

Welcome to "Our House" newsletter! 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!



Scholarship Application opens January 30!

CHA residents attending an accredited college or university for the 2025-2026 school year can apply for this one-time \$2,000 award.

Previous applicants and awardees are encouraged to reapply!

[Visit the CHA website starting January 30th for the application link.](#)

Applications close in May.

*Open to undergraduates only, the scholarship cannot be used at City Colleges of Chicago.

Registration for Spring Break Camp is Open at 65 Parks!

Registration for Spring Break Camp at over 65 Chicago parks is now open! Camp runs from **March 24-28, 2025**, offering kids a variety of fun activities such as sports, arts and crafts, outdoor play, and team games. CHA membership reduces the cost ([learn how to sign up for a CHA membership here](#)).

[Register for Spring Break Camp Here](#)



In December, **LevelUp** partnered with CHASE Bank to host a festive financial wellness workshop, "Jingle Bells/Saving Well," featuring a hot chocolate bar. Attendees learned practical saving and budgeting tips for the holiday season from a CHASE professional while enjoying delicious hot chocolate with customizable toppings.

January is Financial Wellness Awareness Month!

Start the new year by taking control of your finances with the LevelUp program.

[Click here](#) to learn more about LevelUp and how to enroll.

Connecting Communities Through Technology

In 2024, our Digital Inclusion team expanded digital access, creating new opportunities for CHA residents through impactful technology programs.

Among many successes, **290 residents** gained essential digital skills through workshops and lectures, and **515 residents** received laptops or desktops through partnerships with OATS/AARP and CompuDoct.

[Learn more about our technology programs here.](#)

AARP Computer Essentials Course

Sign up for a 5-week AARP Computer Essentials course, scheduled from February 4 to March 6, 2025.

Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 to 11:15 AM. This course is open to residents aged 50 and older.

[Sign up here](#)

Resident Spotlight

Making a Difference this Holiday Season!

NBC 5 Chicago aired a five-part series, "Making a Difference with Evrod," celebrating CHA families overcoming challenges with heartwarming holiday surprises.

As part of the series, five families were surprised with \$500 gift cards.

Senior Services, in partnership with Nadine Mason, building president of Albany Terrace Apartments, presented one of these surprises to Mark Kirkpatrick—a Veteran and Senior Community Ambassador—live on TV.

[Watch the video here!](#)

Celebrating our Family Community Ambassadors!

On November 15, we hosted a Recognition Ceremony to honor our Family Community Ambassadors for their numerous accomplishments over the past year, including:

- Distributed 86,986 flyers
- Conducted 5,137 well-being checks
- Attended 117 development and community meetings

Thank you to our Community Ambassadors!

Announcing the CHA Alumni Network!

Have you heard about the new CHA Alumni Network? We help residents as they prepare to leave CHA and move into the private market. 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! [Click here to fill out a form to learn more and get connected to programs and services!](#)



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!](#)

...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 HCV 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 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!](#)

