

January Newsletter

Happy New Year

Note From the Director

I cannot believe that it is 2023 already, I hope that everyone enjoyed the holiday season and was able to spend it with their loved ones.

As I look to the year ahead, I am excited to help get our resident councils formed. Resident councils are an opportunity to be directly involved in creating and implementing plans that benefit your community. If you can find time to help us make these communities the best possible, we would love to have you at an upcoming meeting.

Finally, thank you to everyone who volunteered to help out with our resident holiday parties. They were a huge success. I loved seeing so many of you. I wish you all a happy and safe 2023.

In service,
Zac Fosler
Executive Director

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Community reminders

Resident Council:

As promised resident councils will be coming to New Parkridge, Hamilton Crossing and Strong Future Homes soon. The dates and last details are being finalized for Resident Council elections, so please keep an eye out as flyers with more information will be posted in management offices.

We Want Your Feedback

Comment boxes have been installed at each property office. They are locked and only opened by YHC administration. The YHC wants to hear your comments, questions, concerns, and ideas! However, if you have property concerns, please attempt to resolve them with your property manager before bringing them to the YHC.

After-School Tutoring

- Hamilton Crossing :
Monday - Wednesday, 4 pm - 5 pm
- New Parkridge: Starting Jan. 9th
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

GED Classes

- What: Free GED Preparation classes
- When: Tuesdays and Thursdays
from 4 pm - 6 pm
- Where: New Parkridge Community Room

Bingo

- Hamilton Crossing:
Every Monday, 2 pm - 3 pm

Resident Council

Fact Sheet

What is it?

The Resident Council is an organization designed to improve residents' life at public housing properties. The Resident Council's purpose is to:

1. Maintain a viable resident organization representing the residents that reside within public housing properties.
2. Act as a liaison between the Housing Authority and the Resident Council Members to ensure adequate maintenance of all units and common areas.
3. Provide programs to ensure maximum employment and training opportunities.
4. Promote programs that will provide improved educational, recreational and social service opportunities.
5. Establish and maintain security and public safety programs.
6. Inform residents of their rights and responsibilities under existing Federal, State, and Local Laws and the Corporation's By-Laws.

Tenant's Right to Organizer under HUD

§ 245.100 Right of tenants to organize: "The tenants of a multifamily housing project covered under § 245.10 have the right to establish and operate a tenant organization for the purpose of addressing issues related to their living environment, which includes the terms and conditions of their tenancy as well as activities related to housing and community development."

§ 964.100 Role of resident council: "The role of a resident council is to improve the quality of life and resident satisfaction and participate in self-help initiatives to enable residents to create a positive living environment for families living in public housing. Resident councils may actively participate through a working partnership with the Housing Authority (HA) to advise and assist in all aspects of public housing operations."

Resident Council Membership requirements

Membership in the organization shall include any person whose name appears on the lease of a unit in the public housing developments represented by the organization who is at least eighteen (18) years of age or head of the household.

The participation of members of the organization is crucial for its success. Members can take part in decision-making in many ways. The democratic election of the organization's directors is an important responsibility of the members.

Benefits of Resident Council to Residents

- RC makes a stronger and safer Community to live.
- RC makes decisions that affect you.
- RC serves as a Voice of the residents.
- RC represents the interest of all residents.
- RC can link the resident to other resources around the community.
- RC provides a means in which tenants concerns can be prioritized and addressed.
- RC can address concerns for residents with the YHC staff.
- RC helps to educate and inform residents of grievances and other issues or projects on property to keep residents up to date on that process.
- RC provides a place where issues can be discussed, and information distributed.
- RC provides a way to organize projects and programs.
- RC serves as a communication link to advocate the issues and concerns of residents.
- RC support and promote programs and services, including applying for and receiving grants.
- RC help builds a positive relationship with the YHC, business, churches and other community organizations.

What is the Family Empowerment Program?

The Family Empowerment program was created to provide individuals and families of the YHC with Individualized Supportive Services, which is done by working with our residents to promote self-sufficiency in three key areas - employment, education, and health/wellness.

What can the FEP help with?

FEP staff have varying focus areas, ranging from mental health coordination, education and wellness, senior support, and permanent supportive housing. Available services are quite varied: FEP hosts 3 food pantries a month (Sauk Trail, Hollow Creek, Towner), provides GED courses, afterschool tutoring, transportation, game nights, community events, case management, mental health counseling, financial literacy, and referrals for furniture, home essentials, car repair, assistance with DTE bills, and much more.

Who should I contact for support?

Each YHC community has FEP staff present. Listed below are the staff members in each community. In the event of a crisis, we encourage residents to contact any available FEP staff member in addition to appropriate first responders (EMT, fire department, police department, etc...).

New Parkridge:

- Christa Hughbanks, Mental Health Resident Services Coordinator: (734) 787-2412
- Melinda Miller, Permanent Supportive Housing Coordinator, (734) 787-0239

Hamilton Crossing:

- Lamar Thomas, Resident Services Coordinator, (734) 787-2609

Strong Future, Sauk Trail, Hollow Creek, Towner, Scattered Sites:

- Sergio Hernandez, Senior Resident Cares Coordinator, (734) 757 -5962

Additional Questions ?

If you have additional questions or you are unsure if FEP can assist you, please contact:

- Mark Hammond, FEP Director, (734) 787-0290

January

2023

Melinda Miller 734-787-0239

Food Panty Dates



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 Hollow Creek 2p-4p 103 S. Grove St	4 Towner 2p-4p 713 Towner	5	6	7
8	9 Salk 11:30-2:30 936 W. Michigan Ave	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Towner 2p-4p 713 Towner	19	20	21
22	23 Salk 11:30-2:30 936 W. Michigan Ave	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

This is an equal opportunity Pantry. All are welcome.



FOR ASSISTANCE
CONTACT CHRISTA

Phone: (734) 787-2412

Email: chughban@emich.edu

ASK FOR A PAPER SURVEY
AS A SECOND OPTION



HELP US IMPROVE!

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Rate Community and FEP Families of What's
Needed at Home



NP 2022 Needs Survey



MH BDI-II Survey



Scan the QR Code

2 SURVEYS

2 RAFFLES

2 CHANCES
WIN!

<https://www.emich.edu/engage/community/family-empowerment-program/index.php>

Contact Us

Family Empowerment Program (FEP) Services:

Please call a FEP staff member if you need assistance.

Director: Mark Hammond (734) 787-0290

Resident Services Coordinator: Lamar Thomas (734) 787-2609

Resident Cares Coordinator (55+): Sergio Hernandez (734) 757-5962

Mental Health Resident Services Coordinator: Christa Hughbanks (734) 787-2412

Permanent Supportive Housing Coordinator: Melinda Miller (734) 787-0239

**For property management questions or concerns, please
contact:**

Hamilton Crossing : (734) 484-1706

New Parkridge : (734) 961-7453

**Deborah Strong Housing (including Sauk Trail Pointe, Hollow Creek, &
Towner Apartments): (734) 547-5117**

Ypsilanti Housing Commission

601 Armstrong Dr.

(734) 482-4300

Questions about this newsletter? Please email

Deandre Webster, YHC Executive &

Communications Assistant at

dwebster@ypsilantihc.org