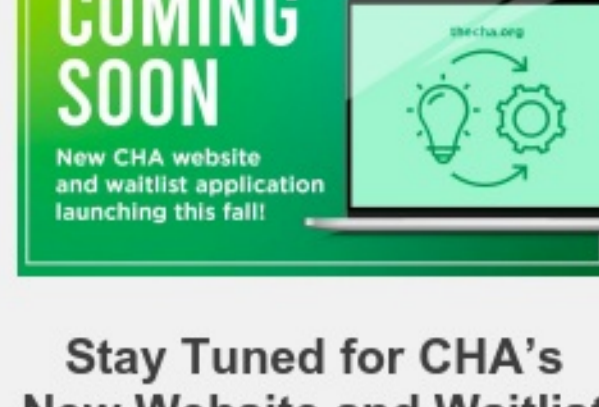


It's the one-year anniversary of "Our House"!

This newsletter is made just for you, celebrating CHA residents and HCV participants. We'll tell you about programs, services, and exciting events happening soon. The Resident Services team is here to help you and your family with your goals. Enjoy reading!

In this Issue:
Upcoming Events
Find Your Path: What's Next for You?
Program & Resident Spotlight



Stay Tuned for CHA's New Website and Waitlist Application, Launching this Fall!

Upcoming Events!



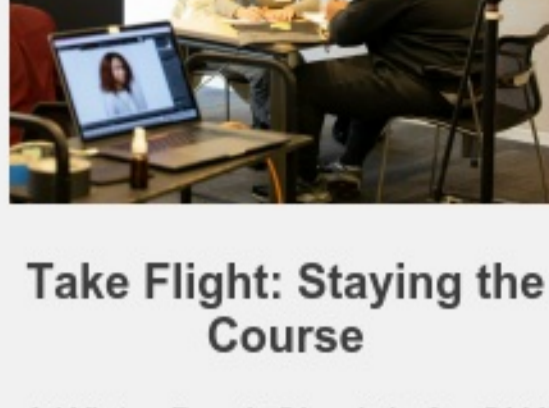
Reminder: Operation Warm Winter Coat Pick-Up!

If you registered for a winter coat for your child with Operation Warm, mark your calendars:

This is your only opportunity to pick them up!

Saturday, October 26th
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
UIC Forum
725 W. Roosevelt Rd

You'll also have access to a service fair with books for kids, grocery products, energy kits, flu and COVID shots, City Key IDs, and more!



Take Flight: Staying the Course

A Winter Break Check-In for CHA college students and recent graduates!

Network with companies looking for summer interns, apply for the CHA summer internship, get a professional headshot for your LinkedIn, and receive help with your resume.

Tuesday, January 7th
12:00 PM to 3:00 PM
CHA Headquarters
60 E. Van Buren

Keep an eye out for your invite, or email education@thecha.org for more details!

Find Your Path: What's Next for You?

Looking to Advance Your Career?

Attend an orientation to learn how CHA can help you to:

- Find a Job
- Get Training
- Write Your Resume
- Prepare for an Interview
- Find a Ride for Your Interview

Sign up at for an orientation with one of our workforce provider! >>>>

Not sure which workforce program is for you? Attend a virtual orientation with our WORC Office to learn about our programs for residents and Resident-Owned Businesses.

[Click here to register for the upcoming October 16th session!](#)

Pick Your Workforce Provider

Prefer in-person downtown or virtual?

[Employment & Employer Services](#)

223 W. Jackson Boulevard, Suite 620
Chicago, IL 60606

[Click here to sign up with E&ES!](#)

Prefer in-person in west or south Chicago?

[UCAN Chicago](#)

3605 W. Fillmore Street (West Side)
Chicago, IL 60624

10046 S. Western Avenue (South Side)
Chicago, IL 60643

[Click here to sign up with UCAN Chicago](#)

On-Site GED Classes for Dearborn Residents

Elevate your future today! Dearborn Homes residents can sign up for the on-site GED program at Drake School. [Register by October 15th!](#)

Interested in a New Neighborhood?

CHA's [Mobility Counseling Services](#) helps HCV families find homes in safe, thriving neighborhoods. We provide guidance and support to help you find the neighborhood with the right opportunities for your family.

LevelUp with CHA: Start Building Wealth Today!

CHA's wealth-building program, [LevelUp](#), supports residents to achieve goals like:

- improving credit
- going back to school
- becoming homeowners

As participants meet their goals, CHA deposits money in a CHA-managed savings account.

Once participants graduate from the program, they receive the full balance of their savings account.

In 2023, graduates earned an average payout of \$6300.

[Sign up for an information session today to get started!](#)



On July 27, Traceye Butler and her daughter Shannell graduated from LevelUp, along with 71 other participants. Supported by their LevelUp savings payout, the Butlers are ready to tackle their next chapter: homeownership.

"We've completed the first step. Now it's on to the next step of becoming a homeowner." Traceye said.

"LevelUp is a wonderful program."

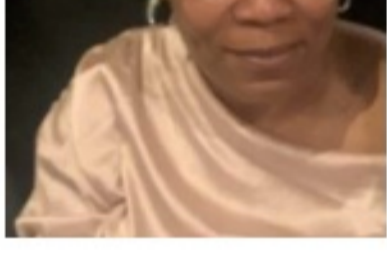
Find Winter Activities for your Child or Youth!

