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Less energy,
more comfort

The NYCHA

JOURNAL



Al-tabar Hudgins

SAFETY IS HIS MISSION

Al-tabar Hudgins Is Walking the Talk

MARINER'S HARBOR RESIDENT

Al-tabar Hudgins, 23, is a young man with a mission to spread the word to his peers about keeping themselves and their communities safe.

As a member of the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice's (MOCJ) Peer Leadership Committee for the past three years, Mr. Hudgins has been getting people talking about gun violence. Peer leaders are NYCHA residents under the age of 24 who receive training to become advocates and activists for peace in their communities.

"This is something I'm very passionate about. Gun violence is something a lot of people are dealing with, so to be able to talk to them, to see everyone very much engaged to talk about

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

Breaking Ground on a New Future



ON JUNE 19, NYCHA launched construction work at Ocean Bay (Bayside) Apartments in Far Rockaway, a development that houses 3,700 residents. Under U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program—known as Permanent Affordability Commitment Together (PACT) in New York City—a new public-private partnership will provide \$325 million to renovate the development's 24 buildings.

Renovations will include better heating systems, new roofs, safety upgrades, and new kitchens and bathrooms. A portion of the restoration funds includes \$194.4 million from FEMA for resiliency improvements including rooftop boilers and solar energy panels that will help safeguard residents in storms like

Hurricane Sandy and other emergencies.

Residents will not have to move while their apartments are being renovated, which should take about three years in total, instead of the 20 years it would have taken to complete this work without PACT.

"Through PACT, we are able to provide our residents with the necessary repairs while also preserving public housing for future generations," NYCHA Chair and CEO Shola Olatoye said. "This innovative partnership will strengthen the Ocean Bay community and provide almost 1,400 New York families with much-needed upgrades and improvements for their homes."

All of the Ocean Bay (Bayside) apartments will be converted to Section 8 and managed by Wavecrest Management

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

FIGHTING FOR PUBLIC HOUSING

UNFORTUNATELY, the news out of Washington remains grim. For the coming year, NYCHA stands to lose \$210 million in funding for major repairs, up to \$130 million to maintain our developments, and 13,000 Section 8 vouchers. There is also a proposal to increase residents' rent. We will continue to fight these cuts in partnership with our allies who understand the importance of an affordable home.

These cuts come on top of years of severe underfunding: Since 2001, NYCHA has lost nearly \$3 billion in federal funding, and our buildings need \$17 billion worth of major repair work. To provide the quality of life that residents deserve, we must come up with new and creative sources of revenue.

We've made strides in recent months to do just that. As part of the NextGen Neighborhoods program, we announced the developer who will build a 50/50 mix of affordable and market-rate housing at Holmes Towers on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. We are excited that the developer's plan will connect and benefit NYCHA residents, with more than 14,000 square feet of new playground and open space and a new, 18,000-square-foot recreational and community center operated by a non-profit partner. This will also generate an expected \$25 million in new revenue for NYCHA, half of which will be invested in the repair needs at Holmes Towers.



Through the federal Rental Assistance Demonstration program, known as RAD, we're investing more than \$325 million at Ocean Bay (Bayside) Apartments by converting the property to Section 8 funding. In May, we released a request for proposals to do the same for another 1,700 apartments across the city, benefiting more than 4,000 residents with elevator replacements, new boilers and heating systems, and roof replacements.

Mayor de Blasio continues to lead the way in ensuring that NYCHA is here for the next generation. He announced a \$355 million investment in façade improvements, on top of the \$1.3 billion he committed for more than 950 roof replacements.

We've made a lot of progress over the past few years with our NextGeneration NYCHA plan, but there is still so much to be done. We will keep working tirelessly to deliver on our promise of safe, clean, and connected communities, and we will not let Washington turn its back on public housing.

Onward,

Shola Olatoye
Chair and CEO

NYCHA BOARD MEETINGS

NYCHA'S BOARD MEETINGS, open to the public, take place on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the NYCHA 12th floor conference room at 250 Broadway. People who wish to speak during the public comment period must pre-register at least 45 minutes before the meeting is scheduled to begin and can only comment about items on that meeting's agenda. Each speaker's time is limited to three minutes. The public comment period concludes either when all speakers are finished or after the 30 minutes allotted by law for public comment, whichever comes first.

Copies of the calendar for the upcoming board meeting are available on NYCHA's website or can be picked up at the Office of the Corporate Secretary, 250 Broadway, 12th floor, after 3 p.m. on the Monday before the meeting. Copies of the dispositions of prior meetings are available on NYCHA's website or can be picked up from the Office of the Corporate Secretary no earlier than 3 p.m. on the Thursday after the board meeting. Any person requiring reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact the Office of the Corporate Secretary at **212-306-6088** no later than

five business days prior to the meeting. For additional information regarding the calendar of meetings, dispositions, dates, and times, please call **212-306-6088**.

