 10:00 am-11:30 am**  
**Walnut Towers 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm**

**VFF Produce is unable to accept the Farmer's Market Nutrition Program Vouchers this season. We apologize for giving incorrect information regarding this!**

Please Join Us For Our New Informational Zoom Series:

### **Creating Community Connections**

Thursday August 12, 2021 @ 2:00 pm

We welcome Kerry Fair, the Program Director in Washington County for Partners in Care. She will be providing us with an overview of the organization, the programs that they provide, and the need for volunteers!

We hope that you can join us for some **FUN** with the **Resident Services Team** and receive some useful **INFORMATION** from our **Community Partner!**

This event will be provided through Facebook Live on the HHA Facebook Page!



# Report -A- Concern

**We Want to Hear from you!**

Improving neighborhoods start with communication.

You can help by telling us what issues affect you.

We regularly review the information gained from this form to address concerns.

***If you have an emergency, call 911 now!***

If you have a situation that requires timely police assistance please call HPD's non-emergency # **240-313-4345**.

If your concern or information is *not* within the Hagerstown Housing Authority's properties, please inform the law enforcement agency in that jurisdiction.

Please visit [www.hagerstownha.com](http://www.hagerstownha.com) and Click on the Report a Concern in the scrolling window to report your concern online.

Your input here can be totally and completely **Anonymous**, but your concerns are important to us.



2021 Annual Washington County

# Health & Wellness Fest!

Formerly the Healthy Families Festival

**Thursday, August 12  
4:30pm-7pm**

**201 S. Cleveland Avenue  
Hagerstown**

- Giveaways!
- Health Screenings!
- Health Education!
- Cooking Demos!
- Activities for All Ages!
- Food!

**A FREE  
Community  
Event!**



Sponsored by:



COVID-19 mandates (Social Distancing, Face Covering, Food Service, etc.) must be followed by all.

Co-sponsored by Family Healthcare of Hagerstown and United Way of Washington County.  
An early Day of Caring event!



# FROM MAINTENANCE



## Installing Window Air Conditioners

When installing window air conditioners, be sure to install them in a safe and secure manner. Air conditioner units should be tilted away from the wall. This allows the condensate to run away from the wall and will help to prevent mold/mildew on the walls.

The window air conditioner needs to be installed properly to prevent outside air from entering the unit. If the extendable panels are missing or damaged, air coming in from the outside will cause the room temperature to rise, keeping the air conditioner running. This can cause high electric bills. It is best to seal the openings with foam panels. Cardboard, pillows and blankets are inefficient as they can fall out leaving the window open.

Residents of the high-rise buildings must put a container under the air conditioner to collect any condensation and empty as needed.

**EMPTYING OVER THE BALCONY IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AND IS CONSIDERED A LEASE VIOLATION!**

## Conserving Water

In order to conserve, all residents must promptly report any leaks or dripping faucets, hoses or fixtures to the Maintenance Department at 301-733-6916. Insure all faucets are turned completely off when you are not drawing water. Other ways of conserving water are to:

- Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily.*
- Dispose of tissues and other such waste in the trash rather than the toilet.*
- Take shorter showers.*
- Use the minimum amount of water needed for a bath by closing the drain first and filling the tub only 1/3 full.*
- Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face.*
- Brush your teeth first while waiting for water to get hot, then wash or shave after filling the basin.*

## Tips On Removing

Mold/mildew can grow in areas that are moist such as in bathrooms or at washer hookups. It is usually recognized as a dark discoloration of the surface on which it resides (i.e., dark spots on grout). There are numerous cleaning products on the market designed to kill mold. Also, a solution of 1-part bleach and 4 parts water will do the trick.

Wipe down ceilings and walls with one of the disinfectants, scrub tile and caulk joints in the tub area. Always be sure to read the labels and abide by the manufacturer's recommendations. It is your responsibility to properly clean the surfaces in your unit but if you are having problems identifying or removing mold, please call Maintenance and we will have an inspector check it out at no cost to you.

## Please Do Not Feed The Birds

We ask that you do not feed the birds on your balconies. Please do not throw bread, donuts or any other food out for the birds. This not only attracts birds but rodents as well. It also makes a mess on the balconies and areas below. We thank you for your cooperation.

## Summer Travel Plans? Prevent Bed Bugs When Traveling!

Over half of pest control providers say that they receive the most calls in the summer months. Why summer? There are more people traveling during the summer due to summer vacations, so there is an increased likelihood that bed bugs will be introduced to hotels, airplanes, summer camps, and even places such as movie theatres and libraries - and that also increases the chances that people could take them home. Bed bugs can infest anywhere there is a regular meal source - humans! - to feed on. Bed bugs can inflict itchy welts when they bite. Many people however do not react to the bites making it less likely that they will notice there is a problem. Bed bugs are hitchhikers and all it takes is one to be introduced to a home. Some tips to prevent bringing home bed bugs when traveling:

- \*Place all luggage away from the bed. Inspect for bed bugs.
- \*Pull back corners of bedding, check mattress & box spring, paying special attention to seams. If you notice black marks this could indicate an issue.
- \*Inspect the night stand for signs of bed bugs.
- \*Let the front desk know if you believe the room has bed bugs.
- \*When you return home, before bringing luggage inside, inspect for bed bugs.
- \*Before laundering clothing from vacation, place all of your clothing in the dryer on the hottest setting for 15 minutes (even if you did not wear the clothing).
- \*Heat is a proven method of killing bed bugs!

**Please contact the Maintenance Department if you believe you may have bed bugs.**