



Catch-all Chronical

Housing Authority of Clackamas County



Summer 2022

Upcoming Events

Free Food Markets

Could your household use some extra staples, canned goods and veggies this month? Pick up a food box at one of our neighborhood Free Food Markets!

@ Hillside Park

4th Tuesdays from 8 to 10am at Hillside Park in Milwaukie (10203 SE Hillside Ct.)

@ OCVM

2nd Wednesdays from 8 to 10am OCVM in Oregon City (200 S. Longview Way)



Free Hillside Manor and Park Shuttle to Winco Is Back!

Every Thursday – bus leaves at 10:30!

Free Shuttle departs from the front of Hillside Manor.

Please come down to the Resident Services office or contact Tiffanie at 971-347-4381 to get registered as a rider.

Residents of both Hillside Park and Manor are eligible to ride!



Health, Housing & Human Services
CLACKAMAS COUNTY

Opportunities for good paying jobs near you! Get the training and job search support you need.

At the beginning of 2022, Oregon had a record number 100,000 job openings with employers looking high and low for qualified applicants. As a result, the average wage in Oregon since the start of the pandemic is up 17%!

If you are looking for work or looking for a career change, check out these community resources that can help you get the training and support you need to find a good job at a living wage.

WorkSource Clackamas (WSC)

506 High St. in Oregon City — 97045
Monday to Friday (8:30am to 5pm)

WSC is a “one-stop shop” for training, education and employment services for Clackamas County residents, age 14 and older, who can legally work in the US.

Most services are free and include:
Access to technology, job search

support, GED & Adult education support, training and certificate programs and much more.

Appointments are available in-person, online and by phone. To schedule an appointment or speak with WSC staff by phone call 971-673-6400 or online at www.worksourceoregon.org.

Build your Job Search Skills

Make your hard work, looking for work, pay off. Check out these virtual workshops through WorkSource Clackamas designed to help you build and enhance your job-seeking skills by providing you with relevant information in areas such as resume writing, interviewing and networking.



(continued on page 2)

HACC applying to become a *Move-to-Work* Agency

We are very excited to announce that the Housing Authority has put in an application with Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to become a *Move to Work* agency.

Having this designation would mean that we could use our funds more flexibly and focus on finding more creative ways to help residents become self-sufficient and to build assets.

If approved, we will expand our:

- **Home Ownership** program and offer residents who are enrolled in *Move to Work* the opportunity to save for a down payment on their own home.
- **Rent Reporting for Credit Building** program to Section 8 residents by offering the opportunity through their housing provider.

(continued on pg. 6)

Resources and Training for Job Seekers

(Continued from page 1)

To access classes go to: <https://go.oncehub.com/WSOWorkshops>

Build Your Tech and Digital Skills

PCC Digital Literacy Workshop Series

Learn Digital tools like D2L Learning Platform, Google calendar and Linked In and more!

First Tuesday to Thursday via Zoom. View classes, dates and register at: pcc.edu/digital-literacy_wccopportunities-group@pcc.edu

Employment & Education Resources for Youth

Clackamas Scholars

The Clackamas Scholars program is a tuition-free federally funded grant. Through the program eligible young adults, 16 to 24 years old, will gain academic and employment skills to be competitive for the current job market.

Hear more at monthly Zoom information sessions held the 2nd Wednesdays from 2 to 3 pm. Contact Deby McDowell at debym@clackamas.edu or 503-594-3520.

C-TEC Youth Services

C-TEC Youth Services is here to assist the emerging workforce (that's you if you're ages 16-24!) successfully prepare for a career. We do that by providing individualized assistance that helps you set and move towards your career goals. Our services are entirely free, and sometimes we can even help you pay for career related expenses! So whether you need to finish your basic education, get a job, train for a career, or start college, we have the experience, knowledge, and to opportunities help you be successful. Call Gabe Lavalay at 503-200-4108 for more information.

Too many resources to choose from? If you want to get support and to talk to someone about which ones might be the best match for your employment and career goals, please contact ROSS Service Coordinator Jemila Hart at 503-702-1587 or by email at jemilahar@clackamas.us.

Technology loans (iPads & laptops) also available as loan to help you with your job search.



Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program Update

Good News! HUD has made some big changes to the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program.

If you looked into the FSS program before and it was not a good fit for you, it is likely one or more of the items that turned you away from the program have changed.

Here are just some of the changes:

Any adult in the household can sign the Contract of Participation for FSS.

The two mandatory final goals of FSS are now:

Must seek and maintain suitable employment.

Family must be welfare (TANF) free on the last day of the FSS contract.

The escrow calculation now allows participants with higher income to accrue escrow.

The 5-year clock of FSS doesn't start until the 1st Interim or Annual after the FSS contract has been signed by HACC and the family.