For those unable to attend the board meetings, please visit <http://on.nyc.gov/boardmeetings> at the time of the meeting to watch live. You may also watch past board meetings by visiting NYCHAnnel, NYCHA's YouTube page at <https://www.youtube.com/c/nycha>.

Upcoming Meetings:

September 27, 2017

October 25, 2017

November 29, 2017

December 20, 2017

* Note: There will be no board meeting in August. The May and December board meetings are scheduled for the second-to-last Wednesday.

First NextGen Neighborhoods Developer Selected

THE DEVELOPER FOR the first NextGeneration (NextGen) Neighborhoods development, at Holmes Towers in Manhattan, is Fetner Properties, which proposed a 47-story, mixed-income building. The new building will bring in money for repairs at Holmes and provide new affordable housing units at a time when New York City cannot keep up with demand.

Half of the apartments will be affordable to residents earning less than \$41,000 for an individual or \$52,000 for a family of three, and NYCHA residents will have a preference for 25 percent of those units. Holmes Towers’ residents will not need to move or pay increased rent. NYCHA retains ownership of the land and will provide a 99-year lease to the developer.

With \$17 billion in capital needs, NYCHA is looking to creative, new sources for funding. Holmes Towers has \$35 million in capital needs alone. NYCHA expects to receive a projected \$25 million through this transaction.

Half of the revenue raised from the new building will be used to address Holmes Towers’ most critical capital needs.

Fetner Properties was chosen after an unprecedented community engagement process dedicated to understanding resident concerns. NYCHA held 23 resident meetings, distributed over 1,000 notices, and went door to door to speak with more than 400 residents. In addition to the new units, Fetner will provide an 18,000-square-foot recreational and community center, to be operated by local non-profit Asphalt Green. Fetner will also work with NYCHA to fill a minimum of 50 percent of all permanent jobs at the community center with NYCHA residents. An onsite workforce recruitment center will ensure that residents can easily receive information on these job opportunities. In addition, Fetner will build 14,500 square feet of new playgrounds, new outdoor seating areas, lighting, and plantings.



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1) SAFETY IS HIS MISSION

“There’s value in conversation, because saying it out loud creates a whole new dynamic, a whole new culture.”

gun violence and the value of life, that’s the most meaningful part.” His experience with MOCJ led him to an opportunity with the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence. In January, Mr. Hudgins started working there as a peer educator. As part of the NYC Healthy Relationships Training Academy, he helps lead workshops on dating violence and healthy relationships for teens and young adults across the five boroughs.

“We talk about healthy relationships, empowering people our age and younger to know what they want out of a relationship, the reason they start relationships, the type of signs to look out for in an abusive relationship, and just to know how to have a healthy relationship.” Mr. Hudgins is thankful he got the chance to do this kind of important work for his community, and he hopes to continue that work in the future as a

defense attorney. He’s working on a bachelor’s degree in political science at the College of Staten Island and plans to then attend law school. “When I go to talk to some of these kids, especially Black and brown kids, it’s the first time a lot of them have ever had these conversations. They don’t get to talk about things that might be stigmatized. Conversation creates a whole new dynamic, a whole new culture.”

Stronger after Sandy at Coney Island Houses

NYCHA Breaks Ground on \$90 Million Recovery and Resiliency Project

HURRICANE SANDY INFLICTED incredible damage across New York City, including at Coney Island Houses, where it flooded the basement, knocked out power and heat, and filled underground pipes with sand. In May, NYCHA broke ground on a \$90 million design and construction project to fully restore and strengthen the development. This involves roof replacements, installation of standby generators for backup power, new electrical systems and flood-protected boilers, flood-prevention measures, new lobbies, upgraded playgrounds and recreational areas, a new multi-purpose room for residents, and new lighting, security cameras, and state-of-the-art security entrance doors.

"I have been working closely and diligently with the NYCHA Recovery to Resiliency team to

get the work started as quickly and safely as possible," said Laretta Brumfield, the resident association president of Coney Island Houses. "As a resident leader, I expect to have Coney Island Houses revived, to see people smiling, children laughing, playing, and to see residents working to rebuild their homes."

With the largest grant ever awarded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency—\$3 billion—NYCHA is repairing and strengthening its 33 developments that were damaged significantly by Hurricane Sandy, benefitting 60,000 residents. The construction at Coney Island Houses is the ninth major recovery and resiliency project to begin and the third in the Coney Island neighborhood. More than 170 NYCHA residents have been hired for this work so far.



Shovels in the ground: Sandy recovery construction work is in progress at Coney Island Houses.



