



Going Places Q2 2019

A newsletter for participants in the Chicago Housing Authority's Housing Choice Voucher Program



Message from the CEO



As summer approaches, ensuring that we achieve our goal of providing safe, stable housing across Chicago requires a continued partnership between all of us — CHA, residents and property owners/managers. We are all invested in our communities and play an important role in making sure they thrive and remain safe and free from violence.

In this issue of *Going Places*, you will find HCV Program updates, summer safety tips and information on requesting a reasonable accommodation. Plus, make sure to check out the workshops for HCV participants beginning in July.

As we move through summer, I also hope you will take time to enjoy the many opportunities our city has to offer this time of year, including the Summer Youth Employment Program that provides meaningful summer engagement for more than 2,400 CHA residents ages 16-24.

Summer in Chicago offers the best of our beautiful lakefront and parks and the many free neighborhood festivals. Here's to a safe, happy and productive summer!

Sincerely,

Eugene E. Jones, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

What's New

CHA's HCV West Regional Office has Moved!

The West Regional Office of the Housing Choice Voucher Program has relocated to:

1852 S. Albany Avenue
Chicago, IL 60623

Voucher holders, participants and property owners who previously conducted HCV-related business at 2750 W. Roosevelt Road will now receive services at 1852 S. Albany Avenue.

Parking:

Street parking is available on S. Albany Avenue and W. 19th Street. However, please note that there are posted Permit Parking Only and/or No Parking/Tow Zone signs in the area so you should be mindful of the restrictions.

Public Transportation:

- Pink Line — Kedzie-Douglas
- Number 18 — Ogden Bus
- Number 52 — Kedzie Bus
- Number 94 — California Bus

We look forward to seeing you at our new location!



Requesting a Reasonable Accommodation

Did you know? Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states that the CHA and its designees have a legal obligation to provide a “reasonable accommodation” to HCV applicants and participants (or any member of the applicant or participant family) with a disability, as defined below.

Section 503 defines disability as:

- Having a physical, mental or emotional impairment that substantially limits one or more of a person’s major life activities;
Ex. Walking, Grasping Objects, Verbalizing Thoughts, Breathing, etc.
- Having record of such an impairment;
Ex. Someone who has a history of a mental or physical impairment that may have affected them in the past.
- Are regarded as having such an impairment.
Ex. A person who is treated as having a disability even though they do not have a disability.

A *reasonable accommodation* is a change in rules, policies, practices or services so that a person with a disability will have an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling unit or common space.

Examples of a reasonable accommodation for HCV applicants and participants with a disability include, but are not limited to:

- Voucher Extension
- Live-in Aide
- Extra Bedroom
- Change to the Payment Standard

To request a reasonable accommodation, please visit your local CHA servicing office to complete a Reasonable Accommodation Request form. The form is also available for download on the CHA website, www.thecha.org/documents.

CHA even has a housing locator, who can help participants who have disabilities find a home that is right for them.

Questions about reasonable accommodations? Please contact the CHA Fair Housing Support Line at **312-913-7062** or fairhousing@thecha.org.

Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership

Provided by: Ray Bentley

In collaboration with the Chicago Housing Authority, the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership provides special employment and training support to Housing Choice Voucher participants and Chicago Housing Authority residents through six Workforce Centers located in Chicago. Last year, more than 700 residents visited these centers and received services.

Let us know how we can help you get access to our work readiness services! Simply go online to <http://bit.ly/CHAREGISTER> and complete the registration form or text “charegister” to 77453.



Utility Reimbursement Payment Reminder

Effective immediately, HCV participants who normally receive Utility Reimbursement Payments will see the deposit made after 12:00 p.m. on the 1st and 15th of the month, unless the days fall on a weekend or holiday. In the event that the days fall on a weekend or holiday, payment will be deposited the following business day. For example, if June 1st falls on a Saturday, payment will be deposited after 12:00 p.m. on June 3rd, the following Monday.

Tips for Summer Safety

With summer upon us, it's important to remember that we all have a stake in making sure we are safe in our homes and in our communities. Below are just a few tips to follow that will help make this possible:

Secure your home. Make sure that your doors and windows are locked securely when you aren't home. Never assume that being close to your home will prevent someone from coming in your front door. Always keep your doors locked even if you are just around the corner.

If you see something, say something. If you see any criminal activity in or around your building or neighborhood, make sure to file a report. Police will need details such as the type of illegal activity suspected, and as much information about the people involved in the activity as possible.

Enhance your curb appeal.

Work together with your neighbors on a 'community cleanup' project (remove trash, debris, graffiti), set up a community garden or plant some flowers to help beautify the neighborhood.



Be alert. Always be aware of your surroundings. Avoid wearing headphones or talking on your cell phone as this will make you an easy target. When walking to and from public transportation, make sure you are using well-lit and populated streets.

Be a good neighbor. Be active in your community, get to know your neighbors, respect yourself and your property, abide by the law and get involved in activities that strengthen your neighborhood.

Neighborhood Spotlight: Edgewater



Bound by Devon Avenue to the North, Ravenswood Avenue to the West, Foster Avenue to the South and Lake Michigan to the East, Edgewater was founded in 1885 by John Lewis Cochran. It received its name from all the homes that Cochran built along the lakeshore.

Edgewater became home to Swedish immigrants in the 1870s after the Great Fire of 1871. Numerous residents were experts in building and design and created 140 buildings along Clark Street between 1895 and 1940.

Neighborhood Resources & Community Organizations

48th Ward, Alderman Harry Osterman

5533 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL 60640
773-784-5277
harry@48thward.org

24th Police District, Commander Roberto Nieves

6464 North Clark St., Chicago, IL 60626
312-744-5907
CAPS.024District@chicagopolice.org

Edgewater Chamber of Commerce

1210 W. Rosedale Ave., Chicago, IL 60660
773-561-6000
info@edgewater.org

Edgewater Historical Society

5358 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60640
773-506-4849
www.edgewaterhistory.org

Edgewater Reads

1348 W. Thorndale Ave., Chicago, IL 60660
859-576-0878
Edgewaterreads.org



CHICAGO HOUSING
AUTHORITY™

Housing Choice Voucher Program
60 E. Van Buren
Chicago, IL 60605
www.thecha.org/residents



Going Places

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Upcoming HCV Participant Workshops

HCV 101: Understanding Your Housing Choice Voucher

Join us as CHA staff gets back to basics and breaks down how the voucher program works. This session will address frequently asked questions such as “What is a payment standard?”, “What are family obligations?”, and more.

Tuesday, July 2, 2019 | 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Avalon Branch Library
8148 S. Stony Island Avenue, Chicago, IL 60617

Ace Your Housing Search: Finding a Great Unit for You and Your Family

Are you looking for a new place to live? Join us as CHA staff share tips and tricks for finding a great unit, in a great neighborhood, before your moving papers expire!

Thursday, July 11, 2019 | 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Little Village Branch Library
2311 S. Kedzie, Chicago, IL 60623

Register to attend these events and see the full schedule at CHA-HCVevents.eventbrite.com.

To RSVP for HCV participant workshops by phone, please call 312-542-8881.

Disclaimer: All HCV participant workshops are free and open to all Program participants and property owners, as well as family, friends, neighbors, etc. However, material covered in these workshops is intended specifically for HCV Program participants and may not apply to all audiences. For more information, please contact hcvmarketing@thecha.org.