



Volume 19 Issue 1

ABILENE HOUSING AUTHORITY

Newsletter Date:
JANUARY 2023

IN THE KNOW – PUBLIC HOUSING

IN THE KNOW

Special Points of Interest:

- ◆ Managers Corner
- ◆ Renters Insurance
- ◆ Texas Rent Relief

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- ◆ January Events
- ◆ RAB/Resident Council
- ◆ Housing Updates (if applicable)
- ◆ Managers Corner
- ◆ Resident Activities / Birthdays
- ◆ PH Staff



January –Mental Awareness Month

With the focus on holidays and new year, comes the focus on Mental Awareness. January is National Mental Wellness Month.

There is no better time than the beginning of a new year to take stock of your mental health and learn ways to improve your overall being. Here’s a few tips to improve you overall mental being:

- Mindfulness—Living in the present moment without judgement can help you be more positive and better deal with problems as they arise
- Look for Positives– Look for and focus on the small positives. Look for that silver lining by finding new opportunities within a negative situation
- Take a Break and Stay Active—Find time to take small breaks throughout the day. Stay Active mentally and physically
- Quality Time Family/Friends-People really need people. Learn more about each other





Pest Control Dates:

1st Wed.– E.W and Office

2nd Wed -Deegan

3rd Wed -Riviera

*In order to change
we must be sick and
tired of being sick
and tired.*

Author Unknown

Current RAB Members:

Lester Crenshaw

Celestine Daugherty

Oscar Fields

Carmella Hall

Kathleen Ritz

Interested in Applying? *Online Application*

AHA has online applications for interested applicants on its website. When you access our website at (www.abileneha.org) click on the second tab and follow the easy-to-use process. You can choose from the Public Housing Waiting Lists and/or the Housing Choice Voucher Waiting List. Once you complete the online application you are automatically placed on the Waiting List (s) of your choice!



January Events

- ◆ 1-Rent Due
- ◆ 1—Happy New Year
- ◆ 2—Holiday Office Closed
- ◆ 5— Last day to pay rent without the \$15 late charge.
- ◆ 16— Martin Luther King Holiday—Office Closed
- ◆ Please see January Calendar for AHA

RAB and Resident Council

RAB (Resident Advisory Board)

RAB Stands for Resident Advisory Board. The Resident Advisory Board is made up of residents from Public Housing and HCV. These residents reflect and represent the residents assisted by the Abilene Housing Authority. The role of this board is to assist and make recommendations regarding the development of the PHA plan and any significant amendment or modifications to the PHA Plan. WE WANT YOUR INPUT! Interested? Call Tanya at 325-676-6032

Resident Council

Resident Council is a council that consists of residents from Public Housing. Unlike RAB, Resident Council is a tenant association geared towards the revitalization of public housing. The Council exists to make public housing better. Tenants can come together and get things done, and get things changed!

We all know that there are some things that cannot be changed. However, we are dedicated to making changes that will bring improvement. Interested? Call Tanya at 25-676-6032. Participation in RAB or Resident Council count towards Community Service





ABILENE HOUSING AUTHORITY

TEXAS EVICTION DIVERSION PROGRAM(TEDP)

BEHIND ON RENT OR UTILITY BILLS?

Texas Rent Relief Will No Longer Accept New Applications After November 5th

The Texas Eviction Diversion Program (TEDP) is through the Texas Rent Relief Program is Here to Help! It forms a unique partnership to help eligible tenants stay in their homes and provide landlords with an alternative to eviction.

TEDP uses a special court process that allows courts to put eviction lawsuits on hold and divert them to the TEDP. Both the tenant and landlord must agree to participate and meet the program requirements. Lump sum payments are made to landlords in exchange for allowing tenants to remain in their homes. This is funded through a set-aside of the Texas Rent Relief Program and will remain available until funds are expended. Justices of the Peace refer applicants to apply for assistance through TDHCA at TexasRentRelief.com or **1-833-989-7368**. TEDP may provide up to 15 months of rental and utility assistance for eligible tenants who are behind due to COVID-19 pandemic and have been sued for eviction.

The website will provide additional information as well the eligibility requirements and how to apply.

Renter's Insurance

As a resident of Public Housing, you may want to consider purchasing Renters Insurance.

Renters insurance covers a policyholder's belongings against perils such as fire, theft/vandalism, flood/water damage, windstorm, hail etc. It provides personal liability coverage for damage the policy holder or dependents cause to third parties. It also provides additional living expenses, known as loss of use coverage if a policy holder must move while his or her dwelling is repaired. It can include coverage for their replacement cost or actual cash value that includes depreciation. For more information contact local insurance agencies and additional information is in the PH Office Lobby.

