



COVID-19 RESOURCES

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR HCV PARTICIPANTS JULY 2020



Letter from the Executive Director

Throughout LMHA's history we have navigated times of uncertainty, and while COVID-19 has presented a unique global challenge, our team has stepped up in these unprecedented times. Beginning in March, we took steps to minimize exposure to participants in our Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program and staff by closing our office buildings to the public and transitioning to remote work. While these measures are currently still in place, our team is looking at the potential reopening of our Housing Choice Voucher offices at 600 South Seventh Street later this summer.

The first floor of our building has been completely redesigned and features a lobby area with seating that follows social distancing recommendations, as well as 19 individual stations for HCV participants to meet with their Housing Specialists and Rental Assistance Monitors.

We are also in the process of providing masks for all our HCV participants. In the coming weeks, each HCV household will be receiving reusable cloth masks in the mail (see article below). While I know this is a stressful time for all of us, please be assured that the team at LMHA is here should you need us. Please do not hesitate to communicate any needs or concerns you have with your housing specialist. There are additional community resources in this newsletter on pages 2 through 7 that may also be helpful to you during this time.

Thank you for doing your part to flatten the curve for our LMHA community and the Louisville Metro area. The entire LMHA team and I remain committed to doing everything in our ability to assist in keeping you Healthy at Home. It is important now more than ever that we stick together by staying apart.

Lisa Osanka

LMHA Provides Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to Housing Choice Voucher Participants

The health and safety of our residents is LMHA's top priority, which is why we will be distributing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to all Housing Choice Voucher households. Look for PPE care packages with three-pack of reusable cloth masks, which will be mailed to you in the coming weeks. The Centers for Disease Control has recommended wearing of a cloth mask whenever you must leave your home. The masks are intended to prevent you from spreading the COVID-19 virus in case you have unknowingly contracted it and are asymptomatic. Just a reminder, wearing a facemask is an additional level of protection, however we should also continue to practice social distancing and good disease prevention practices. Facemasks do not take the place of remaining Healthy at Home, and face coverings should be worn when social distancing may be difficult, such as walking through a hallway, and when making essential trips to the grocery store or medical visits.

Education and Summer

LMHA Scholarship Deadline Extended

Since 1987, the LMHA Scholarship program has awarded 471 scholarships with a value of \$1.2 million to residents of public and assisted housing.

Eligibility: To participate, students must live in a public housing development or receive Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) assistance from the Louisville Metro Housing Authority (LMHA). Scholarships are awarded* based upon a student's GPA (grade point average), financial need, other financial aid, written essay response and an interview process. College students must maintain at least a 2.5 GPA and must be enrolled as a full-time student.

Application Process: Due to the difficulties Public Housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher recipients may be experiencing in preparing their 2020 LMHA Scholarship applications, LMHA has simplified the application and will review all applications as received with decisions to award made within ten (10) calendar days. The sooner an application is received, the sooner the funding decision can be made.

New deadline for submission is November 30, 2020.

To request an application, contact Connie Simrell at Simrell@LMHA1.org or call (502) 569-3439. You may also access the application at: <http://www.lmha1.org/LMHA%20Abbreviated%20Scholarship%20Application%202020.pdf>

*Scholarship awards are dependent upon funding availability.



Summer Reading & the Cultural Pass are back!

The Louisville Free Public Library's annual Summer Reading Program and the Cultural Pass are back for another summer full of exciting stories, entertaining activities, and lots of fun. Everyone who completes Summer Reading will receive a drawstring backpack,

free passes for local attractions (when they re-open), and free treats, as well as be entered into grand prize drawings.

This year, both the Summer Reading Program and Cultural Pass are available online at www.LFPL.org/SummerReading. LFPL is also offering regularly scheduled virtual programs each week via the Library's website and Facebook page with story times every Tuesday and STEAM Club every Thursday (both at 11 a.m.). Watch for other exciting announcements and please stay tuned to the Library's Facebook page and website for more information!