NYCHA General Manager Michael Kelly (third from left) and Tenant Association President Carol Wilkins (third from right) unveil NYCHA's new kiosks with Property Manager Anita Lal (second from left) and staff from the offices of Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, Assemblymember Catherine Nolan, and State Senator Michael Gianaris.

NYCHA's New One-Stop Kiosk Unveiled at Ravenswood Houses

NEW SELF-SERVICE KIOSKS in every development provide residents access to NYCHA's online services, including rent payment, submitting work orders, and recertification of income. No longer is the lack of a computer or Internet access an obstacle to using these services. Using the kiosks, residents can also learn about job training programs, apply for NYCHA jobs, and read *The NYCHA Journal*.

"NextGeneration NYCHA represents a promise to our residents, and improving operations and modernizing customer services is an important part of our strategic plan," said

NYCHA General Manager Kelly. "These kiosks are a great step forward as we work to achieve a better NYCHA where all families have modern, safe, and secure homes."

- 144 kiosks have been installed at all developments and the Brooklyn Walk-In Center, except for Woodson Houses.
- Woodson Houses' management office is currently under construction but will have a kiosk upon completion. Woodson residents can use the kiosk at Langston Hughes Houses while their office is under construction.
- 5 kiosks are designated for the Bronx Walk-In Center.

Tracy Lovelace Keeps an Eye on the Brooklyn Resident Watch Program

TRACY LOVELACE IS the coordinator of the Resident Watch program in Brooklyn. For more than 40 years, thousands of residents have volunteered their time as Resident Watch members, patrolling their developments and fostering safety, security, and community pride in collaboration with property management staff.

What is your role in making NYCHA communities safer?

We recruit residents for Resident Watch, conducting lobby and general meetings to explain what Resident Watch is and get residents involved. We make buildings safer by having three to five residents volunteer to sit in the lobby and do patrol. Some developments don't have a Resident Watch supervisor, so my staff and I will sit with the volunteers and do patrols in the building. We work with the NYPD on patrols and



Tracy Lovelace

making sure the buildings are safe and that Resident Watch volunteers have what they need to be comfortable while sitting patrol, like fans during the summer. The presence of Resident Watch members makes a difference in deterring crime.

I like helping residents. It makes me feel good when they say "thank you" for being there by their side. You can't do this job without caring. You always have to come in with a smile, and you have to be prepared to assist and to stay in contact. You have to let residents know that you're there for them; this is a volunteer program, and we want residents to know that we appreciate what they are doing to keep their community safe.

Why is our NextGeneration NYCHA mission of creating safe, clean, and connected communities so important?

It's important for quality of life for residents to feel comfortable and safe. Resident Watch is the first line of defense for safety – we are the eyes and ears of the community. We have a lot of grandparents in the program, which is beneficial for them; we want youth to work with their grandparents to make sure they and their neighbors feel safe, and we want everyone to have open lines of communication with the NYPD.

Bright Lights, Big Improvement

New Fixtures at 18 Brooklyn Developments Benefit More Than 36,000 Residents

NYCHA RECENTLY FINISHED a \$16.3 million energy-efficiency lighting project at 18 developments in Brooklyn, benefiting more than 36,000 residents and helping the Authority save almost \$1.6 million in annual electricity costs. Con Edison contributed \$5.6 million to cover a portion of the lighting installation, and 23 additional developments in Brooklyn will begin receiving these upgrades in September. NYCHA will use the savings in electricity costs to fund additional energy retrofits such as heating and hot water upgrades at additional developments.

The developments that received lighting upgrades



are: Williamsburg, Brownsville, Van Dyke I, Van Dyke II, Cooper Park, Tilden, Howard, Pink, Kingsborough, Kingsborough Extension, Cypress Hills, Sumner, Roosevelt I, Hughes Apartments, Woodson, Low Houses, Glenmore Plaza, and Unity Plaza (Sites 04-27).

Can you discuss the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training provided by NYC Emergency Management that many Resident Watch members completed?

About 15 Resident Watch members completed the training. They learned so much and were so grateful for the program that they want to do it again! They learned how to plan for an emergency, how to evacuate and set up a family meeting place, and the important things to pack in a

go-bag, like flashlights, copies of birth certificates, and a spare set of keys.

As part of the training, there was a simulation of a storm scenario at Van Dyke Houses. They said I should have received an Oscar for my performance as a victim! I played someone with a dislocated shoulder. The volunteers had to provide us first aid and apply any other training they learned. It was really phenomenal and the instructors said it went well.

A Kids' Clubhouse Fit for a President

JUST ACROSS the street from the Polo Grounds Towers and Rangel Houses developments, a former president has broken ground on new resources for children.

On May 24, President Bill Clinton dug in his shovel for the unveiling of a new Madison Square Boys & Girls Club at the intersection of West 155th and Bradhurst Avenue in Harlem, expected to open in the fall of 2018.