You can find more information by visiting HUD's FSS Website: https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/hcv/fss

If you have questions/concerns or want to take the next steps to enrolling in the FSS program, contact Hillary Merritt, Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinator at 503-312-9184 or hmerritt@clackamas.us.



Find a good job, connect to a career

Call Chris Gary with the Employment Investment Program at 971-221-8461 to schedule your appointment today!

IDA Matched Savings Accounts

What is a matched savings IDA account?



A matched savings account, also called an Individual Development Account (IDA), is a savings account—in your name—where you can save for a personal goal. And, even better, every \$1 you save with this account is matched with \$5 more.

How can I use the money?

You can use your savings:

To buy a reliable car.

To pay for college tuition, books, fees and equipment that you need for school.

To pay for specialized short term trainings such as getting your GED, computer software training, phlebotomy or dental assisting certifications.

To buy your first house.

What is the first step towards opening an IDA account?

The first step to opening an IDA is to complete online workshop called **Financial Foundations** offered through the organization DevNW.

Financial Foundations workshops are held on a variety of different days and times and are taught in both English and Spanish.

Completing this course will make you eligible for IDA funding as it comes available through either DevNW or HACC.

How do I find out more?

Please call Jemila Hart with Resident Services at 503-702-1587 to learn more about how to save for these important assets with an IDA.

Become a Senior Companion!

Make a Difference in the Life of a Neighbor in Need.

Volunteering leads to new discoveries and new friends, plus studies show that being a volunteer helps you live longer and promotes a positive outlook on life.

Give as little as 5 hours or as much as 40 hours per week helping adults remain independent while living in their own home.

Senior Companion Volunteers help ease loneliness and isolation by visiting their clients weekly to play games, watch movies, schedule appointments, or go to the local community center for lunch or activities.

Call 503-650-5796 to learn more.



Resident Highlight on Ralph Sundstrom

On becoming a Senior Companion & Buying a new Truck with an IDA Matched Saving Account

Ralph, a resident at Clackamas Heights, is very happy with his new truck. Thanks to a matched savings account called an IDA and his own discipline and persistence, Ralph saved \$2000 which was matched by \$6000, completed all the program education requirements and bought his new Toyota this last winter. Once he puts a little more aside for a canopy, he is looking forward to throwing a mattress in the back and going off camping for a few days with his dog Mocha.

Ralph also recently had a kind of revelation. He heard a voice that said, "Ralph, get out of your comfort zone!" The voice made him look around and he came across a flyer about the Senior Companion program. "Because I don't have much family, loneliness is a thing for me. I thought that by becoming a Senior Companion and trying to help others, I could help myself."

Ralph is currently in process of training to be a Senior Companion. He has learned a lot and met some extraordinary people shadowing his program mentor. As a Senior Companion, Ralph will be matched with seniors in the area that could use support and companionship. He will also get a small stipend, mileage reimbursement, a laptop and ongoing training.

Congratulations Ralph on the truck and thank you for your service to the seniors your community!



Ralph and Mocha and their new truck!

Resources in Your Community

Need help paying your electricity bill?

Call Clackamas County Energy Assistance
at 503-650-5640

You will be prompted to leave a voice mail with your address and they will send you an application.

You can also request an application online at www.clackamas.us/socialservices/energyassistance.

If you are currently facing disconnection, when you apply for energy assistance, let your utility provider know. This can often delay a shut off.

As part of your application you will be asked to provide:

Copy of a Utility Bill

Copy of ID for every adult in household

Income Verification

If you could use help filling out the application, please contact Resident Services. See back page for contact information.

Looking for a Homecare Worker?

Find a good fit through the Oregon Home Care Commission Registry and Referral System!

www.or-hcc.org

Through this online system, you are able to complete survey about what qualities you would like a home care worker to have. For instance, you can request that a homecare worker has their own vehicle, live nearby, have completed a particular trainings, and be a non-smoker. With all that data, the registry generates a list of people that you can call and interview for the position of being your caregiver.

You can also put an ad on the site and have people who might be interested call you.

Contact your Resident Services team if you need some help navigating the site.

Is the cost of riding the bus too much?

Check out Clackamas County Connect!

2 Free Shuttle Services

In underserved areas around Oregon City and North Clackamas

OCVM and Clackamas Heights Residents

Free shuttle stops are located on Longview, Holcomb, Apperson and John Jeffery with stops at the Oregon City Transit Center, Grocery Outlet, Safeway, Willamette Falls Hospital and CCC Oregon City Campus.

For route maps and schedules go to:

www.clackamas.us/h3s/connects-shuttle



Need a food box delivered?