Learning Resources _____

More Summer Youth Programming



® YMCA Summer Camps, (502) 637-1575, www.ymcalsouvillechild-care.org/summer-day-camps. Summer Adventure camps for grades K-8 began on June 15. Join the YMCA this summer as youth learn to make a difference with an emphasis on inclusion, friendship, and belonging! Children will also experience various games, crafts, and projects. Rates are offered based upon 1-2 days or 3-5 days of attendance. Reduced rates are available for families who qualify. To register, visit the link above, or call (502) 637-1575.

National Center for Families Learning: Camp Wonderopolis® is the free online summer-learning destination that's full of fun, interactive STEM and literacy-building topics boosted by Maker experiments! Camp Wonderopolis can help build vocabulary, background knowledge in science, reading comprehension, critical thinking, and other literacy skills along the way. Register as a Camper (kids of all ages) or Counselor (parents, community and library program staff, teachers at www.Wonderopolis.org).



Louisville Central Community Centers, 1300 W. Muhammad Ali Blvd., 40203, (502) 583-8821

Programs: Progress Education Performance; Teen Leadership; Kids Art Academy; Boys to Men. Virtual youth programming will be available. Visit <http://www.lcccnews.org/> for more information.

Louisville Urban League, 1535 W. Broadway, 40203, (502) 561-6830

Programs: Street Academy, Project Ready, Parent Leadership Academy, Urban Youth Golf Program, and more. For information on virtual programming, visit <https://lul.org/>.



**Louisville
Urban League**

Rent/Utilities Resources

CARES Act Suspends Late Fees and Evictions

With the passing of the CARES Act, evictions for nonpayment of rent, and charges/fees for nonpayment of rent, have been temporarily suspended. This applies to all HUD-assisted participants from March 27, 2020 to July 24, 2020. Rent is still due during this time period and will accumulate if unpaid, but landlords, including LMHA, cannot charge any late fees, or accrue charges/fees, and your assistance cannot be terminated for past due rent for the months of April, May, June and July 2020. If you are behind on rent after the suspension of evictions expire you will need to work with LMHA to pay unpaid rent in a lump sum or set up a repayment agreement. Otherwise, your assistance could be terminated and/or LMHA could file an eviction.

Having Trouble Making Rent?

💰 Housing Choice Voucher participants: If you lost your job or had a significant loss of income, provide a verification of income decrease to the HCV Office as soon as possible. Your rent can be adjusted to reflect the change in income, or you may be eligible for a financial hardship exemption.

Having Trouble Paying Utilities?

💰 Governor Andy Beshear's Executive Order 2020-323 suspends utility disconnections and late-payment fees for the duration of the State of Emergency issued in Executive Order 2020-215. If you have not done so already, contact your utility provider to see what payment options may be available. Louisville Gas & Electric can be reached at (502) 589-1444 and the Louisville Water Company at (502) 583-6610.

Team Kentucky Fund and/or One Louisville Financial Assistance can help pay rent and utilities – see page 5 for more information.

Louisville Metro Eviction Prevention Assistance

On July 1, 2020 Louisville Metro Government began accepting and processing applications for the Eviction Prevention COVID-19 Relief Fund. Eviction Prevention COVID-19 Relief Fund aims to aid low-to-moderate income households who are delinquent on rent payments as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program will pay for up to three months of rent for households facing COVID-related delinquencies.

Individual households may begin applying for rental assistance through the Office of Resilience and Community Services immediately. To be eligible, households must earn at or below 60 percent of the area median income (\$45,840 annually for a family of four) and have had their income impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Households can begin the application process at: <https://louisvilleky.wufoo.com/forms/one-louisville-fund-online-application>.

As of July 1, 2020 Landlords may apply for assistance on behalf of their tenants to the Office of Housing. To be eligible, the landlord must:

- Be currently registered on the Rental Registry.
- Have no outstanding code violations for the property for which rent is being paid.
- Waive all late fees, fines, and penalties.
- Forgo evictions for assisted tenants for 60 days after assistance is provided.
- Provide Pre-COVID-19 rent rolls to document delinquency rates before and after the pandemic.

Funding will be prioritized for affordable housing units (households at or below 60% of area median income) or properties with more than 50% of their units in the Housing Choice Vouchers Program.