The Boys & Girls Club will provide the Polo Grounds Towers and Rangel Houses communities with afterschool, Saturday, and summer pro-

gramming to young people ages 6 to 18. There are currently 1,317 Polo Grounds Towers residents, and 733 Rangel Houses residents, who are 19 years or younger.

"Nobody ever amounts to much without a hand up now and then, without a pat on the back, without someone looking after them telling them it's going to be alright," President Clinton said. "That's why I love the Boys and Girls Club, why I love this project."

The 45,000-square-foot, four-story building will hold educational spaces and recreational facilities, including a soccer field and



President Bill Clinton (center) is joined by Steven Melton (left), Associate Executive Director of Madison Square Boys & Girls Club, Joe Patuleia (right), Executive Director of Madison Square Boys & Girls Club, and students from P.S. 46 in Harlem at the groundbreaking ceremony for a new facility that will serve the community, including Polo Grounds Towers and Rangel Houses.

basketball court, as well as visual and performing arts space, including a production

studio, screening room, and technology lab. To learn more, visit www.madisonsquare.org.

West Nile Virus Mosquito Treatment

The New York City Housing Authority will be treating all of the catch basins located on Housing Authority developments to reduce the mosquito population in an effort to minimize the transmission of the West Nile Virus. These treatments will take place between June and September of 2017. One or more of the following pesticides will be used:

Vectolex CG, EPA Reg. No. 73049-20, Toxicity Category – "Caution"
Summit B.t.i. Briquets, EPA Reg. No. 6218-47, Toxicity Category – "Caution"
Altosid XR, EPA Reg. No. 2724-421, Toxicity Category – "Caution"

Contact information:

NYC Housing Authority:

Debbie Wolf, Administrative Staff Analyst, 718-707-5709 available from 9 am – 5 pm
 Denise Torres, Technical Resource Advisor, 718-707-8032 available from 8 am – 4 pm

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation, Region 2, Bureau of Pesticide Management – 718-482-4994

National Pesticide Telecommunications Network – 1-800-858-PEST

Inquiries concerning symptoms of pesticide poisoning should be directed to the Poison Control Center

1-800-222-1222

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1) BREAKING GROUND ON A NEW FUTURE

in partnership with NYCHA. NYCHA will keep ownership of Ocean Bay Apartments and continue to administer the Section 8 contract, ensuring that the apartments stay permanently affordable and guaranteeing that the developments can never be privatized. All rents will remain the same. In addition, social services for residents will be provided through Catholic Charities and many local residents have already been hired by Wavecrest or will be hired for construction jobs.

Lolita Miller, Treasurer of the Resident Association and a retired 20-year NYCHA employee, participated in numerous resident engagement meetings about changes at the development. She said she's already seen great things happening and can't wait to see the buildings restored to their original beauty.

"NextGeneration NYCHA is coming to life—the things that were neglected are coming back," Ms. Miller said.

NYCHA has also received HUD approval to raise \$300 million for extensive repairs and quality of life improvements for 1,700 apartments in 17 developments throughout Brooklyn and the Bronx. NYCHA has begun to meet regularly with residents at these developments to make sure that not only are their questions answered, but that they have meaningful input in the process. Ms. Miller advises residents to go get involved in the process—"you get to sit at the roundtable and list all the things that need to be done and help make decisions."

PLAY IT SAFE THIS SUMMER

Beat the Heat

Extreme heat is no joke. Every summer, New Yorkers get sick from it, and it can even be fatal. Here are some important tips to deal with the heat this summer:

- Use an air conditioner when it's hot out, and use window shades to block the sun.
- If you do not have an air conditioner:
 - Go to a cool place like a family or friend's home, library, shopping mall, or **NYC Cooling Center** (call **311** or visit www.nyc.gov/311 for the location nearest you).
 - Use a fan **ONLY** with the windows open.
- Drink lots of water, even if you don't feel thirsty. Avoid beverages with alcohol, caffeine, or high amounts of sugar.
- Cool showers or baths may be helpful, but *avoid going from one extreme temperature to another*.
- When outside:
 - Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothes and a hat.
 - Wear sunscreen rated SPF 15 or higher on your face.

HEAT ILLNESS SYMPTOMS

Hot, dry skin OR cold, clammy skin

- Weakness
- Dizziness
- Nausea or vomiting
- Trouble breathing
- Confusion, hallucinations, or disorientation

–Stay in the shade and out of direct sun.

–Avoid strenuous activity.

- Never leave children, pets, or those who require special care in a parked car during periods of intense heat.
- Check in with family, friends, and neighbors often to see how they are doing.
- Visit www.nyc.gov/beatthe-heat for more information.

Do you qualify for a free AC unit?