Order online for delivery from the Clackamas Service Center
www.cscoregon.org/order-online

CSC is delivering free groceries to homes in these zip codes: 97015, 97027, 97045, 97086, 97202, 97206, 97214, 97215, 97216, 97222, 97266, 97267

To request a free grocery delivery, please use our online grocery request form. Make sure that your address and other contact info are correct. If you have trouble with the online form or don't have internet access you can call 503-771-7914.

Delivery time can vary widely based on how many orders we are receiving, but in most circumstances we will be able to deliver to you within 3–7 business days of receiving your order. Groceries are delivered Monday –Friday between the hours of 11am to 6pm. A driver will inform you when they are on their way.



Resources in Your Community

Could your child use some new clothes for school ?

The Bloomin' Boutique can help. BB is a non-profit organization dedicated to giving a hand up by providing new clothing, shoes, back packs, bedding and personal care items for youth age 0 to 18. Each child can be referred to the program three times.

Would your child love to participate in an activity that you just can't afford?

Building Blocks 4 Kids provides scholarships for kids to participate in fun activities of their choice. Scholarships can be for everything from sports to piano, girl scouts to the debate team, tutoring to guitar lessons.

Call *Jemila* at Resident Services for a clothing referral and/or a scholarship application: 503-702-1587



Interested in Owning Your Own Home?



Habitat for Humanity is excited to announce that construction is underway on a new community in SE Portland – Foster Commons. Applications for 20 homes in the neighborhood will be available soon.

Interested homebuyers can submit applications for our Homeownership Program from August 22nd to August 31st.

Qualified buyers are first time homebuyers, have 2 years steady employment and decent credit and a combined gross income of over \$30,000.

Habitat homebuyers complete a total of 200 sweat equity hours. Sweat equity refers to actual hands-on involvement in the construction of their own homes, as well as participation in other Habitat and community activities.

Visit our website at:
www.habitatportlandregion.org/qualify-and-apply for more information.

Take Care of Your Mental Health

Get Support through Peer Support

Get support from someone in recovery who has their own lived experience of addiction and/or mental health struggle. Peer support services are free of charge and do not require insurance.

Those who provide peer support work to promote these values:

- Recovery is a choice.
- Recovery is unique to the individual.
- Recovery is a journey, not a destination.
- Recovery is about focusing on strengths and recognizing the potential to make new choices.

If you are interested in peer support or want to know more please contact our wonderful Peer Support Specialist Tiffanie Kearney at 971-347-4381.

National Suicide and Crisis Hotline

Dial 988

Too many people can experience a suicidal crisis or mental health distress without the support and care they need.

By texting or calling 988, you'll connect with mental health professionals trained to support you or your loved one.

This is a national service available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

HACC Property Management Updates

Renter's Insurance

“What is renters insurance?” is a fair question, but a better question might be, “Why should I have renters insurance?”

The answer: It keeps accidents and annoyances from becoming bank account and budget killers. Remember that your property manager's insurance protects the building, but it does not cover your stuff. Only you can protect yourself and your possessions.

Other facts about renters insurance:

- Renters insurance also protects the insured from liability in the event you get sued for an injury that happens in your home or damages that you, your family or family pet cause to others.
- Renter's insurance tends to cover loss or damage to items in the home related to fire, theft, vandalism, plumbing and electrical malfunctions.
- The average cost of renters insurance is about \$15/month.



Move to Work (continued from page 1)

The cohort we have applied for would begin in January 2023 and will be in place for an initial trial period of 24 months.

If you are interested in learning more about Move to Work, are interested in Rent reporting or want to know what programs are currently available for buying a home, please contact Jemila Hart at 503-702-1587.

You can view the Move to Work application by going to: www.clackamas.us/housingauthority/moving-to-work

Additionally, a physical copy of the draft will be available in our Administrative Office, 13930 S. Gain Street, Oregon City, OR – 97045
Mon through Thurs, 8AM to 5PM.

HACC Curbside Pick-Up !

HACC will pick up and dispose of old furniture or other large items, for FREE, on curbside collection days in:

September, January, March & June

1st Wednesday @ Clackamas Heights/OCVM

2nd Wednesday – Scattered Sites

3rd Wednesday – Hillside Park

Call and leave a message with the work order line at 503-650-3535 (*1 for Hillside Park, *2 for OCVM/CH, *3 for Scattered Sites) by the *previous Monday* to let them know that you have items for pick-up and disposal.

Items should be placed at the curb between 6am and 9am on the day of pick-up.



Build Your Credit Every Time You Pay Your Rent

43% of consumers have lower credit scores in the 320 to 620 range and are considered to be “sub-prime” borrowers. Over the course of a lifetime these consumers can expect to pay over \$250,000 more than someone with a higher score. Having a good credit score is key to paying less for many important services including cell phones, credit cards, and auto loans.

