



Hat City Housing Herald

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HACDCT.ORG

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Housing Authority, City of Danbury

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Applications Being Accepted for Family Self-Sufficiency

The Housing Authority of the City of Danbury is seeking applicants for a new Family Self-Sufficiency program. A similar program was begun three years ago and has been successful.

About 25 families will be chosen to take part in the program.

The Family Self-sufficiency (FSS) program is intended to promote the development of local strategies to help eligible residents of low income family housing achieve economic independence.

The program is open to families at Eden Drive, Laurel Gardens, HCVP (Section 8) and HACD scattered sites. Participation in the program is voluntary.

Families entering the

program will work with a case coordinator at TBI-CO (The Bridge To Independent Career Opportunities) to develop goals that will, over a specific period of time, lead to self-sufficiency. These goals may include education, specialized training, job readiness and job placement activities and career advancement objectives.

Goals for each participating family member are set out in Individual Training and Service plans.

When a family meets its goals and completes its FSS contract, the family becomes eligible to receive funds deposited in an escrow account on its behalf throughout the family's participation in the FSS program. The amount credited to the

family's escrow account is based on increases in the family's earned income during the term of the FSS contract.

FSS program success can be broadly defined, encompassing both the number of participating families who achieve self-sufficiency and the number of families who are helped to:

- Obtain a first job or obtain a higher paying job;
- Gain independence from public assistance;
- Obtain a high school diploma or a higher education degree; or
- Accomplish similar goals that will assist the family in obtaining economic independence

Pre-Application/Interest Form

If interested in receiving more information or a formal application please fill out the following form and return it to the HACD Office at 2 Mill Ridge Road or your site coordinator.

Name _____ Address _____

Phone Number _____ Cell Phone Number _____

What is the best time to contact you? _____

HACD Staff

Special Events

The following staff are celebrating birthdays in April, May and June:

- Lawrence Marsico
- Shirley Rodriguez
- Estela Francis
- Santa Rodriquez
- Dubravka Vidmar
- Joseph Urban
- Jacqueline Elam
- Elizabeth Meurer

Know Who You Are Letting In

Three of Danbury Housing Authority Senior Housing Sites have access systems that require the tenant to control access to the building.

At Wooster Manor, Putnam Towers and Ives Manor, tenants must “buzz” guests in.

Guests have access to a foyer where they must press a button next to the apartment they want to visit. Voice communications is then established between the tenant and the visitor.

If the tenant knows the person seeking to enter he or she can then “buzz” the visitor in which opens the inner door.

Danbury Housing Authority officials stress that

if the tenant does not know the person seeking entrance they MUST NOT allow them in by pressing the buzzer.

Unless you are expecting a food, UPS, FEDEX or other delivery, do not let a person in just because he or she claims to be making a delivery. The postal service has access to the building.

Additionally, officials stress, that if a tenant is in the lobby area of their building and sees someone seeking entrance they should not let them in by approaching the door, thus activating the motion detector which opens the door.

If a residents does see someone in the building

who they believe should not be there or who is acting suspiciously, notify a staff person.

If a staff person is not available, call the Danbury Police Department and report your suspicions. Suspicious person calls are not an annoyance to the police. Officers would rather respond to a suspicious person call then have to investigate a crime at the site.

HACD officials also say solicitors are not allowed in the building—especially going door-to-door or floor-to-floor.

This activity should also be reported to staff or police if it occurs.

Saturdays With The Mayor Are Back

Saturdays With The Mayor, held every third Saturday of the month, returned February 21st. The informal meetings with residents and constituents in the Mayor’s Office at City Hall.

The mayor’s office says those persons wishing to meet with Mayor Mark B. Boughton on any topic should take

advantage of these events.

The mayor's office says no appointments are taken for the Saturday morning meetings.

Residents can speak in a round table setting or ask to see the mayor privately on a first-come basis.

Remaining meeting dates are April 18,



May 16 and June 20.

There are no sessions in July and August.

