

# Hagerstown Housing Authority NEWSLETTER

September 2025

### Recent Family Self Sufficiency Graduates



**Mercedes Morales** 

**Mercedes Morales:** We are proud to honor Mercedes whose journey in the FSS Program reflects strength and determination. She has achieved important milestones including earning her driver's license, purchasing a reliable vehicle, improving her credit score, and maintaining steady employment. With each step, Mercedes has shown her commitment to building a stable and successful future for her family. Her next goal is homeownership, a milestone that embodies her forward thinking and planning for the future. Mercedes embodies the true spirit of the FSS Program.



Kibret Woldegiorgis

**Kibret Woldegiorgis:** We are incredibly proud to celebrate Kibret, whose journey through the FSS Program is nothing short of inspiring. Arriving in this country with little, she worked tirelessly to build a brighter future for herself and her two daughters. Today, she is a successful business owner, a proud U.S. citizen, and most recently, a proud homeowner! Kibret's story is a true testament to perseverance, determination, and the power of believing in your dreams.



**Lenny Diaz** 

**Lenny Diaz:** We are thrilled to celebrate Lenny who has shown dedication and perseverance throughout her journey in the FSS Program. Since joining the FSS program, she has worked hard to improve her financial health by raising her credit score. Lenny has spent time building her savings, and paying down debt while maintaining steady employment. Lenny has also grown personally by improving her English skills and writing. Her determination to continue her education and pursue homeownership is a true reflection of her strength, resilience, and commitment to creating a better future for her family.



**Deaishyia Jackson:** We are proud to recognize Deaishyia for her remarkable dedication to building a stable and successful future for her family. She has maintained steady employment, where she enjoys her role and continues to grow professionally. Through the FSS Program, she has made important strides in strengthening her financial foundation, securing reliable transportation, and setting her sights on the next stage of her journey. Deaishyia has long-term goals of returning to school and purchasing a home. Deaishyia continues to inspire everyone around her with her determination and commitment to progress.

### FUEL UP, LEVEL UP Exciting News for FSS Participants!

We're thrilled to introduce a brand-new mentoring program designed to support you on your path to achieving your goals! Join us for our kickoff event, "Fuel Up, Level Up!" During this inspiring Meet & Greet you will have the chance to share your goals, connect with other, and learn how the mentoring program works. Come learn about how a mentor who has already completed the goals you're working towards and is ready to guide, encourage, and walk alongside you on your journey. There will be food, games, and fun. You won't want to miss it! More details to come soon!

Date: September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Location: Elgin Station, 2nd Floor Conference** 

room

RSVP at the following link by September 19, 2025:

www.hagerstownha.com/mentor

#### What's Happening In Your Community

C.W.Brooks-Kristy Cuba Ext. 170

Mondays 7:00 pm Tenant Bingo

Wednesdays 2:00 - 4:00 pm Craft Group (Bring your Own Craft)

Thursdays (every other) 2:00 - 3:00 pm Coloring in Library

Friday, September 5 6:00 pm Ice Cream Social (CWB Residents ONLY) \$1.00 a bowl

Thursday, September 11 5:00 PM Tenant Association Meeting

Thursday, September 18 1:00-3:00 pm Diabetes & Blood Pressure Screening

Friday, September 19 6:00 pm Ice Cream Social (CWB Residents ONLY) \$1.00 a bowl

#### Frederick Manor

Mondays 6:00 pm Girl Scouts (Community Building)

September 19 4:30 pm Bike Safety Rodeo (Hayes Ct) BRING YOUR BIKE

September 25 11:00 am Resident Meeting - Priority Partners - Social Media and your Health

#### **Gateway Crossing**

September 11 2:00 pm Resident Meeting (Elgin Station) Presentation - Stop Smoking Resources

#### McCleary Hill

Mondays 5:30 pm Girl Scouts (Community Building)

September 17 5:30 PM Resident Meeting (Community Building)

#### **Noland Village**

September 17 5:30 PM Resident Meeting (Community Building)

#### Parkside & Douglass & Scattered Sites

Sundays 3:30 - 4:30 pm End of the Road N/A (Narcotics Anonymous)

Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:15 pm (MEN) End of the Road N/A Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:15 pm (WOMEN) End of the Road N/A

Thursdays 7:00 - 8:30 pm Girl Scouts (ages 13-18) Fridays 5:00 - 7:00 pm Girl Scouts, (all ages)

Sunday 3:30 - 6:00 pm End of the Road N/A - (Last Sunday of the month Special Mtg.)

