Letter from Shawn

Happy Spring! This is an exciting time as we leave Winter behind and enjoy the renewal that comes with the Spring season. For RHA, it is a special time as we celebrate the renewal of public housing and voucher programs in our community, including opening the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) waiting list.

I am delighted to report that the first residents have moved back into their newly renovated homes as part of our Federal Street and Scattered Sites affordable-housing development project. One of the residents was so happy that she hugged our RHA team after getting the keys to the house, and simply said, “I’m very excited for my family.”

This project is part of RHA’s ongoing efforts to not only Change the Face of Public Housing but to change the perception of public housing. These Scattered Sites projects – among many others – are doing just that.

Far from what many imagine when they think of public housing, when completed, 18 energy-efficient homes on Federal Street and 35 units within the Beechwood neighborhood are being developed or significantly renovated. Amenities include new high-efficiency heat pumps, improved ventilation, enhanced insulation, window replacements, and much more.

These are the first of several projects in progress that will help increase, preserve, and diversify housing options and revitalize neighborhoods. And they are just the beginning, as they kick off the next 20 years of RHA preserving and redeveloping our public housing stock and developing new affordable housing.

You can keep track of these and other RHA projects and upcoming events by following us on Facebook (@RochesterHousingAuthority).

I wish each of you the very best for a safe and enjoyable Spring and Summer.

Shawn Burr, Executive Director
Tenants on Patrol
Kennedy Tower residents Andre and Alberta help keep their neighbors safe by volunteering as Tenants on Patrol. They patrol the building six hours per week. Andre, who has volunteered for six years, said he does it to “try to keep our building safe and to protect our people.” Alberta volunteered nearly a year ago because she “wants to give back.” Andre and Alberta encourage other tenants to volunteer to help them protect where they live.

Scattered Sites Move-Ins
The first residents recently moved back into their newly renovated homes in the Beechwood neighborhood as part of the Federal Street and Scattered Sites affordable-housing development project. These two renovations are part of RHA’s efforts to revitalize neighborhoods and increase, preserve, and diversify housing options. “This is just the beginning,” said RHA Executive Director Shawn Burr. “We are grateful for our residents who have worked with us throughout the entire process.”

Capital Project
Bronson Court Phase II
Porch roof/deck framing and exterior work has begun.
**Family Self-Sufficiency Program Update**

This is a voluntary employment and savings incentive program designed to assist families in becoming economically independent and self-sufficient. Benefits include: obtaining the education or training to make a living wage; case management/support services; an escrow check on successful completion of the five-year contract; and pride in achieving their goals. We currently have 169 participants enrolled in the program.

On April 22, we hosted a special graduation event celebrating the achievements of our 16 graduates. Thanks to Shawn Burr, Melissa Berrien, and Mayor Malik Evans who spoke at the event.

Scan this code to learn more, contact your Public Housing or Leasing Operations Department Housing Specialist, or fill out the interest form here: rochesterhousing.org/resident-services

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**Financial Empowerment Center**

The Rochester Housing Authority works together with the Rochester Financial Empowerment Center to provide free financial education.

The FEC program offers free financial counseling focused on increasing savings, reducing debt, and increasing access to safe and affordable banking products. In 2023, we provided 344 counseling sessions to 137 clients. These sessions resulted in debt reduction of $310,000 and increased savings of $70,000.

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**Homeownership**

We are so proud of our seven RHA families who have an anticipated house closing, and the 31 families who have been approved for financing and are searching for homes. Congratulations to our new and soon-to-be homeowners!

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**HAI Group Resident Scholarship Program**

HAI Group’s Resident Scholarship Program has awarded over $1.7 million in scholarships to nearly 500 students nationwide who reside in public or affordable housing properties to help defray the costs of higher education.

The HAI Group is accepting applications for its Resident Scholarship program. This year, they are awarding scholarships worth $6,000 each to 20 residents to continue their education.

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**Act Now! Visit**

hagroup.com/scholarships (or scan code below) to learn more about the program or access our online application.

If you’re interested, the deadline is Friday, May 31, 2024 at 3:30pm EST
**Black History Month**

RHA's Black History Month Celebration took place on February 29, 2024. Our Diversity and Inclusion Committee selected Florine Cummings, Board of Commissioners Vice Chair, to be interviewed on camera to share her years of experiences in Rochester and the need to be a part of systematic change.

**Senior Holiday Luncheon**

On December 7, 2023, we were delighted to host residents attending our festive Senior Holiday Luncheon at Kodak Center. Attendees had the opportunity to enjoy great food and hear and dance to holiday music from our Resident choir.

**Eclipse Family Event**

Zoralis and Tileesia from our Resident Services team, along with Evhen from IT, were at Harriett Tubman Estates the morning of the eclipse to show youth residents how to make pin-hole eclipse viewers. Sun Chips and Moon Pies were also a big hit!