After obtaining a free Park District membership, parents can sign their children and youth up for discounted Park Kids afterschool programs and \$5 Winter Break Camp.

Winter programs will be available to view on November 27 with registration beginning the first week of December. [Click here for more details.](#)

To apply online, residents must first visit their local park to sign up for a free membership. [Click here for more details on signing up.](#)

Pick Your Path to Homeownership



Choose to Own Participant Spotlight Q&A with Sylvia Thompson

What motivated you to become a homeowner?

I was paying market rent and it was more than a mortgage, so I decided to join the CTO program. They provided all the assistance I needed as well as the resources. CTO walked me through step by step into the front door of my new home.

What advice would you give to others who would like to purchase a home for the first time?

Contact the CTO program and get the information you need. They will provide you with the information and criteria to see if you qualify; and will make sure you understand the next steps to begin your home journey. I was diagnosed with Cancer in May 2023, and I was afraid I would lose my home. CTO provided help to maintain my mortgage payments. I am still in my home and current with mortgage, light, gas, and water bills. I also participated in other CHA programs that assisted me with saving money and managing my funds.

[Click here to learn more about your pathways to homeownership](#)

Announcing the CHA Alumni Network

Have you heard about the new CHA Alumni Network? We help residents as they transition from housing subsidy to market rent. The CHA Alumni Network also offers support after residents graduate from CHA housing. Think about joining the Alumni Network and using CHA programs before you go!

[Complete this form to learn more and get connected to programs and services.](#)

Program & Resident Spotlight



PeacePlayers, a basketball and leadership initiative, wrapped up with a standout clinic at Kobe Courts in Jackson Park.

Summer Youth Programs!

Over 2,200 youth participated in our summer programs, getting paid to build valuable skills and gain real-world experience.

A new program joined boxing skills and STEM education, allowing participants to dive into the science behind the sport.

Rounding out the successes, 31 youth earned permanent positions, and two Learn and Earn participants were awarded \$1,000 each to invest in their businesses!

We also celebrated our Summer of Code participants, who showcased their app at the 2024 Everyone Can Code Showcase!



Residents at Lidia Pucinska Apartments are turning completed jigsaw puzzles into framed artwork, making their building more beautiful while strengthening their community bond.



Kathy Adimora has been a standout participant in CHA's Digital Inclusion courses. She completed two skills courses and several workshops, all with perfect attendance. Ms. Kathy joined these programs to pursue her goal of working remotely in Medical Billing and Coding. Beyond new skills, Ms. Kathy appreciates the opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals.

Family Community Ambassador Program

Our Family Community Ambassadors distributed 28,963 flyers and supported 48 events this year, from youth initiatives to workshops, ensuring residents are informed about all the services and opportunities available.

Family Community Ambassadors (at CHA Family properties) distribute flyers for upcoming events, internet walkthroughs of their development, and promote community events and activities.

Ambassadors who complete the required 40 hours per month receive a rent credit (up to \$100) for their service. Interested residents can contact April N. Davis at 312-913-7416 or their Local Advisory Council Office.

Which CHA program is right for you? I want to...

...Build Wealth

Interested in building financial assets while working toward educational, professional, and personal goals? To learn more about our LevelUp program, please join our next information session! Sessions take place on Tuesdays from 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm and Thursdays from 10:00 am - 11:00 am. [Click here to learn more or register for an information session!](#)

...Improve Computer Skills

Learn computer skills! No prior experience or materials required. Self-paced computer skills training for CHA residents and HCV participants offered online or at the Charles Hayes Family Investment Center computer lab (4859 S. Wabash Ave. Chicago, IL 60615) every Thursday from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Earn certificates in these topics: Basic Computer Skills, Internet Basics, Email, Microsoft Windows, Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Google Docs, and more! To register, please call the digital inclusion hotline at 312-786-6601.

...Buy a HOME

CHA offers two pathways to homeownership. The first is our Choose to Own Homeownership program (CTO) which allows qualified Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) and Public Housing families to use their housing subsidy to buy a home and receive monthly assistance with a portion of their mortgage payment. The second is the new Down Payment Assistance (DPA) program that assists first time home buyers with a forgivable grant to aid with down-payment and closing costs. [Click here to see if you are eligible or to sign up for an orientation today!](#)

...Pursue My Education

CHA public housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher participants can obtain a degree or certificate from City Colleges of Chicago at low or no cost through the Partners in Education (PiE) program. Eligible expenses include tuition, uniforms, books, and exam fees. [Sign up to attend an info session today!](#)

...Move to a New Neighborhood

The Mobility Counseling Program assists families (with at least one youth up to age 16) in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program to move into Mobility Areas within the city of Chicago. Mobility Areas are community areas with poverty levels below 20% and low violent crime rates. [Click here to learn more!](#)

...Find a Career

If you are job-ready and interested in getting hired, Employment Placement Services is here for you. You will be matched with a career coach who will work with you one-on-one. Our team will help you develop your resume, prepare for interviews, and succeed on the job. [Click here to learn more and see current job opportunities!](#)