One Louisville COVID-19 Response Fund – Household Assistance

The One Louisville: COVID-19 Response Fund will provide flexible funding resources via \$1,000 payments to eligible households. Financial assistance is available to help with rental assistance, childcare, transportation, food, utilities, and other qualifying expenses. Income eligible households, with a verifiable loss of income – directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic – and a demonstrated need, may be eligible to receive payment assistance up to \$1,000 per household. Funds will be

distributed on a first come, first served basis until available funding is expended. Funds are distributed directly to the landlord or utility provider, or in the form of vouchers, such as for groceries.

Visit <https://louisvilleky.gov/oneloufund> for eligibility requirements and application information. Applicants who do not have internet service should call the Louisville Metro Government Office of Resilience and Community Service for assistance at (502) 574-5050

Team Kentucky Fund Financial Assistance

Community Action of Kentucky, Inc. will provide financial vouchers of up to \$1,000 for eligible persons. Vouchers will be provided for the following approved expenses:

- Rent assistance: a voucher may be issued for the payment of rent. The voucher will be made directly payable to the applicant's landlord.
- Mortgage assistance: a voucher may be issued for payment of a mortgage. The voucher will be made directly payable to the mortgage holder, including, if applicable, any escrowed tax or insurance obligations pursuant to the terms of the applicant's note and mortgage.
- Food/Grocery assistance: a voucher may be issued for groceries to be purchased. The voucher will be made directly payable to a grocer.
- Utility assistance: a voucher may be issued for the payment of utilities, including electricity, water, gas, sewage, bottled gas used for home heating, and waste/trash.

To learn more or to apply for financial assistance: <https://www.capky.org/team-kentucky-fund-2/>

General Resources



Metro United Way 2-1-1 Help Referral Service

Metro United Way's 2-1-1 is a free, confidential information and referral service that helps people face life challenges, often for the first time, by connecting them to the local resources they need. The call line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and has translation services in over 100 languages. Calling 2-1-1 connects people to professionals trained to address diverse needs such as domestic violence, emergency shelter, clothing, legal aid, support groups, transportation, education, financial stability, health, and more. <https://metrounitedway.org/get-help-now/>

Healthcare Resources

Medical Care and COVID-19 Testing



Park Duvalle Community Health Center (PDCHC), 3015 Wilson Avenue, 40211, (502) 774-4401

COVID testing is being done by appointment only at PDCHC's Wilson Avenue location for existing patients of any of their clinic locations. PDCHC is also accepting new patients at all their locations. <https://pdchc.org/> Individuals who are NOT patients of PDCHC or their satellites may call UofL Health at (502) 588-0401 to schedule testing.



Smoketown Family Wellness Center, 760 S. Hancock Street, 40203, (502) 242-7458

Currently providing telehealth visits and phone calls during the COVID-19 pandemic. Pediatric care and health/wellness education for the entire family is available. Now accepting new pediatric patients. <https://smoketownwellness.org/>



Family Health Centers

The Family Health Centers, Multiple Locations, (502) 774-8631

Providing primary care for adults and children, women's health, mental health services, pharmacies, and assistance with signing up for health insurance. Dental care for urgent dental needs is also available. Evaluation and testing for COVID is available by appointment only. Services are provided in-person at seven locations throughout Louisville/Jefferson County, and telephone and Video Visits are also available. www.fhclouisville.org

Behavioral Healthcare Services

Wellspring • 211 W. Breckinridge Street 40203 • (502) 589-3432 • <https://wellspringky.org>

Portland Health Center • 465 N. 26th Street, 40212 • (502) 785-9481 • <https://fhclouisville.org/locations>

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) • 708 Magazine Street, 40203 • (502) 588-2008 • <https://namilouisville.org>

Bridgehaven Mental Health Services • 950 S. 1st Street, 40203 • (502) 907-2820 • <https://bridgehaven.org>

Seven Counties Services • Multiple Locations • (502) 589-1100 • <https://sevencounties.org>

Food Distribution Resources

Dare to Care Food Pantry Sites

MOLO Village § 1407 W. Jefferson Street § 40203 § (502) 417-8438

Sister Visitor § 2238 W. Market Street § 40212 § (502) 776-0155

St. Augustine Church § 1310 W. Broadway § 40203 § (502) 584-4602

Walnut Street Baptist Church § 220 W. St. Catherine § 40203 § (502) 589-3545



To find the location(s) nearest you call Dare to Care at (502) 966-3821 or call 211.