**Pirate Toy Fund**

The Pirate Toy Fund distributes new toys to children-in-need throughout the Greater Rochester region. In December, children from RHA public housing received toys on behalf of RHA staff and the Pirate Toy Fund.

**Strong Families**

RHA looks forward to hosting more Strong Families events this summer. Please check our Facebook page [https://www.facebook.com/RochesterHousingAuthority](https://www.facebook.com/RochesterHousingAuthority) often for updates on this and other events of interest.
Leasing Operations

RHA is thrilled to announce the opening of our Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), formerly Section 8, waiting list. We will begin accepting preliminary ONLINE applications on May 23, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. through Friday, June 7, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. This preliminary application window will be available 24 hours/day during the open period.

More information is available at www.rochesterhousing.org.

Partnerships

The RHA is proud to continue its partnerships with the following organizations:

- Partners Ending Homelessness
- RMAPI Steering Committee and Housing Working Group
- Focus on our community’s full housing system, Melissa B. Co-Chair
- Boy Scouts
- City FEC Program Initiative
- Connected Communities Housing Committee
- Closing the Gaps Six City Cohort
- Office of Financial Empowerment
- Private Sector Rental Market Study Working Group
- Eviction Response Team
- Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning
- Foodlink (see schedule below)

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**APRIL 1-JUNE 30 2024 SCHEDULE / ABRIL 1-JUNIO 1 2024 CALENDARIO**

**MONDAY / LUNES**

- Closed 4/8 & 5/27
- Lifespan - Workout Café 12:00 - 11:00 AM
- 25 Franklin St, 14604
- 100 Liberty Pole Way 11:00 - 11:30 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626
- Long Pond Senior Housing 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626
- Cornerstone Pointe Apts 11:00 - 11:30 AM
- 1175 Park Ave, 14626
- 100 Liberty Pole Way 11:00 - 11:30 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626
- Trillium Health 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- 200 Smith St, 14607
- 100 Liberty Pole Way 10:30 - 11:30 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626

**TUESDAY / MARTES**

- 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- 100 Liberty Pole Way 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626
- 100 Liberty Pole Way 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626

**WEDNESDAY / MIERCOLES**

- Closed 6/9
- Pineapple Place Apts 10:00 - 11:30 AM
- 100 Liberty Pole Way, 14626
- 100 Liberty Pole Way 10:00 - 11:30 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626
- 100 Liberty Pole Way 10:00 - 11:30 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626

**THURSDAY / JUEVES**

- Closed 6/9
- Pineapple Place Apts 10:00 - 11:30 AM
- 100 Liberty Pole Way, 14626
- 100 Liberty Pole Way 10:00 - 11:30 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626
- 100 Liberty Pole Way 10:00 - 11:30 AM
- 1 GEC Parkway, 14626

**SATURDAY / SÁBADO**

- Closed 6/2
- The Hamilton Apts 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- 158师范大学 Ave, 14607
- 158师范大学 Ave, 14607
- The Hamilton Apts 10:00 - 11:00 AM
- 158师范大学 Ave, 14607
- 158师范大学 Ave, 14607

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* Indoor markets
† New accepting WIC / Ahora aceptamos WIC
Development Projects for RAD

Federal Street
A kitchen in a renovated house as part of the Federal Street and Scattered Sites project

Federal Street
A living room in a renovated house as part of the Federal Street and Scattered Sites project

Federal Street
An exterior of a recently renovated home

Federal Street
Building 25 with siding complete

Parliament/Fairfield
Renovations of existing buildings in the Parliament/Fairfield project are underway

Parliament/Fairfield
Building #1 with a new metal roof

Maintenance Requests

If you have a non-emergency request, please fill out the form found here:
https://www.rochesterhousing.org/forms/maintenance-request

All work orders will be addressed in 1-5 business days. If you are a Voucher Holder or Shelter Plus Care participant, please contact your Housing Specialist at (585) 697-6105 to request an HOS Inspection.

For emergency requests only, please call (585) 464-9600.
We are Hiring!
Check out our job openings and great benefits:
www.rochesterhousing.org/employment-opportunities

Sr. Human Resource Consultant
Clerk II/Typing
Clerk III/Typing
Public Safety Aide – PT
Clerk III/Typing/Bilingual
HVAC Mechanic
Systems Engineer

Maintenance Mechanic
Sr. Property Rehab Specialist
Housing Specialist
Sr. Maintenance Mechanic – Electrician
Mail Room Clerk
Clerk II/Typing/Bilingual

Application Processing Center
270 Lake Ave.
Rochester, NY 14608
(585) 697-7180

ROCHESTER Housing Authority

Visit Us!
Check out our website for more information about our programs

Admin. Headquarters
675 W. Main St.
Rochester, NY 14611
(585) 697-3600

Facebook
Follow us on Facebook for events and updates

Resident Services Center
495 Upper Falls Blvd.
Rochester, NY 14605
(585) 232-1112