Through New York State's Home Energy Assistance Program, you may be eligible for funds for the purchase and installation of one air conditioner or fan – up to an \$800 benefit. This assistance is only available

to households meeting the income guidelines and which include a household member with a documented medical condition that is worsened by extreme heat. Visit <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/program.asp#cooling> or call **800-342-3009** to see if you qualify and find out how to apply. Apply now through August 31 for this valuable benefit. A limited amount of funding is available, and assistance will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

Is Your Air Conditioner Unit Safe to Use?

- All air conditioners must be safely installed, properly braced, and conform to the manufacturer's installation specifications.
- Do not use bricks, wood, cans, phone books, or any other object to support or level the AC unit.
- If you need info on proper installation or if you see an AC unit that appears to be improperly installed, call the CCC at **718-707-7771**.
- During an apartment inspection, NYCHA staff will determine whether AC units and window guards are installed properly.

Safety Begins At Home Extension Cords

- Extension cords should not run under rugs or behind radiators, be nailed to walls, or be run through water.
- Replace old, damaged, or frayed extension cords.
- Do not overload extension cords.
- Never use indoor extension cords outdoors.
- Use cords that are rated to handle the wattage of the devices that they're powering.
- Never use a cord that feels hot.
- Never use three-prong plugs with outlets that only have two slots for the plug.
- Don't plug extension cords together.

Window Guards

- NYCHA requires that every window in an apartment have a window guard, except windows that open onto fire escapes.
- Notify Property Management before removing an AC so an appointment can be made to immediately install a window guard.
- Call the CCC immediately at **718-707-7771** if you believe that a window guard is not secure or installed properly; the L-shaped stops keeping the bottom window from opening too high are absent or installed improperly; or there are unguarded openings greater than 4½ inches anywhere in the window.

Crime Tips

- Report immediately any issues with building entrance doors and intercoms or lighting in common areas and grounds to the CCC at **718-707-7771**.

Brevoort Houses Clean Up

THE YOUNGEST BREVOORT Houses residents pitched in to clean their development's grounds. On June 3, residents, community members, NYPD Neighborhood Coordination Officers, and CAMBA employees participated in the clean-up day organized by Resident Association President Pansy Nettles.



Harborview Terrace Resident Wins First Carey Gabay Award

New Partnership Recruits NYCHA High School Students for Internships

RUMON MIAH, 21, is the youngest of seven children and will be the first in his family to graduate from college. The Harborview Terrace resident was recently recognized for his academic achievement and commitment to community when he was awarded the first Carey Gabay Excellence Award by the Municipal Forum of New York (MFNY).

The award was created by MFNY to honor the memory of Carey Gabay, a dedicated public servant who was killed in 2015 by random gunshots at the J’ouvert Festival. Gabay grew up at Boston Secor Houses in the Bronx, graduated from Harvard University and Harvard Law School, and led a career in public service, including as assistant coun-



Trenelle Gabay, widow of Carey Gabay, presented Rumon Miah with the award named in her husband’s honor.

sel for Governor Cuomo and first deputy counsel for the Empire State Development Corporation. At the Forum’s annual awards dinner on May 10, his widow, Trenelle Gabay, presented the award to Mr. Miah.

“I view it as an honor to be able to live up to someone like him—he grew up in public housing and went to such prestigious

universities and made such an impact,” Mr. Miah said.

The \$2,500 award is given to an Urban Leadership Fellows (ULF) alumnus who is a junior or senior in college with at least a 3.0 GPA. ULF is an internship program run by MFNY that introduces high school seniors with an interest in finance to the municipal securities industry through paid summer internships.

At the awards dinner, MFNY and NYCHA also announced a partnership to recruit more young NYCHA residents to the ULF internship program.

Mr. Miah completed his ULF internship at investment bank Stifel Financial, working in the public finance division. He is a senior at Baruch College, where he studies finance and infor-

mation technology. During his sophomore year in college he worked as a part-time teller at TD Bank, juggling a full course load. He also became a finance tutor for an introductory course to help his fellow students, because “not many students realize how great of an opportunity they have to be attending college. I wanted to let them know how fortunate they are and that they shouldn’t take it for granted, they should do everything they can to pursue that higher education.”

To learn more about the ULF program, contact Futures and Options at 212-601-0002 or by email at info@futuresandoptions.org or visit <http://themunicipalforumofnewyork.org/ULFProgram.aspx>.

Howard Avenue Houses Residents Close the Window on Drafty Discomfort

THERE WAS A TIME, not so long ago, when residents at Howard Avenue Houses in Brooklyn weren’t happy with their drafty windows, but thanks to \$1 million in energy-efficient upgrades recently completed at the development, the drafts have been replaced with pleasantly controlled temperatures, regulated heating and cooling costs, and even safety improvements.