September 18 2:00 PM Resident Meeting (Community Building)

#### Potomac Towers-Kristy Cuba Ext. 170

Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10:30am Narcotics Anonymous (Community Room)

Wednesdays 5:00 pm BINGO Food/Cards for sale starting at 5 pm, Bingo starts at 5:30pm

Thursdays 4:00 pm Exercise w/ Lisa Bennett (Roof Top Sky Lounge)
September 8 5:30pm Tenant Association Meeting (Community Room)
September 18 10:00 am Stop Smoking Program (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month)

#### Walnut Towers- Kristy Cuba Ext. 170

Tuesdays 4:00 pm Tenant Bingo Thursdays 6:00 - 8:00 pm Game Night

September 8 5:00 pm Tenant Association Meeting

### **NEWSLETTER**

Our HHA newsletter can also be found at hagerstownha.com and on our HHA Facebook page Residents of Potomac Towers, Walnut Towers, and the CW Brooks Building:

PLEASE do not prop open locked doors, as this compromises the security of the building. This is also a lease violation and infractions will be issued.

#### **BULK TRASH PICKUP SCHEDULE**

You may have your bulk items picked up on the following days of each month:

1st Thursday: McCleary-Hill

2nd Thursday: Parkside Homes and Douglass Court

3rd Thursday: Noland Village 4th Thursday: Frederick Manor

Please set your items out after 8:00pm the night before your scheduled day and have them on the curb prior to 8:30am on your scheduled pickup day. This schedule will be strictly followed. Any bulk items set on the curb on days other than those listed for your community will result in a charge (\$60.00) to the resident. Scattered Site locations will be expected to observe the bulk pickup days published by the City of Hagerstown. Check the newspaper or call the city for dates.

#### TRASH/RECYCLE CONTAINERS

Trash/Recycle cans and toters must be placed and kept in the rear of your unit. Containers must be moved after they are emptied on the day of pick up to avoid a charge. You will be charged a minimum of \$33.48 if maintenance has to move your container to the rear of your unit. As always, we appreciate your help in keeping our communities beautiful. (Trash containers must be set out after 4:00pm on your scheduled pick-up day.)

Due to the Labor Day holiday Monday, September 1, all collections for this week will be delayed one day.

#### TRASH ROOMS

Please take large items that will not fit down the trash chute to the lower level of Potomac Towers North or the ground level at Walnut Towers. Also, we ask that you take mops, brooms, rugs, cardboard, etc. to these designated areas to prevent the chutes from getting clogged.

Maintenance is finding cardboard boxes being put down the trash chutes on a regular basis causing the chute to clog. As a result, there is a charge being issued to the resident.

#### **REMOVAL OF WINDOW AIR CONDITIONERS**

Each year the Authority requires all residents in family units to remove air conditioners from windows by October 1st. Air conditioners that have not been removed by December 1st will be removed by maintenance and the resident will be charged. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

#### **GRAFFITI**

In accordance with your housing lease, Exhibit G, Part 3E: Graffiti on exterior surfaces is unacceptable and must be removed immediately. The Housing Authority will charge the responsible parties for the removal of graffiti (examples include spray paint, chalk, etc.). Contact the maintenance department and report graffiti immediately. Your cooperation in keeping our communities looking nice is appreciated.

#### **MOWING SEASON**

The mowing season is upon us again. Please be aware of the contractors as they mow the grass in your community. The contractor is responsible for performing his work in a safe manner. He has a difficult task to accomplish and needs your help to keep track of the small children. Please, for the safety of your children, help keep them away from the workers doing the mowing.

All communities will be moved on THURSDAY with the exception of rain. FRIDAY WILL BE USED AS A RAIN DAY.

#### **CABLE TRIPPERS**

If you have a TV or telephone cable crossing stairs or walkways, please remove them immediately. Per your lease agreement, cables are not permitted to be run in a manner that may cause a tripping hazard. Cables are to be fastened to the baseboard and door frames by use of cable tacks ("U" shaped tacks). Cables are to be run up and around door frames and NOT across walkways. If you could trip over it, then it is improperly installed. Improperly installed cable will be removed by maintenance and the cost charged to the tenant. New or existing cable will not be re-installed causing you the loss of use of the TV or telephone served by the cable. Avoid this major inconvenience by properly installing your cable now.