Here at HACC, we can help you build your credit and raise your credit score when you sign up to have us report your monthly on-time rent payments to the credit bureaus. Having your rent reported in this way increases your credit score by demonstrating a history of paying bills on time.

Key points about Rent Reporting:

- Building credit through Rent Reporting can benefit not only the head of household, but anyone in the household who is over age 18 who completes the enrollment paperwork.



- For residents interested in home ownership, building a credit score over 720 will be an important part of their home ownership plan.
- As part of the enrollment process, we show you how to access an approximate credit score so you can monitor your credit and show you how to pull your own credit report at www.annualcreditreport.com. Your credit report will show you areas that you can address in addition to enrolling in rent reporting that will also help you build your credit score.
- We have successfully enrolled many residents in Rent Reporting and most have seen their credit scores rise significantly.

If you are interested in enrolling too — please call Jemila Hart at 503-702-1587.

Rent Payment Locations

Option 1:

You can drop off your rent payment in a *secure black drop box* located near the entrance of your Property Management Office in Oregon City and outside the Hillside Park Community Building in Milwaukie. You can also drop your rent payment off in person at the front desk of the Oregon City Admin Office during regular business hours (Monday to Thursday, 8 to 6pm).

Option 2:

You can mail your rent payment to:

Housing Authority of Clackamas County
PO Box 1510
Oregon City, OR 97045

Please note our Late Rent Policy:

- Rent is due on the 1st.
- Your rent will be considered late if we do not receive it by the 5th of the month.
- If the 5th falls on a Friday, Saturday, Sunday (or a Holiday) your rent will NOT be considered late if it is deposited in the drop box *before* 8:00am the following business day.
- If HACC, receives your rent after the 5th, you will have a \$25 late fee added to your account.

Housing Authority Phone Numbers

Administration —

Administration Office (503) 655-8267
Administration FAX # (503) 655-8676

HACC Interim Director

Toni Karter (503) 650-3139
HACC Interim Director

Property Management—

Allison Coe (503) 794-8079
Clackamas Heights & OCVM
Craig Beals (503) 650-3100
Hillside and Scattered sites PM

Maintenance Office —

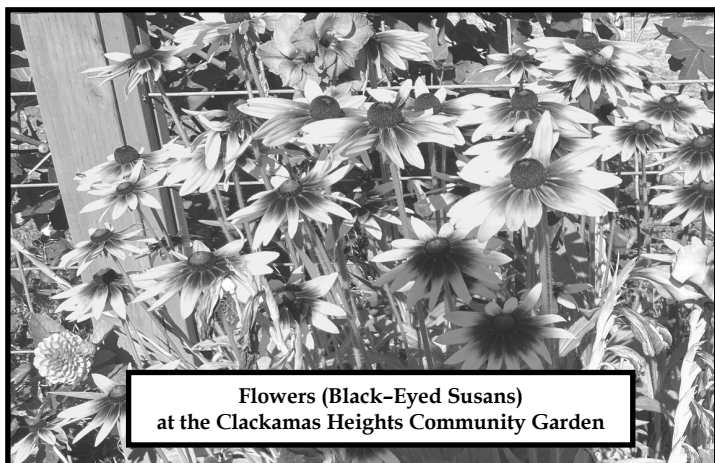
Work orders (503) 650-3535
Emergency # (503) 780-3896
TDD # (503) 655-8639

Resident Services Support Staff —

Jemila Hart (503) 702-1587
*Human Service Coordinator 2
Scattered Sites*
Bernadette Stetz (971) 930-0677
*Resident Services Coordinator
OCVM & Clackamas Heights*
Tiffanie Kearney (971) 347-4381
MHAHO Peer Wellness Specialist

Resident Commissioner —

Ann Leenstra (503) 278-2614
HACC Resident Commissioner



Flowers (Black-Eyed Susans)
at the Clackamas Heights Community Garden



**Housing Authority of
Clackamas County**

13900 South Gain Street

Oregon City, Oregon 97045-1284

Phone: 503-655-8267

Fax: 503-655-8676

HACC

Equal Housing
Opportunity



**CLACKAMAS
COUNTY**

**EXPUNGEMENT
CLINIC** 

**APPLY
FOR ELIGIBILITY
TODAY**



Expungement Clinic | 2nd & 4th Monday of the Month

August 8th 2:00pm –6:00pm

August 22nd 3:00pm –6:00pm

**Children, Family & Community Connections
112 11th Street, Oregon City 97045**

**Pre-eligibility screening is recommended at
<https://bit.ly/ClackExpunge>**

Walk-up appointments available on a limited basis.

**expungement@clackamasworkforce.org
for more information**

