# Senior Neighbors

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 Neighbors self-sufficient.



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

# Our recent SS GRADUATES

January 2022



L to R - Tacy Myers, Dianne Rudisill, Jaia Speller, Sean Griffith

Hagerstown
Housing
Authority
congratulates
recent Family
Self-Sufficiency
(FSS) Program
graduate Jaia
Speller!

Jaia was dedicated in working toward the accomplishment of her FSS goals which included, obtaining and maintaining employment, improving credit, researching Home Ownership, and furthering her education by attending numerous Financial Literacy workshops offered by Community Partners REACH of Washington County and The Valor Center. Ms. Speller worked hard to build an escrow savings account throughout her FSS Contract with the Housing Authority and plans to use this toward a future goal of Home Ownership. Hagerstown Housing Authority commends Ms. Speller on her achievements!



L to R - Tacy Myers, Corean Freeman, Sean Griffith

Hagerstown Housing
Authority congratulates
Family Self-Sufficiency
(FSS) Graduate Corean
Freeman!
Corean's dedication to her
FSS Contract of
Participation enabled her
to focus on the completion
of her FSS goals.

Throughout the 5-year program, Corean obtained and maintained employment, improved her credit, researched Home Ownership, and furthered her education by attending numerous Financial Literacy workshops. Ms. Freeman's continued path of success continues as she works toward her education and career in the Nursing Field. Hagerstown Housing Authority commends Corean Freeman on her achievements!

## Happy New Year from the Housing Authority's Board of Commissioners and Staff



The Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) is designed to provide individual case management services to residents of public housing and Housing Choice Voucher recipients to achieve self-sufficiency. The participants identify specific goals they agree to pursue with the assistance of a case manager. These goals concentrate on education, job training/placement, budgeting and finance, credit repair, purchasing a vehicle, a home, and much more. Goals will vary based on each individual's needs.



HHA has partnered with the Health Department to provide COVID Testing.

Walk up and drive-thru is available behind the CW Brooks Building,

Monday and Wednesday,10 am-2 pm



#### What does Housing mean to you?

We have been told by many residents that they have created great memories in our communities and that Housing has provided them the opportunity to move forward.

From fond memories of loving grandparents to accomplishing goals and becoming self-sufficient, we are interested in knowing what Housing means to you. Would you mind telling us how Housing has helped you? If you have a story or a positive experience, we would love to hear it! We may use your story in a featured video of how residents have overcome obstacles, made a positive change, gained a best friend, had fond memories, etc.

To schedule an interview or tell your story, please get in touch with one of the Resident Services team members.

#### Do you have Suggestions for Your Community?

The Hagerstown Housing Authority will be hosting zoom meetings in January and February to collect residents' suggestions for use of Capital Funds in their Community. Debra Miller will once again attend to discuss how these funds have been allocated and used in the last year as well. Please attend the following meeting dependent on your community group.

Potomac Towers – In-Person January 10th at 5:30 pm Walnut Towers – In-person February 7th at 5 PM

Help us, HELP YOU!

We hope that you had an enjoyable holiday and that you found the resource and goodie bag from Resident Services Department helpful. While we continue to navigate the challenge of social distancing, please know that we are still here for you. If you need assistance from the Resident Services or Housing Department, be sure to leave a message on the extension that you call. Your message will be converted and sent to the email address of the person you are calling. Please allow time for the staff member to return your call. By calling multiple staff members for the same concern, you are delaying the response time for others. We appreciate your assistance and hope that you stay well.

#### **Numbers To Know**

Hagerstown Housing Main 301-733-6911
Maintenance Department 301-733-6916
Security Supervisor 301-730-2096

#### **Resident Services Department**

 Dianne Rudisill
 301.733.6911 ext. 125

 Deena Holder
 301.733.6911 ext. 163

 Heather Nutter
 301.733.6911 ext. 170

 Treyvon King
 301.733.6911 ext. 171

 Tacy Myers
 301.733.6911 ext. 157

 Kelly Mills
 301.733.6911 ext. 158

 Pam Schnebly
 301.733.6911 ext. 167

### FROM MAINTENANCE

#### **HEATING SEASON**

Before you call Maintenance for service on your heating season, make sure the room temperature is below 66 degrees. The room temperature must drop to 66 or below for the heat to come on. If the temperature in your unit is 66 degrees or above and you call for service, you will be charged for the call. Overtime callouts are very expensive and you can avoid these charges (minimum of \$97.08) by checking the temperature before you call. Do not force the thermostat beyond the limit on the dial. Broken thermostats are charged to the resident. Keep your windows locked. This provides a much better seal & reduces air leakage at windows.