#### **INSPECTION CORNER**

All tenant owned Appliances, Refrigerators, Freezers, AC units must be inspected, and deficiencies recorded as if they are owned by the Housing Authority. Any repairs will need to be completed in a timely manner or removal will be needed. Health and Safety items will also need to be inspected. For example, broken/cracked glass, mirrors, missing fan covers, fire extinguishers and play equipment. Furniture blocking windows need to be moved away from these areas. Flammable/combustible items must be properly stored, not inside your unit.

#### **MAINTENANCE INSPECTIONS**

POSSIBLE INSPECTION RESCHEDULES COULD OCCUR

NOTICES OF INSPECTIONS WILL BE HAND DELIVERED TO THOSE TO BE INSPECTED FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2025

#### PEST CONTROL SCHEDULE

#### **Gateway Crossing**

9/2/2025: 931-990 Ross St

9/9/2025: 1017-1037 Westport, 901,903,907,909

Ross St, 801 - 845 Main Ave

9/16/2025: 265,267,271,273 South Burhans, 701-812

Lanvale St

9/23/2025: 103-181 Summer St, 25-53 Elgin Blvd

#### **Noland Village**

**9/3/2025:** Court 3 (1020-1032), Court 5 (1036-1044) **9/10/2025:** Court 7 (1052-1068), Court 8 (1053-1057)

9/17/2025: Court 8 (1061)

#### **Walnut Towers "A" Building**

**9/4/2025:** 505-516 **9/11/2025:** 601-616 **9/18/2025:** 701-710

9/25/2025: 711-716, 810-816

#### **McCleary Hill**

**9/17/2025:** Granite Drive, Fluorite Drive **9/24/2025:** Insurance Way, Calcite Drive **10/1/2025:** Gypsum Lane, Magnetite Drive

#### **Potomac Towers**

**9/3/2025**:401-432 **9/10/2025**: 501-531 **9/17/2025**: 601-632 **9/24/25**: 701-731



### **Narcan Training**

Potomac Towers - September 16, 2025 at 12 pm Walnut Towers - September 18, 2025, at 12 pm

Please contact Kristy Cuba at 301-733-6911 ext. 170 to sign up

## POTOMAC TOWERS BINGO NIGHT MEAL MENU

September 3<sup>rd</sup>:
Sausage, Pepper and
Onion Sandwiches
Hot Dogs
Tater Tots

**Ice Cream Cups** 

September 10<sup>th</sup>:
Grilled Ham and Cheese
Paninis
Hot Dogs
French Frieso
Strawberry Cream Pie



September 17<sup>th</sup>:
Hamburgers
Hot Dogs
French Fries

September 24<sup>th:</sup>
Cold Cut Sandwiches
Hot Dogs
French Fries

## Community Building Reservation Process For HHA Residents Only!

All **HHA resident** requests to use the community buildings, as well as inquiries about their use, must now be submitted through the following link:

www.hagerstownha.com/CBrequest

Once your request is received, a staff member will contact you with additional information and reservation instructions.

Please note: You no longer need to contact the keyholder directly.

Thank you for your cooperation with this new process.



#### STOP SMOKING RESOURCES/PATCHES AVAILABLE

Are you interested in stopping smoking or vaping? Do you not know where to start? Resident Services at HHA has a limited supply of free nicotine patches and resources to assist you to stop smoking. Please contact Deena Holder at 301.733.6911 ext. 163 or dholder@hagerstownha.com for more information.

In person smoking cessation support is available from Washington County Health Department staff at Potomac Towers the third Thursday each month at 10am. This month she will be available on September 18, 2025.



## Parkside Pals Homework Club To Start Next Month

The Parkside Pals Homework Club, held at the Suman Ave Community Center, is starting back up October 6<sup>th</sup>. The afterschool program is for grades K-3<sup>rd</sup> and provides homework assistance, group activities and a snack. The club runs from Monday - Thursday 4:30-6:30 PM during the school year. More details and flyers to come.

Donations ro

The Hagerstown Housing Authority discourages residents from placing donations on tables in community rooms. We will remove any items that could be of health or pest control hazards.

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 STARTS AT 6:00PM

\$1.00 PER BOWL
C.W. Brooks Residents ONLY

### Staying Connected with the Hagerstown Housing Authority

#### Report a Concern

www.hagerstownha.com/ reportaconcern or you can also scan the **OR** code



To access the Rent Café Portal via cell phone, please download the RentCafe Resident app

Have you signed up for our online Resident Portal?

