



## Columbus Housing Authority

### Spring 2021 Newsletter

#### Rent Waiver Moratorium Extended

The President has issued an extension of the federal eviction moratorium through June 30, 2021. We need residents to please keep in mind that this does not excuse tenants from paying rent, it only provides additional time for those whose income has been affected the opportunity to pay later. We encourage our tenants that can pay to do so as the funds become available so you can avoid a large sum of rent being due at one time after the moratorium ends.

**There is rental assistance available for tenants facing financial hardships and past due rent.**

Please call [601-533-8401 \(local\)](tel:601-533-8401) or [1-888-725-0063 \(toll-free\)](tel:1-888-725-0063)

#### COVID-19 Vaccines

**The Pfizer vaccine** is recommended for people aged 16 years and older.

**Number of shots:** 2 shots, 21 days apart.

**How given:** Shot in the muscle of the upper arm.

**The Moderna vaccine** is recommended for people aged 18 years and older.

**Number of shots:** 2 shots, one month (28 days) apart.

**How given:** Shot in the muscle of the upper arm.

#### Most Common Side Effects

##### In the arm where you got the shot:

- Pain
- Swelling
- Redness

##### Throughout the rest of your body:

- Chills
- Tiredness
- Headache

#### Vaccinations Appointments:

[Covidvaccine.umc.edu](http://Covidvaccine.umc.edu)

1-877-978-6453

Location: Fairview Church,

Columbus, MS

#### COVID testing:

[Covidtesting.umc.edu](http://Covidtesting.umc.edu)



#### Sources:

[CDC.gov](http://CDC.gov)

[MSDH.ms.gov](http://MSDH.ms.gov)

**For more information or assistance with getting registered, please call**

**Jacklyn at 662-251-7426**

# Senior Page

Job 12:12 Wisdom is with the aged, and understanding in length of days.



## Senior Calendar of Events (Location, time and dates to be announced)

March 31, 2021 (Senior Citizens Easter Egg Hunt)

May 6, 2021 (Mother's Day Brunch)

June 17, 2021 (Father's Day Luncheon)

August 19, 2021 (Senior Citizens Gala)

September 9, 2029 (Grandparents Observance)

## Senior Tips:

According to FEMA you should always have the following items on hand at all times:

- Water (at least a gallon per person each day for drinking and washing)
- Non-perishable foods
- Flashlight and batteries
- First aid kit
- Wipes, toilet paper, paper towels and trash bags
- Cell phone, radio (battery operated)
- Important papers (bank statements, wills, insurance papers, birth certificate, social security card, etc.)



## A SOAPBOX EVENT



### WHEN

**APRIL 1, 2021**  
**4pm – 5pm**

MASKS ENFORCED  
AND LAWN CHAIRS  
WELCOMED

### WHERE

## COLUMBUS SOCCER COMPLEX

3rd Street & 7th Avenue North Columbus, MS 39701

**Take Down Tobacco, a fresh take on Kick Butts Day, is the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids' signature platform for empowering people to stand up and speak out against the tobacco industry. There is currently a youth, vaping epidemic in the United States and in our communities. COME OUT AND HELP US FIGHT THIS YOUTH VAPING EPIDEMIC THAT OUR NATION AND COMMUNITIES FACE!**

### Benefiting

THE COMMUNITIES OF  
OKTIBBEHA, CLAY, & LOWNDES

**FREE TO THE PUBLIC!**

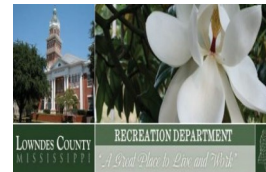
**FREE POPCORN/SNOWCONES!**

**PRIZES!**

**FREE BEVERAGES!**

**FREE RESOURCES!**

**SPONSERS/PARTNERS!**



# Resident Spotlight



**C**handra Johnson moved into one of the Columbus Housing Authority apartments in November 2019 with a plan in place. One year later, November 2020, she moved out of public housing. Grateful for the opportunity to have a place to stay for her and her son, Asa, when things were not so good, Chandra knew her stay would not be long. During her time with Columbus Housing Authority, Chandra set goals and took steps to achieve them. Chandra says, “I was determined to create a better life for my son and I. I graduated college and started my dream career to show my son and others around me that anything is possible if you work hard and be diligent in your efforts.”