Meetings resume on September 19, October 17 and November 21.

Clean Danbury Day, Saturday, May 2

City residents will come together again on May 2nd from 8 am to 12 pm to take part in the annual Clean City Danbury Day.

Danbury's public housing communities have joined their fellow Danbury residents in this effort.

Housing Authority officials are encouraging our residents to register with the city this year. By registering the volunteers will be supplied with trash bags and safety vests to wear while cleaning their neighborhoods. Registration forms are available through property coordinators.

The city will accept bulk garbage, such as furniture, that day. The bulk garbage will be accepted only from Danbury residents and proof of residency is required. No commercial vehicles will be allowed. That means no vehicle with a business name on it, no vehicle with commercial registration plates and no vehicles that are clearly used for hauling.

Not accepted will be electronics, hazardous waste, grass clippings or yard debris or any construction debris.

Electronics can be brought to the Recycle Center on White St.

anytime and hazardous waste day will be in September.

Scrap metal, tires and appliances containing Freon, must be kept separate.

Dumpsters

Residents can bring bulk garbage to the following locations:

City Hall, 155 Deer Hill Ave.

Rogers Park, by tennis courts

WCSU West Side Campus (43 Lake Ave. Ext)

Public Works Building, 53 Newtown Rd.

P.A.L. Building, 35 Hayes town Rd.

Raise your words, not voice. It is rain that grows flowers, not thunder.
~ Rumi

Former HACD Staffers Return

HACD staff and administration welcomed back two former employees over the past few months.

Returning are Jessie Castro and Devin Luciano-Marra.

Jessie began her career with HACD in 1998 as an Administrative Aide. She became a front desk receptionist in 1999.

Jessie became an Administrative Assistant in 2001 and a Section 8 (HCV) Case Coordinator in 2002.

Not one to be afraid of a challenge, Jessie became Section 8 Manager in 2007.

When HACD's management model turned to the Asset Management style, Jessie became one of the agency's first Asset Managers.

Jessie left our agency in 2012 to attend Naugatuck Community College's Nursing Program where she graduated with honors only to return to HACD in February.

Although Devin's time at HACD is not as extensive, she became a member of the agency team in 2011 when she joined as Purchasing Director.

Devin sculptured the purchasing process over the next two years which resulted in agency sav-

ings of over half-a-million dollars. Devin left the agency in 2013 prior to the birth of her youngest child.

Devin returned to HACD last month and has resumed her duties as Procurement Director.



Devin Luciano-Marra (l) and Jessie Castro go over purchase orders before submission.



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The Authority's mission, in support of the City of Danbury, is to provide safe, affordable and decent housing within the City of Danbury

Hat City Housing Herald
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Dorothy Butash (center) is pictured with HACD Property Coordinator Estela Francis (l) and Robert Novella in the community room at Wooster Manor. Dorothy has been a Wooster Manor resident since the building opened. She turned 90 on March 25th.

Dorothy Butash—A Wooster Manor Original

It was just before Memorial Day 1969 when Dorothy Butash moved into the just opened HACD Property Wooster Manor on West Wooster St.

Dorothy moved in as a caretaker for her mother, Celia Namovich, who had been accepted as one of the first tenants.

Dorothy describes the site as “brand new and beautiful.”

She fondly recalls how much Wooster Manor was

like a family. She notes how whenever any event happened—a birthday or the like—everyone chipped in and worked to host the event in Wooster’s community room. She also remembers contributing \$1 a month for dues to the building’s “association.” The money was used for parties on days such as “St. Patrick’s Day” she recalls.

Over the years she became friends with resident Robert “Bob” Novella.

They first met when Bob visited his mother, also a Wooster Resident. They became friends (he is her caretaker now) about 17-years-ago when Bob moved into Wooster Manor.

She and Bob both enjoyed gardening and were responsible for creating and maintaining Wooster's flower garden over the years.

Describing their relationship Bob says they are “true friends not just acquaintances.”