"If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put foundations under them."

Henry David Thoreau

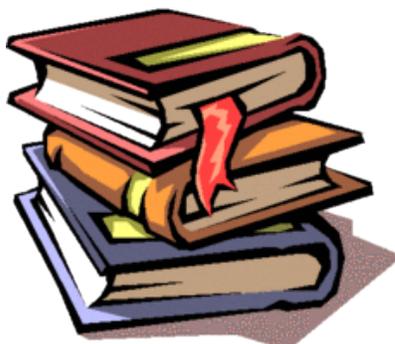
Money Follows the Person (MFP) Program

This program has its own target population of those transitioning from nursing facilities back into the mainstream.

Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) Program

Ross Program is a program open to all Public Housing Residents. The goal of ROSS is to work with residents to identify barriers to self sufficiency, and connect residents with local service providers in the community to meet those needs!

Continued Training for Staff: *Increasing our Knowledge!*



Trainings in January

- **None Scheduled at this time**





Manager's Corner

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act but a habit.”

Aristotle

APPLICATION FOR THE 2023 TXNAHRO COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP. DEADLINE IS MARCH 24, 2023

Tanya Johnson has the information about the scholarships. The application can be completed on-line or you may download the application. Please contact Tanya at 325-676-6032 if you have a graduating high school senior or student that plans on attending post secondary school. Additional categories have been added:
Category 1—High School Senior- \$4000
Category 2—Child of Staff- \$1000
Category 3— Head of Household- \$1000
Category 4 - Graduating Senior-Non Traditional-Resident/Participant- \$1000



GUESS WHO VISITED OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY!!!
 THE GRINCH!!!!



Birthdays

AUGUSTIN, AMANDO	HOLCOMB, LAMERE	SANCHEZ, PAULA
BASIMISE, ADOLPHINE	JOHN, JEAN CLAUDE	SHABUTWA, RANDA
CARPENTER, KANON	MCCLEAN, JAMARIAH	THACKER, CHASE
CASTILLA, ARABELLA	MOSS, ALICE	WRIGHT, TYNIA
COLWELL, SPENCER	MUNOZ, ALEXIS	
CRAIN, JENIYAH	NZIZA, LUCHK	
CRAIN, JERREL	PERALEZ, ISAIAH	
DURDEN, DEVYN	RAMIREZ, ELIJAH	
ESSIZ, AALIYAH	REYES, AVIANA	





AHA — *Providing Homes for Families*

ABILENE HOUSING AUTHORITY LOW RENT PUBLIC HOUSING

4398 North 7th St
Abilene, TX 79603

Phone: 325-676-6032
Fax: 325-738-8091
Relay Services 711 or 1-800-RelayTx
Customer Service Email Address:
helpdesk@abileneha.org



Mission Statement:

The Housing Authority's mission is to service the housing needs of low-income families in the Authority's jurisdiction in order to enhance self-sufficiency and promote community quality of life and economic viability.

Vision Statement:

We will be recognized as a leading authority in moderate and low-income community development activities in West Texas.

We're on the web: <http://www.abileneha.org>

Abilene Housing Authority Office Personnel:

Chief Executive Officer—Gene Reed

Housing Manager—Kimberlee Rodriguez

Assistant Housing Manager—Debra Hart

Housing Counselor—Kathy Bouldin

Resident Services Coordinator—Tanya Johnson

ROSS Coordinator—Veronica Berube

Crew Chief—Ali Mitaci

Maintenance—Onecimo Almazan and Evaristo Almazan



Happy
New
Year

January
2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3  4:00 – 5:00  Abilene Hunger Coalition 12-1	4  4:00 – 5:00  Abilene Hunger Coalition 12-1	5  Abilene Hunger Coalition 12-1	6  Abilene Hunger Coalition 12-1  Credit Class 4 PM	7
8	9	10  4:00-5:00 PM	11  4:00-5:00 PM	12	13  Game Night-6 PM	14
15	16  MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	17  4:00-5:00 PM	18  4:00-5:00 PM	19  6:00 –7:00 PM	20  Movie Night-6 PM	21
22	23	24  4:00-5:00 PM	25  4:00-5:00 PM  ESL 1 ST Class 5:30pm-8:30	26  Arts & Craft Day 6:00 PM	27  Hygiene Closet 10:00am –12:00pm While supplies last	28
29	30	31				

Notes

If you are interested in taking Computer classes or the ESL (English Second Language) class, please contact Veronica at 325-676-6032 x6016