Fresh Stop Markets

New Roots has been making fresh food for ALL a reality for ten years. Once again this year, they are offering biweekly shares (bags) of affordable, local, organic produce. Online orders are now being accepted for the 2020 Fresh Stop Market growing season.

Fresh Stop Markets are farm-fresh food markets that pop up biweekly in Louisville and southern Indiana neighborhoods. Eight Fresh Stop Markets are available to choose from this year, and they accept (and double) SNAP Benefits.

Shareholders (customers) pool their resources—both SNAP Benefits and Debit/Credit—on an income-based sliding scale to pre-purchase shares (bags) of nine varieties of local, seasonal, organic produce from Kentucky farmers. Every week's share is different depending on what is in season, but everyone gets the same amount (nine varieties) regardless of what they pay. The prices range from \$6 to \$40 depending on income, for \$40 worth of food. It's a huge bag with the most delicious local produce in the region! No one is turned away for lack of resources. For Fresh Stop Market locations, to place an online order for a share, or more information visit <https://newroots.org/>, call 502-509-6770 or email info@newroots.org.

Employment Services

Employment and Training

KentuckianaWorks provides jobs and training opportunities for adults and youths ages 16 - 24. Some of the various training industries available are Construction, Nursing, Coding, IT Support, Manufacturing and much more. To learn more about virtual training options -

<https://www.kentuckianaworks.org/>



KENTUCKIANAWORKS

Unemployment Services

Kentucky Career Center
(502) 595-4003

To file a claim or follow up with one. <https://uiclaims.des.ky.gov/ebenefit/eben.htm>



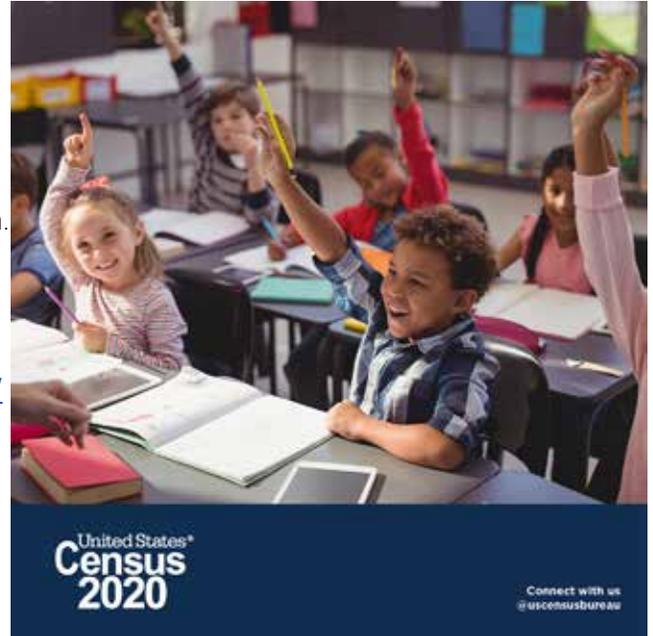
2020 Census

Now, more than ever, it's important to take part in the 2020 Census, as the official count is what helps determine federal funding levels for school lunch programs, public safety allocations, hospitals, highway projects and more. Data collected from the 2020 Census is also be used as a determining factor in our city's congressional representation.

Responding to the census is easier and safer than ever, and it's not too late to participate. During the self-response phase, there are three easy ways to respond to the Census form that you have received in the mail: 1) Online at <https://www.my2020census.gov> will be available until August 14th, 2) By phone you can call 844-330-2020, and 3) By mail you can just send back your paper questionnaire. Options #2 and #3 are available until October 31st.

Beginning August 11th, Census takers will be visiting those households who have not responded. The Census Bureau DOES NOT CALL households on the phone to ask them to complete the Census.

Please encourage your family and friends to fill out their 2020 Census and be counted! Louisville's official Census count will be delivered to Congress and the President in April 2021.



Louisville Metro Housing Authority
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