All 382 residents of Howard Avenue Houses benefited from NYCHA’s participation in its first New York State Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) project, in which low-income single-family or multi-family

buildings are provided with energy-efficiency upgrades.

Every apartment at Howard received new windows, air-conditioning draft prevention inserts, modern Energy Star refrigerators, low-flow showerheads, new bathroom ventilation fans, energy-efficient LED bulbs, and combination carbon monoxide/smoke detectors. In addition, all of the boilers were replaced and energy-efficient LED lighting was installed in lobbies, corridors, and other common spaces. These new, efficient features typically reduce energy use by 15 to 20 percent, lowering heating and cooling costs as well as carbon emissions.



Rose Clifton in front of windows newly installed at her apartment as part of numerous energy-efficiency upgrades made to all apartments at Howard Avenue Houses in Brooklyn.

“I’m really happy NYCHA did this. We needed it,” Ms. Clifton, the development’s resident association president, said. These are the first comprehensive building improvements made since Howard Avenue Houses opened its doors in 1988, the year Ms.

Clifton moved in. “Residents are so happy because everything is so much better around here.”

As part of its Sustainability Agenda, NYCHA will implement the weatherization upgrades in other stand-alone developments like Howard Avenue Houses.

Salvadori STEAM Program to Expand

GOOD NEWS FOR young NYCHA residents interested in learning about what it takes to build their own model bridges or skate parks: a free afterschool **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, **A**rchitecture/**A**rts, and **M**ath (STEAM) program may be coming to a community center near you in the fall.

The Salvadori Center, a non-profit organization that has taught STEAM in New York City for the past 40 years, provides the programming. Children work with Salvadori educators over 12 weeks to study objects found in their communities, such as buildings, bridges, and parks, and learn how they are part of their everyday lives. For

instance, during the past school year, students at Todt Hill Houses built their own model bridge and designed and built their own skate park.

Last year, the Salvadori Center provided programs for 105 third to eighth graders on Staten Island at JCC Cornerstone (serving Richmond Terrace), UAU South Beach Cornerstone (serving South Beach residents), and JCC Cornerstone (serving Todt Hill), as well as a fourth Staten Island location at a non-NYCHA site. Thanks to a grant from the Pinkerton Foundation, the Salvadori Center will expand its afterschool program to six more NYCHA community centers, reaching as many

as 500 children. The new sites will be selected based on a competitive citywide application process; interested NYCHA community centers must fill out and return the application by 5 p.m. on Friday, August 11, 2017.

"After a successful first year in Staten Island, we are thrilled to expand this program to other NYCHA centers across the city," said Kenneth Jones, Executive Director of the Salvadori Center. "Helping economically disadvantaged students learn how math and science are relevant to their lives is at the heart of Salvadori's mission!" If you want your kids to receive a year of free afterschool STEAM classes, tell your NYCHA



center director to apply for the program here:
<http://bit.ly/2s0CKYj>.

Apply for *FREE After-School STEM Programs!*



The Salvadori Center will provide 20 dynamic, collaborative, project-based STEM programs FREE of charge to NYCHA community centers across all 5 boroughs of New York City.

Participating students will develop vital 21st century skills:

- collaboration
- critical thinking
- creative problem solving

They will explore the built environment ~ buildings, bridges, skateparks, etc. ~ and see how math and science are part of their lives.

These programs are provided thanks to a generous grant from The Pinkerton Foundation.

Apply today!

- FREE STEM program for your NYCHA center
- Short, simple application: <http://bit.ly/2s0CKYj>
- Application deadline: 5:00 pm on Friday, 11 August 2017

Contact us:

www.salvadori.org
212.870.3970
thecenter@salvadori.org

The Salvadori Center's programs and services are made possible through the generous support of our corporate and individual sponsors - including, but not limited to: the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, The Pinkerton Foundation, The Hearst Foundations, conEdison, Perrigo, Scranton Area Community Foundation, and public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.



Meet Your Zone Coordinators

NYCHA REES ZONE COORDINATORS are your personal guides to achieving your economic dreams. They partner with resident leaders and local organizations to connect residents to jobs and job training, adult education, financial empowerment, and business development services close to home.

On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, you can find your Zone Coordinators at the REES office at 787 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, they're out and about in their zones visiting residents and partner programs.

Eileen Cepeda

South Bronx/Zone 1

(Betances, Jackson, Mill Brook, Mitchell, Morrisania Air Rights, Mott Haven, St. Mary's Park, and more.)

Born and raised at Coney Island Houses. She lived at the development for 25 years but now lives in the Kingsbridge section of the Bronx. Eileen has been a NYCHA employee since 2009 and has been a REES Zone Coordinator for three years.

Zone partners include: Phipps Community Development Corporation, Manhattan Education Opportunity Center, and Grace Outreach.