Work hard and diligent in her efforts were exactly what Chandra did. She enrolled in the ROSS (Resident Opportunity Self- Sufficiency) Program. The Friendly City Resident Council ROSS Program is a voluntary program for public housing residents with supportive services, resident empowerment activities, and assistance in becoming economically self-sufficient. These services enable participating families to increase earned income, reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance, make progress toward achieving economic independence and housing self-sufficiency. Chandra’s participation in the program stemmed from her job ending, and she did not want to relocate to another state. Her goals were to get another job, complete her degree, and move out of housing. And she completed all three within a year. She most certainly was diligent in her efforts! Whenever referrals were sent, Chandra followed through. At one time, she was working two jobs. Now, she is working only one job. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Business Administration. In addition, she earned a certification in teaching securing her a position with CMSD to teach this upcoming school year. With perseverance, determination and taking advantage of various resources, Chandra’s dream career has begun. Her next step is to continue her education this fall by pursuing a master’s degree in Continuing Education from Mississippi State University.

When she is not working, you may find Chandra helping others. She believes in giving back. Chandra volunteers with an after-school program and at her church helping others in need. During her free time or “Me Time” she likes to travel and learn more about the world.



In October 2020, Columbus Housing Authority was selected to participate in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's HUD ConnectHome Initiative to close the digital divide in America and to extend affordable broadband access to families living in HUD-assisted housing. Through ConnectHome, internet service providers and nonprofits are able to offer broadband access, technical training, digital literacy programs and devices for residents in assisted housing units.

To address challenges residents are facing with their children and virtual learning, job seeking, applying for school or employment, training, virtual workshops, online classes, telehealth, and document submission, Columbus Housing Authority partnered with T-Mobile and acquired 50 mobile devices and 50 hotspots for resident use. The T-Mobile program connects school-aged children's households with free hotspots, and discounted devices.

Devices available include free tablets. The costs for devices were waived by T-Mobile. The actual cost to the housing authority is for monthly data usage on the devices, hotspots and protective cases.



Usage of the devices will be incorporated into the Columbus Housing Authority's Friendly City ROSS Program and made available to be used by residents who lack mobile devices or internet services in their homes. The devices can be checked out from the resource center on an as needed basis by the head of household and returned in the same manner for accountability. This type of partnership is important because it removes many of the barriers that Public Housing Residents and low- income families face.

### [Employment opportunities:](#)

Seasons of Columbus, which is a new senior citizen residential facility is currently taking applications for the following positions: Five Resident Assistants.

For more information, job description, or an application, please call Mrs. Taylor at 662-657-1661.



Girls 11-14 years old  
**Join AgM**  
**All Girls Matter**  
**CUPCAKES & CONVERSATION**

A program designed with you in mind to bring awareness and focus on personal development and goal achievement.

Facilitator:: Shatyra Frazier, Life Coach  
Culvitaviting Greatness 360

To participate call Jacklyn Weir  
ROSS Service Coordinator  
662-251-7426 or Shandrika Gunter 662-328-4236

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# Love The Block



Love The Block is back up and running on the first Saturday's of each month at our William Washington Site ( Sandfield) at 11:00. We have partnered with Vibrant Church to bring a Saturday morning of fellowship, fun, games, and refreshments to the neighborhood, and we would love to see your child/ childrens face



**Thinking of college (but scared)? Building skills for employment? Want to advance in your career?**

**Free • personal coach • 12 weeks • Incentives**

Computers available to use at Friendly City Resident Council Resource Center  
Shield Sims Building •1515 4<sup>th</sup> Street South

For more information contact Jacklyn Weir, ROSS Service Coordinator  
662-251-7426 or email [jweir@friendlycityresidentcouncil.org](mailto:jweir@friendlycityresidentcouncil.org)

## Upcoming Events



Parents, Caregivers, want to learn new ways to discipline your children? **RED, WHITE & BRUISES** Movie & Discussion, Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Noon & 2:00 PM In Person – 10 people limit each setting. Please call and register at 662-251- 7426 1515 4<sup>th</sup> Street South **Join us via Zoom at 5:00 PM Meeting ID: 930 1613 5944**  
**Passcode: Child2021**



### **Pathways to Homeownership Workshop**

April 8<sup>th</sup> -5:30PM - 6:30 PM Do you dream of owning your own home, learn the steps to homeownership? For more information contact ROSS Coordinator at 662-251-7426.



**JTW FAMILY SERVICES, LLC** will sponsor **Seniors Matter June 15<sup>th</sup>**

Elder abuse is a silent problem that robs seniors of their dignity, security, and—in some cases—costs them their lives.

Up to five million older Americans are abused every year, and the annual loss by victims of financial abuse is estimated to be at least \$36.5 billion.



**May & June....Celebrate Mom & Dad!**