Remember, using your oven or stove as a heat source is dangerous and a lease violation. This not only poses a serious health risk to you but will also result in damage to your appliance, (melted knobs) for which you will be charged.

#### SLIPPERY WHEN "COLD"

Please use caution when traveling outside of the building during the extreme cold days of winter.

Periods of sun cause the snow/ice to melt and then refreeze later creating instant patches of ice.

Take the extra time to avoid such areas for your safety

#### **Don't Let The Bed Bugs Bite!**

Infestations of bed bugs begin when the insects are carried in on a person's clothing or possessions. A hotel, a movie theater, a restaurant—or a friend's home—are all potential sources from which bed bugs can hitch a ride into your own home.

#### **Avoid Locations Known to Have Bedbugs**

Temporarily declining invitations to visit any home (or any other building) that has a bed bug problem is simply smart. Bed bugs earn their common name because they are frequently found on bed mattresses, but they can also be found on sofas and other upholstered furniture— especially if the building has faced an extensive infestation, or if the furniture comes from a second-hand store without being inspected and treated for possible bed bugs. Bed bugs are extremely mobile and can easily move between pieces of furniture or into nearby suitcases, backpacks, or clothing left on the floor or draped over an infested chair or couch. It is remarkably easy to transport bedbugs into your home without knowing it.

#### **Education is the Best Defense**

Bad information is always running rampant. Get your information from people that know. If you have questions or concerns about Bed bugs, contact the Pest Control Coordinator at 301-

733-6911, Ext 132

#### **January Pest Control Schedule**

01/05/2022: PT 701-708, 814-832

01/06/2022: WTB 101-113

01/12/2022: PT 801-813, 904-917

01/13/2022: WTB 114-116, 201-210

01/19/2022: PT 901-903, 1001-1017, 1111-1117

01/20/2022: WTB 211-216, 301-307

01/26/2022: PT 1101-1110, 1201-1217

01/27/2022: WTB 308-316, Lobby A & B Buildings,

**Laundry Room**, Community Room & Kitchen



Located inside of the C.W. Brooks Building 45 W. Baltimore Street

Store hours (may vary at times due to staffing)

Mon-Fri 8 am-7 pm Sat - 9 am - 2 pm

#### Join Us for an Afternoon Movie Matinee

Resident Services will be hosting an Afternoon Movie Matinee. Please join us for popcorn and snacks while watching a movie (to be determined). Movies will be held in your community room:

Walnut Towers January 19th at 1 PM CW Brooks January 20th at 1 PM Potomac Towers To Be Announced

All programming is subject to change depending on Covid numbers/health status.

#### **How To Be a Good Neighbor**

Do you have a neighbor under the weather? Or you haven't seen them in a while? If you are concerned about them, please contact either Security or Resident Services to assist in checking on them.

# Please Join Us For Our Informational Series:

### **Creating Community Connections**

Thursday, January 13, 2021, @ 2:00 PM we welcome Michelle Jardine, Crisis Intervention Coordinator with Valor Ministries. She will be providing us with an overview of the organization and the programs that they provide to our community.

We hope that you can join us and receive some useful information from our community partner.

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

#### C.W. Brooks Salon

45 W. Baltimore St Hagerstown, MD 21740

Scheduled appointments: 240-329-5197 Same Day appointments: 301-676-9450.

Hours of operation:

Monday- 9:00am-4:00pm

**Closed Tuesday** 

Thursday- Friday, 9:00am-4:00pm

Saturday-Sunday, 8:00am-3:00pm