She can't choose just one favorite partner: She loves the Jobs-Plus program at Mill Brook and works closely with the Director Mustafa Tabakovic, who takes a hands-on approach to build the Mill Brook community. The NYCHA Resident Training Academy and the Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America (NACA) are two other great programs she recommends. "NACA has an excellent mortgage program, and



residents determined to find a home will achieve homeownership. Nothing is easy—they have to be persistent and put their best foot forward. They have to make a conscious effort to say 'this is what I want to do.'"

Resident success story: There is a young Mill Brook resident who was getting involved with gang activity, but he got involved with the Jobs-Plus program and now has a job and is going to college in September. He is now a provider and role model for his child.

Her favorite thing about her job? "Being able to offer people opportunity, hope, and growth and making that connection. There are so many resources and a whole network here that could really help someone."

Renee Lindquist

Concourse, Highbridge, and Morrisania/Zone 2

(Forest, Highbridge Gardens, Claremont Rehab, Morris, Morrisania Air Rights, Webster, and more.)

She's been a Zone Coordinator for three and a half years and a NYCHA employee for almost 20. **But she got her start with NYCHA as a volunteer,** tutoring children in an afterschool program at Sedgwick House.

Zone partners include: Grace Outreach, Hostos Community College Allied Health Career Pipeline Program, Phipps Neighborhoods, SUNY Bronx Educational Opportunity Center, The New Jewish Home, and more.

"I like them all. It's not just one," she says of the partner organizations she works with. "Every last one of them provides multiple services that the residents need and can benefit and grow from."

Favorite thing about her job: "Collaborating with other organizations to



bring a holistic approach to residents. Even though some residents think they need one thing, working with our partners we can help them advance and grow in other areas, too."

Heartwarming resident success story: "A resident started working with Phipps because he needed a better job, he was a single father. But Phipps went beyond what they needed to do, they also helped him with his daughter. She was graduating from middle school and he didn't have money for prom clothes, graduation. They helped support him with this, in addition to helping him with his resume, SNAP, and getting a better job. That one always sticks with me because they really cared."

Diane Lewis-Hinton

Northwest Bronx/Zone 3

(Baychester, Boston Secor, Edenwald, Gun Hill, Marble Hill, Twin Parks, and more.)



She's been a ZC for a year and a half, but a NYCHA employee for 23 years. "My first position at NYCHA was with 'Office of Economic Empowerment' prior to it becoming REES; where I worked on the Family Self-Sufficiency Program." Preceding REES, she worked in Community Partnerships and Development on the Tenant Participation Activity funds with the Bronx Districts.

She's never been a NYCHA resident, but **grew up in Queens, near South Jamaica Houses.** In her former days she had plenty of interaction with NYCHA programs and resident events.

Zone partners include: New York Urban League, SUNY Bronx Educational Opportunity Center, Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation, University Neighborhood Housing Program, and the Workforce1 Centers.

She enjoys working with all of her partners: She has a few favorites but particularly enjoys services provided by the Bronx Educational Opportunity Center and NYCHA Resident Training Academy. "When I'm connecting residents to various education and employment opportunities it's extremely meaningful."

Her favorite thing about her job? "I love my job; it's very rewarding working for NYCHA to see people overcoming their obstacles and succeeding. Through our partnerships we are able to connect residents to resources and assist them with becoming self-sufficient. There is plenty of opportunity available for residents through the REES partnerships."

Milton Martin Jr.

Southeast Bronx/Zone 4

(Castle Hill, Eastchester, Pelham Parkway, Soundview, Throggs Neck, and more.)



He's been a ZC for a year, but this year is his 33rd year as a NYCHA employee.

Milton began his career at NYCHA as a community center director. Before he became a ZC he had been a Brooklyn borough administrator for Community Operations.

He's a former NYCHA resident, too! He grew up at Edgemere Houses (now known as Ocean Bay-Bayside) and lived there until he got married in 1982.

Zone 4 is set to launch in summer 2017, but Milton is still out in the developments connecting residents to information sessions and referring them to partner agencies.

Zone partners include: Phipps Career Network, Jobs-Plus Goodwill Industries, and SUNY Bronx Educational Opportunity Center.

He has two favorite partners to work with: "Goodwill Industries/Jobs-Plus because they connect our residents to real jobs and the SUNY Bronx Educational Opportunity Center because of the great education and training that they provide for our residents."

He loves being out and about meeting people. "I love going to tables at different job fairs, health fairs, and events our partners have and getting to meet people and share the resources we have with them. I like to take about 25 different flyers for all different things that are going on, including in other zones, and many people are surprised to know about all the programs we offer."