Save time when you are on the go with the Resident Portal app through Rent Café!

Submit routine service requests

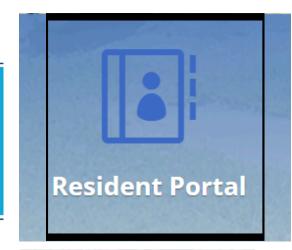


The Housing Authority has a text message system that will keep you up to date on programming and urgent messages. If you wish to receive text alerts or need to update your phone number in the system, please contact Deena Holder at 301-733-6911 x163 or via email at dholder@hagerstownha.com.

To access the Rent Café Portal via computer, please visit www.hagerstownha.com and scroll to the bottom. Then click "Resident Portal"

We have a FREE app for that





JOIN TODAY!

Download the Rent Café Resident App at:







#### **Numbers To Know**

Hagerstown Housing Main 301.733.6911

Security...... 301.730.2096 Maintenance (24 hours)...... 301.733.6916

Maintenance- Pest Control.......301,733-6911 ext. 124

#### **Resident Services Department**

Dianne Rudisill ......301.733.6911 ext. 125 **Deena Holder.....**301.733.6911ext. 163 *Kristy Cuba* ......301.733.6911 ext. 170 Tacy Myers ...... 301.733.6911 ext. 157 **Heather Nutter.....**301.733.6911 ext. 167 Jaime Mayo...... 301.733.6911 ext. 158

**Gateway Crossing** Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) 301.766.7968 301.733.6911



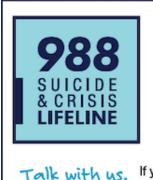
#### **BBQ Grill Reminder**

BBQ grills, smokers, gas grills, or charcoal grills are NOT **PERMITTED** at Gateway Crossing, McCleary Hill, C.W. Brooks, Potomac Towers, or Walnut Towers.

## FIREWORK NIGHTS



- **August 8th**
- August 22nd
- August 29th
- September 12th



There is hope



Talk with us. If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text 988

or chat 988lifeline.org





Success in the workplace goes beyond technical knowledge—it requires strong professional skills. This continuing education course focuses on developing essential soft skills to help individuals communicate effectively, collaborate with others, and navigate workplace challenges with confidence.

#### Key topics include:

- Understanding personality types Effective
- communication and active listening Conflict
- resolution and problem-solving strategies
- Embracing diverse perspectives in the
- workplace Building strong teamwork and collaboration skills

Contact

Rebecca Powers rkpowers@hagerstowncc.edu 240-500-2490 Sep 15 - Oct 8 Mondays & Wednesdays 9 AM - 12 PM HCC Main Campus



Scholarships

W W W . H A G E R S T O W N C C . E D U / B U S I N E S S -M A R K E T I N G - C O U R S E S



**Washington County Health Department** 

## TOBACCO FREE FOR LIFE PROGRAM (TFFL)





READYTO QUIT SMOKING OR VAPING?

**WE CAN HELP!** 

Paula Ernst will provide
a presentation on the
Tobacco Free for Life
Program at the
September 11th Resident

Meeting.

- Our Services
  FREE Support Classes
- FREE NRT With Class Attendance
- Stress Management
- Coping Strategies



240-313-3310 711 for MD Relay washcohealth.org Get in on the s Prize Raffle for Attending!

## Living Chronic Disease Self-Management







A community-based workshop in a small group setting helps adults become stronger and better educated in managing ongoing health conditions.

- Pain and Fatigue Management
- Dealing with Depression
- Healthy Eating and Exercise
- Medication Management
- Working with Healthcare Providers
- Goal Setting and Problem Solving

Class meets weekly on Fridays for six weeks from 1:00 - 3:30 pm and starts October 17, 2025 at the C.W. Brooks Building



Contact Kim at 301-790-0275 or via email at ktorsiello@wccoaging.org to register or for more information

## Ready, Set, RIDE!

## Join Usfor Our Bike Rodeo

Sept.19th at4:30p.m - 6:00p.n Frederick Manor HHA

Kidsbring yourbike and helmet foradayoflearningaboutbike safety, fun activities and more!

- Bike checks
- · Helmet fittings
- Bike skill course
- Bike Safety Kits for kids who complete all activities
  - includes: educational materials, activity book, reflective tape, safety flag, bike lock, bell, light, first aid kit and more!



Washington County
HealthDepartment
washcohealth.org
240-313-3246 711 for M

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