The NYCHA JOURNAL

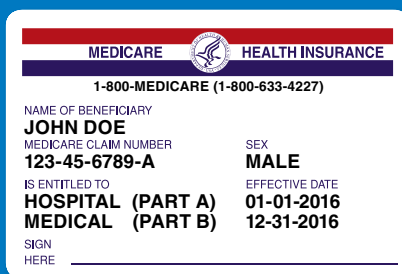
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250 Broadway, New York, NY 10007



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Y0114_16_27626_U_043 CMS ACCEPTED 06/25/2016

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BE PREPARED FOR HURRICANE SEASON!

Knowing What to Do Ahead of Time Can Save Lives

DEVELOP A PLAN with your household that lists what to do, how to find each other, and how to communicate if a hurricane strikes. If you have pets, make sure they are included in your plan. Use Ready New York: My Emergency Plan at **NYC.gov/myemergencyplan**.

Prepare to be self-sufficient for up to seven days without help or emergency services. Prepare a **Go Bag and an emergency supply kit**: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/gather-supplies.page>. Assume that streets and stores in your neighborhood will be closed. There may be disruptions to electricity, gas,

water or telephone service.

If you have a disability, or access or functional need, make sure your plan says how your needs may affect your ability to evacuate, shelter in place, or communicate with emergency workers. Arrange help from family, friends, or service providers if you will need assistance. If you are unable to evacuate on your own, contact **311** for assistance.

Know your zone. The City's hurricane contingency plans are based on six evacuation zones, ranked by the risk of storm surge impact, with Zone 1 being the most likely to flood. Find your zone on www.nyc.gov/hurricanezones or call **311, 212-639-9675** for Video Relay Service, or

TTY: 212-504-4115. Have a plan for where you will go if an evacuation order is issued for your area: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/hurricane-evacuation.page>

If the City issues an evacuation order for your area, do so as directed. The City will communicate through local media specific instructions about which areas of the city should evacuate. Use public transportation if possible, keeping in mind that public transportation may shut down hours before the storm. Learn more about when and how to evacuate here: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/hurricane-evacuation.page>.



Stay informed by signing up for Notify NYC (www.nyc.gov/notifynyc) to receive emergency notifications and updates via email, phone, SMS/text, or Twitter. Notify NYC messages are also available in American Sign Language. For more information, visit: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/em/ready/hurricane-evacuation.page>.

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NYC Childcare Vouchers (HRA/ACS) Accepted

NEW RULES ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EMERGENCY TRANSFERS

More Choice, Fewer Requirements

THE VIOLENCE AGAINST Women Act (VAWA) is a federal law that protects survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. New regulations from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) simplify the public housing emergency transfer process for VAWA victims, as well as intimidated witnesses, intimidated victims, and victims of traumatic incidents, and are already in place at NYCHA.

Q: What's changed?

A: Applicants who are VAWA victims are no longer required to submit third-party documentation to show they are eligible for an emergency transfer. NYCHA residents who are eligible for emergency transfers can choose to be on a NYCHA-wide waiting list or they can select to be in a particular borough. They are able to exclude two zip codes in locations where they would not feel safe.

Q: Who is eligible for VAWA protection?

A: Victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking are eligible for housing and emergency transfers regardless of their sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

Q: Who is ineligible for VAWA?

A: Guests, unassisted members, and live-in aides of the family are ineligible for VAWA protections. If you have questions about eligibility, visit NYCHA's website and search for "Emergency Transfer Policy."

Q: What rights do victims have under VAWA?

A: A housing authority cannot deny admission to a person, or terminate a person from public housing, because he or she is a VAWA victim. VAWA also allows, but does not require, a housing authority to split a lease to terminate the rights of the abuser while protecting the victim and other innocent household members.

Q: What is an emergency transfer?

A: Emergency transfer allows a tenant to relocate from their present development to another unit in accordance with NYCHA's emergency transfer plan.

Q: How and where can a tenant apply for an emergency transfer?

A: A tenant can apply through NYCHA's Self-Service Portal, or can visit his/her local property management office. Visit NYCHA's Self-Service Portal here: selfserve.nycha.info.

NextGeneration NYCHA Job Accomplishments

SINCE 2010, MORE than 1,700 residents have graduated from the NYCHA Resident Training Academy, and 649—more than a third—graduated after the launch of NextGeneration NYCHA. Ninety percent of residents who graduate from the NRTA are placed in the workforce. The NRTA is a partnership between NYCHA, Brooklyn Workforce Innovations, and City Tech (CUNY).

Other jobs-related highlights of the second year of NextGeneration NYCHA include:

- 6,000 residents placed in jobs citywide;
- More than 13,000 residents connected to partner services;
- New partnerships with unions (Local 8, Local 3, DC 9);
- 119 residents graduated from the Food Business Pathways program;
- 18 residents and Section 8 recipients graduated from the first class of the Childcare Business Pathways program; and
- The launch of *OpportunityConnect*, an online self-service portal that connects residents to NYCHA partner services.



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